

approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety, and other advantages; distributive impacts; and equity);

(4) To the extent feasible, specify performance objectives, rather than the behavior or manner of compliance a regulated entity must adopt; and

(5) Identify and assess available alternatives to direct regulation, including economic incentives—such as user fees or marketable permits—to encourage the desired behavior, or provide information that enables the public to make choices.

Executive Order 13563 also requires an agency “to use the best available techniques to quantify anticipated present and future benefits and costs as accurately as possible.” The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB has emphasized that these techniques may include “identifying changing future compliance costs that might result from technological innovation or anticipated behavioral changes.”

We are taking this regulatory action only on a reasoned determination that its benefits justify its costs. In choosing among alternative regulatory approaches, we selected those approaches that maximize net benefits. Based on the analysis that follows, the Department believes that these regulations are consistent with the principles in Executive Order 13563.

We also have determined that this regulatory action would not unduly interfere with State, local, and Tribal governments in the exercise of their governmental functions.

In accordance with both Executive Orders, the Department has assessed the potential costs and benefits of this regulatory action. The potential costs associated with this regulatory action are those resulting from statutory requirements and those we have determined as necessary for administering the Department’s programs and activities.

Summary of Potential Costs and Benefits

This proposed regulatory action affects only State educational agencies (SEAs) or consortia of SEAs applying for assistance under the EAG program. It creates flexibility for the Department, with respect to EAG competitions in 2012 for FY 2011 funds and for subsequent competitions, to select from among, or to combine, selection criteria that were established in the 2011 NFP criteria, selection criteria from 34 CFR 75.210, and other selection criteria based on the statute under 34 CFR

75.209. This flexibility would allow the Department to align selection criteria with program needs and ensure that the strongest applications are selected for funding under the program.

We believe that adding this flexibility would not impose a financial burden that SEAs would not otherwise incur in the development and submission of a grant application under the EAG program. In addition, under some circumstances (for example, if the Department elected to use fewer criteria or factors in a given competition), the proposed changes could reduce the financial burden of preparing an EAG grant application by a modest amount. Moreover, the Department expects a small number of applicants, which further serves to mitigate any potential costs.

Intergovernmental Review: This program is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. One of the objectives of the Executive order is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and a strengthened federalism. The Executive order relies on processes developed by State and local governments for coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance.

This document provides early notification of our specific plans and actions for this program.

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotope, or computer diskette) on request to the program contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Electronic Access to This Document: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available via the Federal Digital System at: www.gpo.gov/fdsys. At this site you can view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site.

You may also access documents of the Department published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at: www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Dated: January 25, 2012.

Michael Yudin,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education.

[FR Doc. 2012–1961 Filed 1–27–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Service Contract Inventory for Fiscal Year (FY) 2011

AGENCY: Office of the Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of availability—FY 2011 Service Contract Inventory.

SUMMARY: Through this notice, the Secretary announces the availability of the Department of Education’s service contract inventory on its Web site, at <http://www2.ed.gov/fund/data/report/contracts/servicecontractinventoryappendix/servicecontractinventory.html>. A service contract inventory is a tool for assisting an agency in better understanding how contracted services are being used to support mission and operations and whether the contractors’ skills are being utilized in an appropriate manner.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pier Connors, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20202 by phone at (202) 245–6919 or email at Pier.Connors@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free, at 1–(800) 877–8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 743 of Division C of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2010, P.L. 111–117, requires civilian agencies, other than the Department of Defense, that are required to submit an inventory in accordance with the Federal Activities Inventory Reform Act of 1998 (Pub. L. 105–270, 31 U.S.C. 501 note) to submit their inventories to the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) by December 30, 2011. In addition, section 743 requires these agencies, which include the Department of Education, to (1) make the inventory available to the public by posting the inventory on its agency homepage, (2) provide OFPP with the Web site address (URL) on which the inventory is being posted so that the inventory can be linked to a central OMB Web page, and (3) publish in the **Federal Register** a notice announcing that the inventory is available to the public along with the name, telephone number, and email address of an agency point of contact.

