A. Background

Clothing and fabrics intended for use in clothing (except children’s sleepwear in sizes 0 through 14) are subject to the Standard for the Flammability of Clothing Textiles (16 CFR part 1610). Clothing made from vinyl plastic film and vinyl plastic film intended for use in clothing (except children’s sleepwear in sizes 0 through 14) are subject to the Standard for the Flammability of Vinyl Plastic Film (16 CFR part 1611). These standards prescribe a test to assure that articles of wearing apparel, and fabrics and film intended for use in wearing apparel, are not dangerously flammable because of rapid and intense burning. (Children’s sleepwear and fabrics and related materials intended for use in children’s sleepwear in sizes 0 through 14 are subject to other, more stringent flammability standards codified at 16 CFR parts 1615 and 1616.) The flammability standards for clothing textiles and vinyl plastic film were made mandatory by the Flammable Fabrics Act of 1953 (FFA) (Pub. L. 83–88, 67 Stat. 111; June 30, 1953).

Section 8 of the FFA (15 U.S.C. 1197) provides that a person who receives a guaranty in good faith that a product complies with an applicable flammability standard is not subject to criminal prosecution for a violation of the FFA resulting from the sale of any product covered by the guaranty. The Commission uses the information compiled and maintained by firms that issue these guaranties to help protect the public from risks of injury or death associated with clothing and fabrics and vinyl film intended for use in clothing. In addition, the information helps the Commission arrange corrective actions if any products covered by a guaranty fail to comply with the applicable standard in a manner that creates a substantial risk of injury or death to the public. Section 8 of the FFA requires that a guaranty must be based on “reasonable and representative tests.” The testing and recordkeeping requirements by firms that issue guaranties are set forth under 16 CFR part 1610, subpart B, and 16 CFR part 1611, subpart B.

B. Burden Hours

The Commission estimates that approximately 1,000 manufacturers and importers of garments, textiles, and related materials issue guaranties. The Commission estimates that the flammability standards for clothing textiles and vinyl plastic film and enforcement regulations impose an average annual burden of about 101.6 hours on each of those firms. That burden will result from conducting the testing required by the regulations and maintaining records of the results of that testing. The total annual burden imposed by the flammability standards for clothing textiles and vinyl plastic film and enforcement regulations on manufacturers and importers of garments, fabrics, and related materials is about 101,600 hours.

The hourly wage for the testing and recordkeeping required by the standards is about $61.06 (for management, professional, and related occupations in goods-producing industries, Bureau of Labor Statistics, December 2012), for an estimated annual cost to the industry of approximately $6.2 million (101,600 × $61.06).

The estimated annual cost of the information collection requirements to the federal government is approximately $3,264, which includes 80 staff hours to examine and evaluate the information as needed for Compliance activities. This is based on a GS–12 level salaried employee. The average hourly wage rate for a mid-level salaried GS–12 employee in the Washington, DC metropolitan area (effective as of January 2011) is $40.80 (GS–12, step 5). This represents 69.5 percent of total compensation (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, “Employer Costs for Employee Compensation,” December 2012, Table 1, percentage of wages and salaries for all civilian management, professional, and related employees: http://www.bls.gov/ncs/).

Adding an additional 30.5 percent for benefits brings average hourly compensation for a mid-level salaried GS–12 employee to $58.70.

C. Request for Comments

The Commission solicits written comments from all interested persons about the proposed collection of information. The Commission specifically solicits information relevant to the following topics:

—Whether the collection of information described above is necessary for the proper performance of the Commission’s functions, including whether the information would have practical utility;
—Whether the estimated burden of the proposed collection of information is accurate;
—Whether the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected could be enhanced; and
—Whether the burden imposed by the collection of information could be minimized by use of automated, electronic or other technological collection techniques, or other forms of information technology.

Dated: June 11, 2013.

Todd A. Stevenson,
Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission.

[FR Doc. 2013–14171 Filed 6–13–13; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6355–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
Office of the Secretary
Notice of Intent To Seek Public and Private Organizations, Associations, and Other Entities Which Are Working on the West, East, and North Coasts of Africa in the Maritime Domain Sector To Participate as Military Exercise Observers in Order To Enhance U.S. Military and Host Nation Maritime Security Forces’ Exercise Fidelity and Effectiveness, and To Improve Maritime Domain Awareness

AGENCY: United States Africa Command (USAFRICOM), DOD.

ACTION: Notice of intent to obtain expressions of interest from organizations active on the West, East, and North Coasts of Africa for the purpose of information sharing.

