POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Greece—Spare Parts and Services for F100–PW–229 Engines

The Government of Greece has requested the purchase of spare parts and services for F100–PW–229 engines for the Hellenic Air Force F–16 aircraft, to include: Inlet/Fan Modules, Core Engine Modules, Rear Compressor Drive Turbinates, Fan Drive Turbine Modules, Augmentor Duct and Nozzle Modules, and Gearbox Modules. In addition, the proposed sale will include support equipment, publications and technical documentation, U.S. Government and contractor technical, engineering, and logistics support services, and other related elements of program support. The estimated cost is $250 million.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally. The uninterrupted supply of spare parts and support will ensure the Hellenic Air Force sustains its aircraft fleet at the highest state of readiness to face any potential threats.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The proposed sale will not be for one sole source contract for this sale. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Greece.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

[FR Doc. 2013–17154 Filed 7–16–13; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 5001–06–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED–2013–ICCD–0093]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Program for International Student Assessments (PISA) Validation Study

AGENCY: IES/NCES, Department of Education (ED).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 3501 et seq.), ED is proposing a new information collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before September 16, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http://www.regulations.gov by selecting Docket ID number ED–2013–ICCD–0093 or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. Please note that comments submitted by fax or email and those submitted after the comment period will not be accepted. Written requests for information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to the Director of the Information Collection Clearance Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., LBJ, Room 2E105, Washington, DC 20202–4537.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Electronically mail ICDocketMgr@ed.gov. Please do not send comments here.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Department of Education (ED), in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public’s reporting burden. It also helps the public understand the Department’s information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. ED is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

Title of Collection: Program for International Student Assessments (PISA) Validation Study.

OMB Control Number: 1850–NEW.

Type of Review: New information collection.

Respondents/Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 8,810.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 2,240.

Abstract: PISA (Program for International Student Assessment), is an international assessment of 15-year-olds designed to evaluate, at the end of compulsory education, how well students are prepared for further education or entry into the workforce and, more fundamentally, to contribute to society as functioning young adults (OMB # 1850–0755). However, PISA has been implemented as a cross-sectional study and, thus, the claim that PISA assesses key competencies for later success has never been tested in the United States. What is lacking is an empirical linkage between PISA and measures of successful transition from high school to postsecondary education, the workforce, or the types of skills required for successful participation in adult life. This study is designed to provide this empirical linkage. Students in the U.S. who participated in PISA in 2012 and supplied contact information will be contacted in early 2013 and invited to participate in the PISA Validation Study. In 2015, when these students will be 18 years old, they will be asked to complete an online questionnaire and assessment, based on those used in the Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC), assessing their literacy, numeracy, and problem-solving skills, and asking them about their educational attainment, education and work experiences, skills used in daily life, and aspects of health and well-being. This submission is for address updates of both filed trial and main study sample members, and will be followed in 2014 by requests for field test and main study recruitment and data collections activities.

Dated: July 11, 2013.

Stephanie Valentine,
Acting Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Privacy, Information and Records Management Services, Office of Management.

[FR Doc. 2013–17119 Filed 7–16–13; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Proposed Information Collection—2014 Election Administration and Voting Survey; Comment Request

