

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before May 9, 2017.

ADDRESSES: To access and review all the documents related to the information collection listed in this notice, please use <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching the Docket ID number ED-2017-ICCD-0029. Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> by selecting the Docket ID number 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 224-84, Washington, DC 20202-4537.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Kenneth Foushee, (202) 453-7417.

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: Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) Program Annual Performance Report.

OMB Control Number: 1840-0832.

Type of Review: An extension of an existing information collection.

Respondents/Affected Public: State, Local, and Tribal Governments; Private Sector.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 49.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 833.

Abstract: The purpose of the Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) Program is to prepare, motivate, and assist military veterans in the development of academic and other skills necessary for acceptance into and success in a program of postsecondary education. Authority for this program is contained in Title IV, Part A, Subpart 2, Chapter 1, Section 402C of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008. Eligible applicants include institutions of higher education, public or private agencies or organizations, including community-based organizations with experience in serving disadvantaged youth, secondary schools, and combinations of institutions, agencies, organizations, and secondary schools. Upward Bound Program participants must be potential first-generation college students, low-income individuals, or individuals who have a high risk for academic failure, and have a need for academic support in order to pursue successfully a program of education beyond high school. Required program services include: (1) Academic tutoring; (2) Advice and assistance in secondary and postsecondary course selection; (3) Preparation for college entrance exams and completing the college admission applications; (4) Information on federal student financial aid programs including (a) Federal Pell grant awards, (b) Loan forgiveness, and (c) Scholarships; (5) Assistance completing financial aid applications; (6) Guidance on and assistance in: (a) Secondary school reentry, (b) Alternative education programs for secondary school dropouts that lead to the receipt of a regular secondary school diploma, (c) Entry into general educational development (GED) programs or, (d) Entry into postsecondary education; (7) Education or counseling services designed to improve the financial and economic literacy of students or the students' parents, including financial planning for postsecondary education; and (8) Projects funded for at least two years under the program must provide instruction in mathematics through pre-

calculus; laboratory science; foreign language; composition; and literature.

Dated: March 7, 2017.

Kate Mullan,

Acting Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Office of the Chief Privacy Officer, Office of Management.

[FR Doc. 2017-04738 Filed 3-9-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Methane Hydrate Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Office of Fossil Energy, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Methane Hydrate Advisory Committee. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES:

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. (EDT)—

Registration

9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (EDT)—Meeting

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (EDT)—

Meeting

ADDRESSES: Hyatt Regency Dulles, 2300 Dulles Corner Blvd., Herndon, Virginia, USA 20171.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lou Capitano, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Oil and Natural Gas, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585. *Phone:* (202) 586-5098.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Committee: The purpose of the Methane Hydrate Advisory Committee is to provide advice on potential applications of methane hydrate to the Secretary of Energy, and assist in developing recommendations and priorities for the Department of Energy's Methane Hydrate Research and Development Program.

Tentative Agenda: The agenda will include: Welcome and Introduction by the Designated Federal Officer; Committee Business; Review of Technical Questions Posed in the Secretary's Energy Advisory Board Report on the Methane Hydrate Program; Update on Methane Hydrate Major Projects & Review of Program Activities and Plans; Methane Hydrate Program Budget; Advisory Committee Discussion; and Public Comments, if any.

Public Participation: The meeting is open to the public. The Designated

Federal Officer and the Chair of the Committee will conduct the meeting to facilitate the orderly conduct of business. If you would like to file a written statement with the Committee, you may do so either before or after the meeting. If you would like to make oral statements regarding any of the items on the agenda, you should contact Lou Capitanio at the phone number listed above. You must make your request for an oral statement at least five business days prior to the meeting, and reasonable provisions will be made to include the presentation on the agenda. Public comment will follow the three-minute rule.

Minutes: The minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying within 60 days at the following Web site: <http://energy.gov/fe/services/advisory-committees/methane-hydrate-advisory-committee>.

Issued at Washington, DC, on March 6, 2017.

LaTanya R. Butler,

Deputy Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 2017-04765 Filed 3-9-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

International Energy Agency Meetings

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: The Industry Advisory Board (IAB) to the International Energy Agency (IEA) will meet on March 20–21, 2017, at the Conference Centre of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 27, Rue de la Convention, 75015 Paris, France, in connection with a joint meeting of the IEA's Standing Group on Emergency Questions (SEQ) and the IEA's Standing Group on the Oil Market (SOM) on March 20, 2017, in connection with a meeting of the SEQ on that day and on March 21, 2017.

