

obtain broad public input regarding how the Federal government can increase educational opportunity by improving school funding equity. The Commission will also make recommendations for restructuring school finance systems to achieve equity in the distribution of educational resources and further student performance, especially for the students at the lower end of the achievement gap. The Commission will examine the disparities in meaningful educational opportunities that give rise to the achievement gap, with a focus on systems of finance, and recommend appropriate ways in which Federal policies could address such disparities.

The agenda for the Commission's January 23, 2012 meeting will include an Ethics briefing, discussion of particular language for drafting certain portions of the Commission's annual report, and reaching consensus on particular recommendations. The Commission may have breakout sessions, most likely during the second half of the meeting, to discuss particular issues. The Commission plans to discuss the establishment of two or more subcommittees to discuss recommendations the Commission may make regarding teachers and school leaders; what documents and information should be included in the materials that will supplement the main Commission report; and/or other subjects within the Commission's charter. If time permits, these subcommittees may meet in the afternoon to outline their specific tasks and timing for subsequent meetings. Due to time constraints, there will not be a public comment period, but, individuals wishing to provide comments may contact the Equity Commission via email at equitycommission@ed.gov.

Individuals interested in attending the meeting must register in advance because seating may be limited. Please contact Jim Eichner at (202) 453-5945 or by email at equitycommission@ed.gov. Individuals who will need accommodations for a disability in order to attend the meeting (e.g., interpreting services, assistive listening devices, or materials in alternative format) should notify Jim Eichner at (202) 245-5945. The meeting site is accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Records are kept of all Commission proceedings and are available for public inspection at the Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20202 from the hours

of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Russlynn Ali,
Assistant Secretary, Office for Civil Rights.
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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Agency Information Collection Extension

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE), pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, intends to extend for three years, an information collection request with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the extended collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before March 19, 2012. If you anticipate difficulty in submitting comments within that period, contact the person listed in **ADDRESSES** as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Written comments may be sent to Andre de Fontaine, EE-2F/Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., 20585 or by fax at (202) 586-5234 or by email at andre.defontaine@EE.doe.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Andre de Fontaine, EE-2F/Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., 20585 or by fax at (202) 586-5234 or by email at andre.defontaine@EE.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This information collection request contains: (1) OMB No.: 1910-5141;

(2) *Information Collection Request*

Title: Department of Energy Better Buildings, Better Plants Program Information Collection Request;

(3) *Type of Review:* Renewal;

(4) *Purpose:* The information being collected is needed to evaluate the success of the voluntary agreements made through the Department of Energy's (DOE) Better Buildings, Better Plants (BBBP) Program. The BBBP Program is a voluntary initiative, created to support congress's Energy Policy Act of 2005, as amended, section 106, for any company interested in reducing their energy intensity by 25 percent or more in ten years. The program is specifically designed to encourage and recognize United States companies that are in the vanguard of energy efficiency and will lead all industrial facilities by establishing and achieving ambitious energy goals. All companies participating in the program will receive technical support from DOE, and companies achieving the program's energy goals will also receive national recognition for their accomplishments. The information to be collected from Partner plants includes: Background data, including contact information, information on primary energy consumption and energy saving, high level descriptions of implemented energy projects, and annual and cumulative energy intensity progress. The results of the Better Buildings, Better Plants Voluntary Pledge Report will only be published in program evaluation and metrics documentation. Results will be published in aggregate to report the impact of the DOE program in a report that must be submitted to Congress in 2012 and 2017.

(5) *Annual Estimated Number of Respondents:* 175;

(6) *Annual Estimated Number of Total Responses:* 175;

(7) *Annual Estimated Number of Burden Hours:* 2,975;

(8) *Annual Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden:* \$0.

Statutory Authority: Section 106 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, as amended, codified at 42 U.S.C. 15811.

Issued in Washington, DC on January 13, 2012.

Leo Christodoulou,

Program Manager, Office of Advanced Manufacturing Program, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, United States Department of Energy.

[FR Doc. 2012-978 Filed 1-18-12; 8:45 am]

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