AGENCY: U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with Section 3501(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, EAC announces an information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions
thereof. The EAC, pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.5(a)(iii), intends to submit this proposed information collection (2014 Election Administration and Voting Survey) to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget for approval. The 2014 Election Administration and Voting Survey (Survey) asks election officials questions concerning voting and election administration. These questions request information concerning ballots cast; voter registration; overseas and military voting; Election Day activities; voting technology; and other important issues. The EAC issues the survey to meet its obligations under the Help America Vote Act to serve as national clearinghouse and resource for the compilation of information with respect to the administration of Federal elections; to fulfill both the EAC’s and the Department of Defense Federal Voting Assistance Programs' quantitative State data collection requirements under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA); and meet its National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) mandate to collect information from states concerning the impact of that statute on the administration of Federal Elections. The Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) (42 U.S.C. 15322) requires the EAC to serve as a national clearinghouse and resource for the compilation of information and review of procedures with respect to the administration of Federal Elections. This includes the obligation to study and report on election activities, practices, policies, and procedures, including methods of voter registration, methods of conducting provisional voting, poll worker recruitment and training, and such other matters as the Commission determines are appropriate. In addition, under the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA), the EAC is responsible for collecting information and reporting, biennially, to the United States Congress on the impact of that statute. The information the States are required to submit to the EAC for purposes of the NVRA report are found under Title 11 of the Code of Federal Regulations. States that respond to questions in this survey concerning voter registration related matters will meet their NVRA reporting requirements under 42 U.S.C. 1973gg–7 and EAC regulations. Finally, the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voters Act (UOCAVA) mandates that the Department of Defense Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) work with the EAC and State Chief Election officials to develop standards for reporting UOCAVA voting information (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–1) and that the FVAP will store the reported data and findings within the congressionally-mandated report to the President and Congress. Additionally, UOCAVA requires that “not later than 90 days after the date of each regularly scheduled general election for Federal office, each State and unit of local government which administered the election shall (through the State, in the case of a unit of local government) submit a report to the Election Assistance Commission (established under the Help America Vote Act of 2002) on the combined number of absentee ballots transmitted to absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters for the election and the combined number of such ballots which were returned by such voters and cast in the election, and shall make such a report available to the general public.” States that complete and timely submit the UOCAVA section of the survey to the EAC will fulfill their UOCAVA reporting requirement under 42 U.S.C. 1973ff–1(c). In order to fulfill the above requirements, the EAC is seeking information relating to the period from the Federal general election day 2012 +1 through the November 2014 Federal general election. The 2014 Survey has been expanded to include all of the questions from the Post-Election Survey of State and Local Election Officials, OMB Control Number 0704–0125, formerly conducted by the Department of Defense Federal Voting Assistance Program. The Election Assistance Commission will provide the data from the new included items to the Department of Defense after data collection is completed. The additional questions are necessary to fulfill the mandate of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) of 1986 (42 U.S.C. 1973ff)). UOCAVA requires the States to allow Uniformed Services personnel, their family members, and overseas citizens to use absentee registration procedures and to vote by absentee ballot in general, special, primary, and runoff elections for Federal offices. UOCAVA covers members of the Uniformed Services and the merchant marine to include the commissioned corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Public Health Service and their eligible dependents, Federal civilian employees overseas, and overseas U.S. citizens not affiliated with the Federal Government. Local Election Officials (LEO) process voter registration and absentee ballot applications, send absentee ballots to voters, and receive and process the voted ballots in counties, cities, parishes, townships and other jurisdictions within: The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) conducts the post-election

Obtaining a Copy of the Survey: To obtain a free copy of the survey: (1) Access the EAC Web site at http://www.eac.gov and download an electronic copy of the survey; or (2) write to the EAC (including your address and phone number) at U.S. Election Assistance Commission, 1201 New York Avenue NW., Suite 300, Washington, DC 20005, Attn: Election Administration and Voting Survey.