DATES: March 20–21, 2017.

ADDRESSES: 27, Rue de la Convention, 75015 Paris, France.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Thomas Reilly, Assistant General Counsel for International and National Security Programs, Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585, 202-586-5000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with section 252(c)(1)(A)(i) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6272(c)(1)(A)(i)) (EPCA), the following notice of meetings is provided:

A meeting of the Industry Advisory Board (IAB) to the International Energy Agency (IEA) will be held at the Conference Centre of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 27, Rue de la Convention, 75015 Paris, France, commencing at 09:45 a.m. on March 20, 2017. The purpose of this notice is to permit attendance by representatives of U.S. company members of the IAB at a joint meeting of the IEA's Standing Group on Emergency Questions (SEQ) and the IEA's Standing Group on the Oil Market (SOM), which is scheduled to be held at the same location and time.

The agenda of the meeting is under the control of the SEQ and the SOM. It is expected that the SEQ and the SOM will adopt the following agenda:

Draft Agenda of the Joint Session of the SEQ and the SOM to be held at the Conference Centre of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 27, Rue de la Convention, 75015 Paris, France, 20 March 2017, beginning at 09:45

Welcome/Introduction

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Approval of Summary Record of 27 September 2016
3. Reports on Recent Oil Market and Policy Developments in IEA Countries
4. The Current Oil Market Situation: "Oil Market Report 2017" followed by Q & A
5. Presentation: "The Major Price Benchmarks and the Impact of OPEC's Output Reductions" followed by Q&A
6. Presentation: "Marine Fuels: Meeting the IMO Challenge in 2020" followed by Q&A
7. Presentation: "Geopolitical Implications of Lower Oil Prices" followed by Q & A
8. Presentation: "Russia's Liquids Production at Record Levels: Drivers and Prospects" followed by Q&A
9. Presentation: "Trends in the Refining Sector" followed by Q&A
10. Presentation: "TBC" followed by Q&A
11. Other Business
 - Tentative schedule of SEQ and SOM meetings on: 13–15 June 2017, location TBC

A meeting of the Industry Advisory Board (IAB) to the International Energy Agency (IEA) will be held at the Centre de Conférence Ministériel of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs Building, 27, Rue de la Convention, 75015 Paris, France, commencing at 9:30 a.m. on March 21, 2017. The purpose of this notice is to permit attendance by representatives of U.S. company members of the IAB at a meeting of the

IEA's Standing Group on Emergency Questions (SEQ), which is scheduled to be held at the same location and time. The IAB will also hold a preparatory meeting among company representatives at the same location at 8:30 a.m. on March 21. The agenda for this preparatory meeting is to review the agenda for the SEQ meeting.

The agenda of the SEQ meeting is under the control of the SEQ. It is expected that the SEQ will adopt the following agenda:

Draft Agenda of the 150th Meeting of the SEQ to be held at the Centre de Conférence Ministériel of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs Building, 27, Rue de la Convention, 75015 Paris, France, 21 March 2017, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

12. Adoption of the Agenda
13. Approval of the Summary Record of the 149th Meeting
14. Status of Compliance with IEP Agreement Stockholding Obligations
15. Australian Compliance Update
16. Bilateral Stockholding in non-OECD Countries—update
17. Association—"Oil Umbrella" concept
18. Future of IDR/ERR Programme
19. Mexican Accession Update
20. Emergency Response Review of Finland
21. Mid-term Review of the Czech Republic
22. Emergency Response Review of Sweden
23. Mid-term Review of Ireland
24. Industry Advisory Board Update
25. Emergency Response Review of Germany
26. Mid-term Review of Luxembourg
27. ERE8 and EXSEQ Outcomes
28. Other Activities
29. Oral Reports by Administrations
30. Other Business

As provided in section 252(c)(1)(A)(ii) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6272(c)(1)(A)(ii)), the meetings of the IAB are open to representatives of members of the IAB and their counsel; representatives of members of the IEA's Standing Group on Emergency Questions and the IEA's Standing Group on the Oil Markets; representatives of the Departments of Energy, Justice, and State, the Federal Trade Commission, the General Accounting Office, Committees of Congress, the IEA, and the European Commission; and invitees of the IAB, the SEQ, the SOM, or the IEA.