DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program

AGENCY: National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), Commerce.
ACTION: Notice of information collection, request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, following the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), invites the public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. This Notice of Information Collection is for the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program Baseline Report, Performance Report and Annual Report. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment preceding the submission of the collection to OMB.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before April 18, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments by mail to Jennifer Duane, Director, Grants Management, Administration, and Compliance, Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth, National Telecommunication and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Room 4887, Washington, DC 20230, or by email to broadbandusa@ntia.gov. Please reference TBCP Data Collection in the subject line of your comments. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to Jennifer Duane, Director, Grants Management, Administration, and Compliance, via email at jduane@ntia.gov; broadbandusa@ntia.gov; or via telephone at (202) 482–2048.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract
The Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program (TBCP), authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Division N, Title IX, Section 905(c), Public Law 116–260, 134 stat. 1182 (Dec. 27, 2020) (Act), provides new federal funding for grants to eligible entities to expand access to and adoption of: (i) Broadband service on Tribal Land; or (ii) for programs that promote the use of broadband to access remote learning, telework, or telehealth resources. The TBCP will make up to $980,000,000 available for federal assistance to the following eligible entities: (i) A Tribal Government; (ii) a Tribal College or University; (iii) the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands on behalf of the Native Hawaiian Community, including Native Hawaiian Education Programs; (iv) a Tribal organization; or (v) an Alaska Native Corporation. The purpose of the TBCP is to improve the quality of life, spur economic development and commercial activity, create opportunities for remote employment and online entrepreneurship, remote learning, and telehealth by expanding broadband access and providing digital training and inclusion programs to Native American communities.

On June 3, 2021, NTIA published the program’s Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) on Grants.gov to describe the requirements under which it will award grants for the TBCP. 1 The NOFO required award recipients to submit financial reports, performance (technical) reports, and annual reports to the NTIA Federal Program Officer and the NOAA Grants Officer and Grants Specialist. Award recipients must follow the reporting requirements described in Sections A.01, Reporting Requirement, of the Department of Commerce Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions (dated November 12, 2020). Additionally, in accordance with 2 CFR part 170, all recipients of a federal award made on or after October 1, 2010, must comply with reporting requirements under the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Pub. L. 109–282).

NTIA will use the information collected from each award recipient to effectively administer and monitor the grant program to ensure the achievement of TBCP program purposes and account for the expenditure of federal funds to deter waste, fraud, and abuse.

II. Method of Collection
Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program Award recipients will submit financial and performance reports on a semi-annual basis for the periods ending March 31st and September 30th of each year, and an annual report no later than one year after receiving grant funds and until they have expended all funds. The Baseline Report is a one-time collection of information from award recipients covering project plans and details about key outputs and outcomes that is due within 45 days of the issuance of the award. NTIA will collect data through electronic submission.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 06XX–XXXX.

Type of Review: New information collection.

Affected Public: Grant award recipients consisting of Tribal Governments, Tribal Colleges or Universities, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, Tribal organizations, or Alaska Native Corporations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 600.

Estimated Time per Response: 33.22.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 30,636.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: $816,449.40.

Respondent’s Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Division N, Title IX, Section 905(c), Public Law 116–260, 134 Stat. 1182 (Dec. 27, 2020).

IV. Request for Comments

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department/Bureau to:
(a) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility.
(b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
(c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
(d) Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.
Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Sheleen Dumas,
Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Department of Commerce.

[F.R. Doc. 2022–03364 Filed 2–16–22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–60–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office
Docket No. PTO–C–2022–0004]

National Medal of Technology and Innovation Nomination Evaluation Committee Charter Renewal


ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Acting Chief Financial Officer/Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Administration, with the concurrence of the General Services Administration, renewed the Charter for the National Medal of Technology and Innovation Nomination Evaluation Committee (NMTI Committee) on February 9, 2022.

DATES: The Charter for the NMTI Committee was renewed on February 9, 2022.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Linda Hosler, Program Manager, National Medal of Technology and Innovation Program, United States Patent and Trademark Office, 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; 571–272–8514; or nmti@uspto.gov. Information is also available at www.uspto.gov/nmti.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Acting Chief Financial Officer/Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Administration, with the concurrence of the General Services Administration, renewed the Charter for the NMTI Committee on February 9, 2022. The renewed Charter expires on February 9, 2024. The NMTI Committee members are distinguished experts from the private and public sectors with experience in and an understanding of technology and technological innovation. The NMTI Committee was established in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act and provides advice to the Secretary of Commerce regarding recommendations of nominees for the National Medal of Technology and Innovation (Medal). The duties of the NMTI Committee are solely advisory in nature. Nominations for this Medal are solicited through an open, competitive, and nationwide call, and the NMTI Committee members are responsible for reviewing the nominations received. The NMTI Committee evaluates the nominees and forwards its recommendations through the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office to the Secretary of Commerce, who, in turn, forwards her recommendations for the Medal to the President.

Andrew Hirshfeld,
Commissioner for Patents, Performing the Functions and Duties of the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[F.R. Doc. 2022–03443 Filed 2–16–22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–16–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Effectiveness of Exempt Wholesale Generator Status

Applicants: Highland Solar Transco Interconnection LLC.
Description: Notice of Self-Certification of Exempt Wholesale Generator Status of Highland Solar Transco Interconnection LLC.

FILED DATE: 2/11/22.
ACCESSION NUMBER: 20220211–5132.
COMMENT DATE: 5 p.m. ET 3/4/22.
DOCKET NUMBERS: EG22–51–000.

Applicants: Madero Grid, LLC.
Description: Notice of Self-Certification of Exempt Wholesale Generator Status.

FILED DATE: 2/11/22.
ACCESSION NUMBER: 20220211–5036.
COMMENT DATE: 5 p.m. ET 3/4/22.
DOCKET NUMBERS: EG22–52–000.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings #1

Take notice that the Commission received the following exempt wholesale generator filings:

DOCKET NUMBERS: EG22–51–000.

Applicants: Waiawa Solar Power LLC. 

Description: Notice of Self-Certification of Exempt Wholesale Generator Status.

FILED DATE: 2/11/22.
ACCESSION NUMBER: 20220211–5036.
COMMENT DATE: 5 p.m. ET 3/4/22.
DOCKET NUMBERS: EG22–52–000.

Applicants: Madero Grid, LLC.

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