Needs and Uses

The EAC issues the survey to meet its obligations under the Help America Vote Act to serve as national clearinghouse and resource for the compilation of information with respect to the administration of Federal elections; to fulfill both the EAC and Department of Defense Federal Voting Assistance Programs data collection requirements under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA); and meet its National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) mandate to collect information from states concerning the impact of that statute on the administration of Federal Elections. The Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) (42 U.S.C. 15322) requires the EAC to serve as a national clearinghouse and resource for the compilation of information and review of procedures with respect to the administration of Federal Elections. This includes the obligation to study and report on election activities, practices, policies, and procedures, including methods of voter registration, methods of conducting provisional voting, poll worker recruitment and training, and such other matters as the Commission determines are appropriate. In addition, under the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA), the EAC is responsible for collecting information and reporting, biennially, to the United States Congress on the impact of that statute. The information the States are required to submit to the EAC for purposes of the NVRA report are found under Title 11 of the Code of Federal Regulations. States that respond to questions in this survey concerning voter registration related matters will meet their NVRA reporting requirements under 42 U.S.C. 1973gg–7 and EAC regulations. Finally, the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voters Act (UOCAVA) mandates that the Department of Defense Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) work with the EAC and State Chief Election officials to develop standards for reporting UOCAVA voting information (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–1) and that the FVAP will store the reported data and findings within the congressionally-mandated report to the President and Congress. Additionally, UOCAVA requires that “not later than 90 days after the date of each regularly scheduled general election for Federal office, each State and unit of local government which administered the election shall (through the State, in the case of a unit of local government) submit a report to the Election Assistance Commission (established under the Help America Vote Act of 2002) on the combined number of absentee ballots transmitted to absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters for the election and the combined number of such ballots which were returned by such voters and cast in the election, and shall make such a report available to the general public.” States that complete and timely submit the UOCAVA section of the survey to the EAC will fulfill their UOCAVA reporting requirement under 42 U.S.C. 1973ff–1(c). In order to fulfill the above requirements, the EAC is seeking information relating to the period from the Federal general election day 2012 +1 through the November 2014 Federal general election. The 2014 Survey has been expanded to include all of the questions from the Post-Election Survey of State and Local Election Officials, OMB Control Number 0704–0125, formerly conducted by the Department of Defense Federal Voting Assistance Program. The Election Assistance Commission will provide the data from the new included items to the Department of Defense after data collection is completed. The additional questions are necessary to fulfill the mandate of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) of 1986 (42 U.S.C. 1973ff)). UOCAVA requires the States to allow Uniformed Services personnel, their family members, and overseas citizens to use absentee registration procedures and to vote by absentee ballot in general, special, primary, and runoff elections for Federal offices. UOCAVA covers members of the Uniformed Services and the merchant marine to include the commissioned corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Public Health Service and their eligible dependents, Federal civilian employees overseas, and overseas U.S. citizens not affiliated with the Federal Government. Local Election Officials (LEO) process voter registration and absentee ballot applications, send absentee ballots to voters, and receive and process the voted ballots in counties, cities, parishes, townships and other jurisdictions within: The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) conducts the post-election
survey of State and Local Election Officials to determine registration and participation rates that are representative of all citizens covered by the Act, to measure State-Federal cooperation, and to evaluate the effectiveness of the overall absentee voting program.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title and OMB Number: 2014 Election Administration and Voting Survey: OMB Number Pending.

Summary of the Collection of Information: The survey requests information on a state- and county-level (or township-, independent city-, borough-level, where applicable) concerning the following categories:

Voter Registration Applications (From the Period of Federal General Election Day - 2012 through Federal General Election Day, 2014)

(a) Total number of registered voters; (b) Number of active and inactive registered voters; (c) Number of persons who registered to vote on Election Day—only applicable to States with Election Day registration; (d) Number of voters who registered using online registration—only applicable to States that allow online registration; (e) Number of voter registration applications received from all sources; (f) Number of voter registration applications that were duplicates, invalid or rejected, new, changes of name, address, party, and not categorized; (g) Number of duplicate registration applications received from all sources; (h) Total number of removal/confirmation notices mailed to voters and the reason for removal; (i) total number of voters removed from the registration list or moved to the inactive registration list.

Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)