SUMMARY: This notice announces that the U.S. Africa Command (USAFRICOM) is seeking information about, and expressions of interest by, organizations, associations, and other entities, both public and private, which are currently working on the West, East, and North Coasts of Africa in the areas of maritime domain awareness and maritime security. This information and expressions of interest in observing the aforementioned exercises is being solicited to inform USAFRICOM and African Host Nations of potential public and private sector capability to improve maritime security. It is expected that these private entities will enrich the exercises planned in Africa concerning maritime awareness and maritime security on the West, East, and North coasts of Africa.
DATES: Submission of information is continuous on or before December 31, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Entities wishing to inform USAFRICOM of their work in Africa and their interest in sharing information and observing a maritime domain awareness exercise on the West, East, South and North Coasts of Africa in order to enhance USAFRICOM exercises may email africom.stuttgart.ao95.list/ppp-branch_mba@mail.mil or Ms. Stefanie Perkowski at Stefanie.c.perkowski.civ@mail.mil or call +49 711 729 4554 or Mr. Richard Parker at richard.a.parker26.civ@mail.mil or call +49 711–729–3260 LtCol James Hensien or email james.r.hensien.mil@mail.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Specifically, USAFRICOM seeks to include a limited number of local, national, and international public and private organizations, associations, and entities as observers into the USAFRICOM Express Series Exercises in order to familiarize U.S. forces and Host Nation Maritime forces with public and private entities which are often the first affected by maritime domain awareness and/or maritime security issues. USAFRICOM and African Host Nation Maritime forces seek to understand the objectives, capabilities, operating procedures, coordination processes, and information sharing tools of these organizations, associations, and entities. USAFRICOM and African Host Nation Maritime forces desire to eventually build collaborative relationships with non-federal entities and promote a sustainable unity of effort among these stakeholder public and private organizations, associations, and entities. USAFRICOM and African Host Nation Maritime forces desire to eliminate gaps in response, set standard operating processes and procedures for interaction, and promote understanding within the multi-faceted community of key maritime stakeholders.

Types of Public and Private Organizations Sought: Local, regional, and international public and private sector organizations, associations, and entities operating within USAFRICOM’s area of responsibility (AOR) who are interested in working with African Host Nation Maritime forces, USAFRICOM, and African Regional Economic Communities on a non-reimbursable basis. Information and expressions of interest provided to USAFRICOM are not for the purposes of obtaining a contract nor would the information provided and expression of interest provided be a guarantee of exercise participation. Finally, exercise participation will not constitute endorsement by DoD or USAFRICOM.

There are no fees involved and no funding will be provided. Vetted and selected observers will be expected to provide their own travel to the organizing conference and exercise locations with a possibility of limited exceptions for African organizations. USAFRICOM may only provide publicly releasable information about USAFRICOM’s mission and goals. If potential observers currently represent an entity that is under contract with the U.S. Government, the following information must be provided: (1) Confirmation that participation is not part of a contract and will not be billed to the U.S. government; (2) a written description of any current contracts with USAFRICOM, its components, subordinate commands, or Joint Task Forces; and (3) whether awaiting the result of any U.S. government acquisition process or contract award. The information sought and expressions of interest will be used to more effectively identify potential exercise observers for the USAFRICOM Express Series Exercises taking place in the U.S. Government’s Fiscal Year 2013–2014.

Dated: June 10, 2013.

Aaron Siegel,
Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

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BILLING CODE 5001–06–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Applications for New Awards; Native Hawaiian Career and Technical Education Program

AGENCY: Office of Vocational and Adult Education, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

Overview Information: Native Hawaiian Career and Technical Education Program Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2013.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.259A.


Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: July 17, 2013.

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The Native Hawaiian Career and Technical Education Program (NHCTEP) provides grants to eligible community-based organizations to plan, conduct, and administer programs, or portions of programs, that are for the benefit of Native Hawaiians and authorized by and consistent with the purposes of section 116 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Act). Section 116(e) of the Act provides that programs, services, and activities funded under NHCTEP must support and improve career and technical education programs. (20 U.S.C. 2326(e))

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under this competition the Department awards grants to carry out projects that provide organized educational activities offering a sequence of courses that—

(a) Provides individuals with coherent and rigorous content aligned with challenging academic standards and relevant technical knowledge and skills needed to prepare for further education and careers in current or emerging professions;

(b) Provides technical skill proficiency, an industry-recognized credential, a certificate, or an associate degree; and

(c) Includes competency-based applied learning that contributes to the academic knowledge, higher-order reasoning and problem-solving skills, work attitudes, general employability skills, technical skills, and occupation-specific skills, and knowledge of all aspects of an industry, including entrepreneurship, of an individual. Projects may include prerequisite courses (other than remedial courses) that meet the definitional requirements of section 3(5)(A) of the Act. (20 U.S.C. 2302(5)(A)) Priorities: On December 15, 2010, the Department published in the Federal Register a notice of final supplemental priorities and definitions for discretionary grant programs (75 FR 78486), and corrected the notice on May 12, 2011 (76 FR 27637) (supplemental priorities). Under this competition we are using the Secretary’s Promoting Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education (paragraphs (a) through (c)) and Technology priorities from the supplemental priorities, since both of these are key Administration priorities in education. The use of technology within career and technical education (CTE) programs funded under the Act,