Pre-Development Program

The Pre-Development Program (Pre-D) is a service provided by The Foraker Group in collaboration with the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, The Commission, Mat-Su Health Foundation and Rasmuson Foundation. Pre-D offers guidance and technical resources for planning new facilities and renovating or expanding existing ones. Services are provided to nonprofit, municipal and tribal organizations to determine the feasibility of their projects and develop the documentation needed for funding applications.

Pre-D’s core purpose is planning Sustainable Capital Projects – projects that contribute to the long-term viability of the organization and the community it serves. The Commission has been committed to contributing to sustainable projects since its inception. Pre-D supports successful projects by assisting with early planning which considers community needs, potential collaboration, organizational capacity and sustainability.

The Commission is a founding member of Pre-D since 2007. As the agency’s capital funds have decreased in recent years, the benefits of Pre-D have become more evident. It is ever more critical to ensure that limited federal appropriations be invested in sustainable, realistic, right-sized capital projects.

Further information about the program can be obtained at the following link:
http://www.forakergroup.org/index.cfm/
Shared-Services/Pre-Development

Joel Neimeyer,
Federal Co-Chair.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Equity and Excellence Commission

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights.

ACTION: Notice of an open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of an upcoming meeting of the Equity and Excellence Commission (Commission). The notice also describes the functions of the Commission. Notice of this meeting is required by section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and is intended to notify the public of their opportunity to attend.

Date: November 27 and 28, 2012.
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

ADDRESSES: The Commission will meet in Washington, DC at the National Museum of the American Indian at Fourth Street & Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20560. The Commission will meet in the Patron’s Lounge of the museum on November 27 and in the museum’s fourth-floor conference room on November 28.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On November 27, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, and on November 28, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, the Equity and Excellence Commission will hold an open meeting in Washington, DC at the National Museum of the American Indian at Fourth Street & Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20560. The Commission will meet in the Patron’s Lounge of the museum on November 27 and in the museum’s fourth-floor conference room on November 28.

The purpose of the Commission is to collect information, analyze issues, and 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 November 27–28, 2012 meeting will include final review and deliberation of the drafts prepared by the writing teams for consideration in the draft report to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education (Secretary), summarizing the Commission’s findings and recommendations for appropriate ways in which Federal policies can improve equity in school finance. The Commission will also discuss the form and substance of the report. Due to time constraints, there will not be a public comment period. However, individuals wishing to provide written comments may send their comments to the Commission via email at equitycommission@ed.gov or via U.S. mail to Guy Johnson, Designated Federal Official, Equity and Excellence Commission, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20202. For comments
related to the upcoming meeting, please submit comments for receipt no later than November 21, 2012.

Individuals interested in attending the meeting must register in advance, as meeting room seating may be limited. Please contact Guy Johnson at (202) 453–6567 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 Guy Johnson at (202) 453–6567 no later than November 21, 2012. We will attempt to meet requests for accommodations after this date but cannot guarantee availability. 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 between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. You may contact Guy Johnson, Designated Federal Official, Equity and Excellence Commission, at equitycommission@ed.gov, or at (202) 453–6567 if you have additional questions regarding inspection of records.

Seth Galanter,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Office for Civil Rights, United States Department of Education.

Additional questions regarding inspection of records. Equity and Excellence Commission, at equitycommission@ed.gov, or at (202) 453–6567 if you have additional questions regarding inspection of records.

Seth Galanter,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Office for Civil Rights, United States Department of Education.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC13–2–000]

Commission Information Collection Activities (FERC–729); Comment Request; Extension


ACTION: Notice of information collection and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) is soliciting public comment on the currently approved information collection, FERC–729 (Electric Transmission Facilities).

DATES: Comments on the collection of information are due January 14, 2013.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments (identified by Docket No. IC13–2–000) by either of the following methods:

Instructions: All submissions must be formatted and filed in accordance with submission guidelines at: http://www.ferc.gov/help/submission-guide.asp. For user assistance contact FERC Online Support by email at ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov, or by phone at: (866) 208–3676 (toll-free), or (202) 502–8659 for TTY.

Docket: Users interested in receiving automatic notification of activity in this docket or in viewing/downloading comments and issues in this docket may do so at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/docs-filing.asp.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ellen Brown may be reached by email at DataClearance@FERC.gov, telephone at (202) 502–8663, and fax at (202) 273–0873.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: FERC–729 (Electric Transmission Facilities).

OMB Control No.: 1902–0238.

Type of Request: Three-year extension of the FERC–729 information collection requirements with no changes to the current reporting requirements.

Abstract: This information collection implements the Commission’s mandates under EPAct 2005 Section 1221 which authorizes the Commission to issue permits under FPA Section 216(b) for electric transmission facilities and the Commission’s delegated responsibility to coordinate all other federal authorizations under FPA Section 216(b). The related FERC regulations seek to develop a timely review process for siting of proposed electric transmission facilities. The regulations provide for (among other things) an extensive pre-application process that will facilitate maximum participation from all interested entities and individuals to provide them with a reasonable opportunity to present their views and recommendations, with respect to the need for and impact of the facilities, early in the planning stages of the proposed facilities as required under FPA Section 216(d).

Additionally, FERC has the authority to issue a permit to construct electric transmission facilities if a state has withheld approval for more than a year or has conditioned its approval in such a manner that it will not significantly reduce transmission congestion or is not economically feasible. FERC envisions that, under certain circumstances, the Commission’s review of the proposed facilities may take place after one year of the state’s review. Under Section 50.6(e)(3) the Commission will not accept applications until one year after the state’s review and then from applicants who can demonstrate that a state may withhold or condition approval of proposed facilities to such an extent that the facilities will not be constructed. In cases where FERC’s jurisdiction rests on FPA section 216(b)(1)(C), the pre-filing process should not commence until one year after the relevant State applications have been filed. This will give states one full year to process an application without any intervening Federal proceedings, including both the pre-filing and application processes. Once that year is complete, an applicant may seek to commence FERC’s pre-filing process. Thereafter, once the pre-filing process is complete, the applicant may submit its application for a construction permit.

Type of Respondent: Electric transmission facilities.

Estimate of Annual Burden: The Commission estimates the total Public Reporting Burden for this information collection as:

1 FPA section 216(b)(1)(C).
2 FPA section 216(b)(1)(C).
3 FERC section 216(b)(1)(C).
4 The Commission will not issue a permit authorizing construction of the proposed facilities until, among other things, it finds that the state has, in fact, withheld approval for more than a year or had so conditioned its approval.
5 In all other instances (i.e., where the state does not have jurisdiction to act or otherwise to consider interstate benefits, or the applicant does not qualify to apply for a permit with the State because it does not serve end use customers in the State), the pre-filing process may be commenced at any time.
6 The Commission defines burden as the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. For further explanation of what is included in the information collection burden, reference 5 Code of Federal Regulations 1320.3.