(a) Total number and type of UOCAVA absentee ballots transmitted; (b) Total number and type of UOCAVA ballots returned and submitted for counting; (c) Total number of the type of UOCAVA ballot returned by type of UOCAVA voter; (d) Total number and type of all UOCAVA ballots counted; (e) Total number of the type of UOCAVA ballot counted by type of UOCAVA voter; (f) Total number and type of all UOCAVA ballots rejected; (g) Total number of UOCAVA ballots rejected by reason for rejection; (h) Total number of UOCAVA ballot rejected by type of UOCAVA voter; (i) Total number and type of registered and eligible UOCAVA voters; (j) Total number of Federal Post Card Applications (FPCAs) received by type of voter; (k) Total number of FPCAs rejected by type of voter; (l) Total number of FPCAs rejected after the absentee ballot request deadline; (m) Date when transmission of absentee ballots to UOCAVA voters began for the November election cycle; (n) Total number of UOCAVA ballots transmitted before and after the 45-day deadline by mode of transmission; (o) Total number of UOCAVA ballots transmitted that were returned as undeliverable by mode of transmission; (p) Total number of UOCAVA ballots returned by voters, excluding Federal Write-In Absentee Ballots (FWABs); (q) Total number of UOCAVA ballots returned by voters and rejected, excluding FWABs, by type of voter and by mode of transmission; (r) Total number of UOCAVA ballots counted by mode of transmission, excluding FWABs; (s) Total number of FWABs received by type of voter; (t) Total number of FWABs rejected by type of voter; (u) Total number of FWABs rejected for reason for rejection; and (v) Total number of FWABs received by type of voter.

Election Administration

(a) Total number of precincts in the state/jurisdiction; (b) Number of polling places available for voting in the November 2014 Federal general election; (c) Number of poll workers used for Election Day; (d) Extent to which jurisdictions had enough poll workers available for the general election.

Election Day Activities

(a) Total number of persons who voted in the 2014 Federal general election; (b) The source of the participation number—poll books, ballots counted, vote history; (c) Total number of first-time voters who registered by mail and were required to provide identification in order to vote; (d) Number of voters who appeared on the permanent absentee voter registration list; (e) Number of absentee ballots requested, received, counted, and not counted; (f) Reasons for absentee ballot rejection; (g) Number of provisional ballots cast, counted, and rejected; (h) Reasons for provisional ballot rejection; (i) Use of electronic and printed poll books during the 2014 Federal general election; (j) Type and number of voting equipment used for the 2014 Federal general election; (k) Type of process in which voting equipment was used—precinct, absentee, early vote site, accessible to disabled voters, provisional voting; (l) Location in which votes were tallied—central location, precinct/polling place, or early vote site; (m) General comments regarding the jurisdiction’s Election Day experiences.

2014 Election Results

Total number of votes cast—at polling places, via absentee ballot, at early vote centers, via provisional ballots.

Statutory Overview (2014 Federal General Election)

(a) Information on whether the state is exempt from the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA); (b) State definition of terms—over-vote, under-vote, blank ballot, void/spoiled ballot, provisional/challenged ballot; (c) State definition of inactive and active voter; (d) State provision for voter identification at registration, for in-person voting, and for mail-in absentee voting; (e) Information on legal citation for changes to election laws or procedures enacted or adopted since the previous Federal general election; (f) State definition of voter registration; (g) Process used for moving voters from active to inactive lists and from inactive to active; (h) State deadline for registration for the Federal general election; (i) Information of whether the state is an Election Day/Same Day Registration state; (j) Description of state voter registration database system—bottom-up or top-down; (k) State voter removal/confirmation notices processes; (l) Agency or department that is responsible for list maintenance; (m) Information on whether there are electronic links between the voter registrar’s office and other state agencies; (n) State’s use of National Change of Address (NCOA); (o) State’s voting eligibility requirements as they relate to convicted felons; (p) Tabulation of votes cast at a place other than the voter’s precinct; (q) Provision for voting absentee; (r) State tracking of the date of all ballots cast before election day; (s) Provision for mail-in voting in place of at-the-precinct voting; (t) Acceptance or rejection of provisional ballots of voters registered in a different precinct; (u) State process for capturing over-votes and under-votes. States and territories that submitted a Statutory Overview for 2008 will be asked to provide updates to the information above, where applicable.

Affected Public (Respondents): State or local governments, the District of Columbia, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, and the United States Virgin Islands.

Affected Public: State or local government.

Number of Respondents: 55.