Through this notice, the Department announces the availability of its inventory on the following Web site: <http://www2.ed.gov/fund/data/report/contracts/servicecontractinventoryappendix/servicecontractinventory.html>. The point of contact for the inventory is provided under the **FOR INFORMATION CONTACT** section in this notice.

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document in an accessible format (e.g., Braille, large print, or audiotope) on request to the program contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Electronic Access to This Document: You can view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: www.ed.gov/news/fedregister. To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html>.

Program Authority: Section 743 of Division C of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2010, Pub. L. 111-117.

Dated: January 26, 2012.

Hugh J. Hurwitz,

Deputy Chief Financial Officer.

[FR Doc. 2012-2032 Filed 1-27-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Proposed Agency Information Collection

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice and request for OMB review and comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance, a proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The proposed collection, titled the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Commercialization Survey will satisfy the program requirements of the Small Business Act, including requirements established in the SBIR program reauthorization legislation, Public Law 106-554 and Public Law 107-50. DOE will collect the

survey data via web-enabled software and provide it to the Small Business Administration (SBA) to maintain information about the DOE SBIR/STTR awards issued through the two programs. This data will be provided by DOE based on information collected from SBIR/STTR awardees. This data will be used by DOE, SBA, and Congress to assess the commercial impact of these two programs. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, please advise the DOE Desk Officer at OMB of your intention to make a submission as soon as possible. The Desk Officer may be telephoned at (202) 395-4560.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to the DOE Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Room 10102, 735 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Chris O'Gwin by email at chris.ogwin@science.doe.gov or by fax at (301) 903-5488.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This information collection request contains: (1) OMB No. New; (2) *Information Collection Request Title:* Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Commercialization Survey; (3) *Type of Request:* New; (4) *Purpose:* The DOE needs this information to satisfy the program requirements of the Small Business Act, including requirements established in the SBIR program reauthorization legislation, Public Law 106-554 and Public Law 107-50. This data will be collected by the DOE and provided to the Small Business Administration (SBA) to maintain information about SBIR/STTR awards issued through the two programs. This data will be provided by DOE based on information collected from SBIR/STTR awardees. This data will be used by DOE, SBA, and Congress to assess the commercial impact of these two programs; (5) *Annual Estimated Number of Respondents:* 2,500; (6) *Annual Estimated Number of Total Responses:* 2,500; (7) *Annual Estimated Number of Burden Hours:* 2,500; (8) *Annual Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden:* 0.

Statutory Authority: Section 9 of the Small Business Act, as amended, codified at 15 U.S.C. 638(g).

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 20, 2012.

Manny Oliver,

SBIR/STTR Programs Director, Office of Science, U.S. Department of Energy.

[FR Doc. 2012-1910 Filed 1-27-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Advisory Board

AGENCY: Office of Environmental Management, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of renewal.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 14(a)(2)(A) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), and in accordance with Title 41, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 102-3.65(a), and following consultation with the Committee Management Secretariat, General Services Administration, notice is hereby given that the Environmental Management Advisory Board will be renewed for a two-year period beginning January 23, 2012.

The Board provides advice and recommendations to the Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management (EM) on a broad range of corporate issues affecting the EM program. These issues include, but are not limited to, project management and oversight activities, cost/benefit analyses, program performance, human capital development, and contracts and acquisition strategies. Recommendations to EM on the programmatic resolution of numerous difficult issues will help achieve EM's objective of the safe and efficient cleanup of its contaminated sites.

Additionally, the renewal of the Environmental Management Advisory Board has been determined to be essential to the conduct of the Department's mission and to be in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed the Department of Energy by law and agreement. The Board will operate in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, and rules and regulations issued in implementation of that Act.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Kristen G. Ellis, Designated Federal Officer, by telephone at (202) 586-5810 or by email at: kristen.ellis@em.doe.gov.

Issued at Washington, DC, on January 23, 2012.

Carol A. Matthews,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 2012-1911 Filed 1-27-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P