DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Electricity Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Electricity Advisory Committee. The Federal Advisory Committee Act requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the Federal Register.

DATES: Wednesday, March 29, 2017, 12:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m. EST

ADDRESS: The meeting will be held at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, 4301 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22203.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Matthew Rosenbaum, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, U.S. Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, Room 6G–017, 100 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585; Telephone: (202) 586–1060 or Email: matthew.rosenbaum@hq.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Purpose of the Committee: The Electricity Advisory Committee (EAC) was re-established in July 2010, in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C., App.2, to provide advice to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) in implementing the Energy Policy Act of 2005, executing the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, and modernizing the nation’s electricity delivery infrastructure. The EAC is composed of individuals of diverse background selected for their technical expertise and experience, established records of distinguished professional service, and their knowledge of issues that pertain to electricity.

Tentative Agenda: The meeting of the EAC is expected to include an update on the programs and initiatives of the DOE’s Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability. The meeting is also expected to include presentations from the new Administration, FERC, and the lead author of the MIT Utility of the Future Study, as well as panel discussions on the Internet of Things and the transmission-distribution interface in the context of increasing distributed resource additions. Additionally, the meeting is expected to include a discussion of the plans and activities of the Smart Grid Subcommittee, Power Delivery Subcommittee, Energy Storage Subcommittee, and the Grid Modernization Initiative Working Group.

Tentative Agenda: March 29, 2017

12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m.—EAC Leadership Committee Meeting
12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m.—Registration
1:00 p.m.–1:15 p.m.—Welcome, Introductions, Developments since the September 2016 Meeting
1:15 p.m.–1:30 p.m.—Update on the DOE Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability’s Programs and Initiatives
1:30 p.m.–2:10 p.m.—Presentation from New Administration & EAC Discussion
2:10 p.m.–2:20 p.m.—Break
2:20 p.m.–4:00 p.m.—Panel: Internet of Things
4:00 p.m.–4:10 p.m.—Break
4:10 p.m.–5:55 p.m.—Panel: Transmission-Distribution Interface in the Context of Increasing Distributed Resource Additions
5:55 p.m.–6:00 p.m.—Wrap-up and Adjourn Day One of March 2017 Meeting of the EAC

Tentative Agenda: March 30, 2017

8:00 a.m.–8:20 a.m.—EAC Smart Grid Subcommittee Activities and Plans
8:20 a.m.–8:35 a.m.—EAC Power Delivery Subcommittee Activities and Plans
8:35 a.m.–9:00 a.m.—EAC Energy Storage Subcommittee Activities and Plans
9:00 a.m.–9:15 a.m.—Break
9:15 a.m.–10:45 a.m.—Presentation of MIT Utility of the Future Study
10:45 a.m.–11:45 a.m.—Presentation from FERC
11:45 a.m.–12:05 p.m.—EAC Grid Modernization Initiative Working Group Activities and Plans
12:05 p.m.–12:10 p.m.—Public Comments
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Energy Information Administration

CIPSEA Confidentiality Pledge Revision Notice

AGENCY: U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Energy Information Administration invites public comment on the recent revisions that have been made to the confidentiality pledge it provides to its respondents. These revisions became effective upon publication of an emergency Federal Register notice that announced EIA’s revised confidentiality pledge that it provides to its respondents under the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act. These revisions are required by the passage and implementation of provisions of the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015 which permit and require the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to provide Federal civilian agencies’ information technology systems with cybersecurity protection for their Internet traffic.

More details on this announcement are presented in the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section below.

DATES: Comments regarding these confidentiality pledge revisions must be received on or before May 1, 2017. If you anticipate difficulty in submitting comments within that period, contact the person listed in ADDRESSES as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and/or questions about this notice should be addressed to Jacob Bournazian, U.S. Energy Information Administration, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585 or by fax at 202–586–3045 or by email at jacob.bournazian@eia.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jacob Bournazian, U.S. Energy Information Administration, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585, phone: 202–586–5562 (this is not a toll-free number), email: jacob.bournazian@eia.gov. Because of delays in the receipt of regular mail related to security screening, respondents are encouraged to use electronic communications.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under 44 U.S.C. 3506(e), and 44 U.S.C. 3501 (note), EIA revised the confidentiality pledge(s) it provides to survey respondents under the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 (note)) (CIPSEA) in a Federal Register notice released on January 12, 2017 in 82 FR 3764. These revisions were required by provisions of the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015 (Pub. L. 114–11, Division N, Title II, Subtitle B, Sec. 223), which permit and require the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to provide Federal civilian agencies’ information technology systems with cybersecurity protection for their Internet traffic. Federal statistics provide key information that the Nation uses to measure its performance and make informed choices about budgets, employment, health, investments, taxes, and a host of other significant topics. The overwhelming majority of Federal surveys are conducted on a voluntary basis. Respondents, ranging from businesses to households to institutions, may choose whether or not to provide the requested information. Many of the most valuable Federal statistics come from surveys that ask for highly sensitive information such as proprietary business data from companies or particularly personal information or practices from individuals. Strong and trusted confidentiality and exclusively