Responses per Respondent: 1.
Order Confirming and Approving Power Rates on an Interim Basis

Pursuant to Sections 302(a) of the Department of Energy Organization Act, Public Law 95–91, the functions of the Secretary of the Interior and the Federal Power Commission under Section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944, 16 U.S.C. 825s, relating to the Southeastern Power Administration (Southeastern), were transferred to and vested in the Secretary of Energy. By Delegation Order No. 00–037.00, effective December 6, 2001, the Secretary of Energy delegated to Southeastern’s Administrator the authority to develop power and transmission rates for Southeastern customers and delegated to the Deputy Secretary of Energy the authority to extend and place in effect such rates on an interim basis. This rate is issued by the Deputy Secretary pursuant to that delegation order.

Background

Power from the Cumberland Projects is presently sold under Wholesale Power Rate Schedules CBR–1–H, CSI–1–H, CEK–1–H, CM–1–H, CC–1–I, CK–1–H, CTV–1–H, CTVI–1–A, and Replacement-3. These rate schedules are applicable to Southeastern power sold to existing preference customers in Alabama, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. The rate schedules are extended through September 30, 2015.

DATES: Approval of the rate extension is effective October 1, 2013.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Virgil G. Hobbs III, Assistant Administrator, Finance and Marketing, Southeastern Power Administration, Department of Energy, 1166 Athens Tech Road, Elberton, Georgia 30635–6711, (706) 213–3800.


Dated: July 10, 2013.
Daniel B. Poneman,
Deputy Secretary.

Deputy Secretary
Rate Order No. SEPA–57

In the Matter of:
Southeastern Power Administration
Cumberland System Rates

Estimated Burden per Response: 230 hours per collection, 115 hours annualized.
Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 12,650 hours per collection, 6,325 hours annualized.
Frequency: Biennially.

Alice Miller,
Chief Operating Officer and Acting Executive Director, U.S. Election Assistance Commission.

Public Notice and Comment

Notice of a proposed rate extension was published in the Federal Register on March 28, 2013 (78 FR 18976). The notice advised interested parties of a proposal to extend the existing rate schedules for a two-year period, from October 1, 2013, through September 30, 2015. Written comments were due on or before April 29, 2013. Written comments were received from seven sources.

Comments received from interested parties are summarized below. Southeastern’s response follows each comment.

Comment 1: The customers support the proposed extension.

Response 1: Southeastern will recommend the extension to the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Energy.

Comment 2: Future rate increases may drive Southeastern’s rates to the point where it would no longer be economical to purchase Southeastern power. Once the full cost of repairs of the Wolf Creek and Center Hill Projects are included, the customers estimate Southeastern power will become uneconomical during nearly eighty percent of the dispatchable hours. The potential price of the Southeastern resources has been projected to exceed the expected market prices the majority of the time.

Response 2: Southeastern is concerned the cost of power marketing may exceed market rates. Southeastern will work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the customers to ensure costs are managed and charged appropriately in an effort to maintain competitive rates.

Comment 3: At present, the Corps has not completed the repair work at the Wolf Creek and Center Hill Projects. It is appropriate that Southeastern set a rate that does not include any of the repair costs at this time.

Response 3: The cost of the repair work at Wolf Creek and Center Hill has not been included in the proposed rate extension.

Comment 4: While the Corps has declined to consider the appropriate statutory language in the Dam Safety Act that would mitigate the cost that hydropower customers may be asked to pay, Southeastern retains the full authority to ensure that the eventual rates for power will be the lowest possible rates consistent with sound business principles.

Response 4: Southeastern agrees that it retains full authority to ensure that the rates for power will be the lowest possible rates consistent with sound business principles within the meaning of Section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944. As noted above, Southeastern has not included the repair costs in the proposed rate extension.

Discussion

System Repayment

An examination of Southeastern’s revised system power repayment study, prepared in January 2013, for the Cumberland System, shows that the existing rates are adequate to meet repayment criteria. The Administrator of Southeastern Power Administration (Administrator) has certified that the rates are consistent with applicable law and that they are the lowest possible rates to customers consistent with sound business principles.

Environmental Impact

Southeastern has reviewed the possible environmental impacts of the rate extension under consideration and has concluded that, because the adjusted rates would not significantly affect the quality of the human environment within the meaning of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the proposed action is not a major