

application (hereinafter referred to as the 4/16 month time period) in a patent application filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(a). Note that the 4/16 month time period does not apply to an application for a design patent or an application filed before November 29, 2000. A claim for foreign priority must identify the foreign application by specifying the application number, country (or intellectual property authority), and the filing date (day, month, and year) of the foreign application. See 37 CFR 1.55(d).

It has been USPTO practice to require that any correction of the application number in a domestic benefit claim after the 4/16 month time period be via a petition to accept an unintentionally delayed benefit claim, but to permit correction of the application number in a foreign priority claim after the 4/16 month time period without such a petition (discussed in the Eighteen-Month Publication Questions and Answers on the USPTO Web site). This dissimilar treatment of the correction of foreign priority claims and domestic benefit claims results in the publication of a corrected patent application publication reflecting the accurate domestic benefit claim information whenever an applicant corrects the application number in a domestic benefit claim in a pending application, but not whenever an applicant corrects the application number of the foreign application in a foreign priority claim. The rationale for this practice was because the USPTO was able to schedule the application for publication with the filing date of the foreign application provided by applicant and the prior art date under pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 102(e) of the publication was not affected. See the Patent FAQs Web page available at <http://www.uspto.gov/help/patent-help>.

Under the first inventor to file provisions of the AIA, a U.S. patent or patent application publication may be effective as prior art as of the filing date of an earlier foreign application. See AIA 35 U.S.C. 102(d) and the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) (9th Ed. 2014), Section 2154.01(b). Therefore, the rationale for not requiring a petition to correct an error in the application number of a foreign priority claim is no longer appropriate. In view of the first inventor to file provisions of the AIA, U.S. patent application publications should reflect accurate foreign priority information to minimize the burden on examiners and members of the public in assessing the effective prior art date for subject matter disclosed in such U.S. patent application publications.

*Change in Practice:* The USPTO will now require compliance with all the requirements of 37 CFR 1.55 and thus require a petition to accept an unintentionally delayed claim for foreign priority under 37 CFR 1.55(e) in order to correct any error in a foreign priority claim if the correction is being made after the 4/16 month time period. This is consistent with the practice for correcting any error in a domestic benefit claim under 37 CFR 1.78 if the correction is being made after the 4/16 month time period and will result in a corrected patent application publication with the accurate foreign priority information being published by the USPTO for a pending application.

Requiring compliance with all the requirements of 37 CFR 1.55 will create consistency between the practices under 37 CFR 1.55 and 1.78 and will result in corrected patent application publications with accurate foreign priority information being published by the USPTO. A U.S. patent application publication which claims priority to a foreign application that identifies the correct foreign application number, country (or intellectual property authority), and date of filing will help ensure that proper examination of patent applications being examined under the first inventor to file provisions of the AIA will occur. Identification of the correct foreign priority information on U.S. patent application publications will also minimize the burden on examiners and members of the public in obtaining a copy of the correct foreign priority document in the event that a copy is not available in the application file of the reference. This change in practice will benefit examiners, applicants, and members of the public by reducing any uncertainty caused by the dissimilar treatment of the correction of foreign priority claims and domestic benefit claims and by ensuring that a corrected U.S. patent application publication reflecting accurate foreign priority information will be published by the USPTO enabling accurate assessment of the effective prior art date for subject matter disclosed in U.S. patent application publications.

The Patent FAQs will be modified to reflect that a petition under 37 CFR 1.55(e), including the petition fee, will be required to correct any error in a foreign priority claim after the 4/16 month period of 37 CFR 1.55(d).

Dated: September 26, 2015.

**Michelle K. Lee,**

*Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.*

[FR Doc. 2015-25407 Filed 10-5-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-16-P**

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2015-ICCD-0118]

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Application for Grants Under the Talent Search Program

**AGENCY:** Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE), 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 reinstatement of a previously approved information collection.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before December 7, 2015.

**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-2015-ICCD-0118. 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 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 2E103, Washington, DC 20202-4537.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Craig Pooler, 202-502-7640.

**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:* Application for Grants under the Talent Search Program.

*OMB Control Number:* 1840-0818.

*Type of Review:* A reinstatement of a previously approved information collection.

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

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 1,230.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 40,860.

*Abstract:* The Department of Education is requesting a reinstatement with change of the application for grants under the Talent Search (TS) Program. The Department is requesting a reinstatement with change because the previous TS application expired in October 2013 and the application will be needed for a Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 competition for new awards. The FY 2016 application incorporates new competitive preference priorities and removes the previously-used invitational priorities.

Dated: October 1, 2015.

**Kate Mullan,**

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

[FR Doc. 2015-25354 Filed 10-5-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Idaho National Laboratory**

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Idaho National Laboratory. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of this meeting be announced in the **Federal Register**.

**DATES:** Thursday, October 29, 2015, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

The opportunity for public comment is at 3:45 p.m. This time is subject to change; please contact the Federal Coordinator (below) for confirmation of times prior to the meeting.

**ADDRESSES:** Sun Valley Inn, 1 Sun Valley Road, Sun Valley, ID 83353.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Robert L. Pence, Federal Coordinator, Department of Energy, Idaho Operations Office, 1955 Fremont Avenue, MS-1203, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83415. Phone (208) 526-6518; Fax (208) 526-8789 or email: [pencerl@id.doe.gov](mailto:pencerl@id.doe.gov) or visit the Board's Internet home page at: <http://inlcab.energy.gov/>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Purpose of the Board:* The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations to DOE-EM and site management in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities.

*Tentative Topics* (agenda topics may change up to the day of the meeting; please contact Robert L. Pence for the most current agenda):

- Welcome and Opening Remarks

- Agency Update Presentations—Idaho Cleanup Project Progress to Date
- EM SSAB Chairs' Meeting Update
- Public Comment

*Public Participation:* The EM SSAB, Idaho National Laboratory, welcomes the attendance of the public at its advisory committee meetings and will make every effort to accommodate persons with physical disabilities or special needs. If you require special accommodations due to a disability, please contact Robert L. Pence at least seven days in advance of the meeting at the phone number listed above. Written statements may be filed with the Board either before or after the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral presentations pertaining to agenda items should contact Robert L. Pence at the address or telephone number listed above. The request must be received five days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision will be made to include the presentation in the agenda. The Deputy Designated Federal Officer is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Individuals wishing to make public comments will be provided a maximum of five minutes to present their comments.

*Minutes:* Minutes will be available by writing or calling Robert L. Pence, Federal Coordinator, at the address and phone number listed above. Minutes will also be available at the following Web site: <http://inlcab.energy.gov/pages/meetings.php>.

Issued at Washington, DC, on September 30, 2015.

**LaTanya R. Butler,**

*Deputy Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2015-25393 Filed 10-5-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Orders Granting Authority To Import and Export Natural Gas, and To Import and Export Liquefied Natural Gas During May 2015**

**AGENCY:** Office of Fossil Energy, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of orders.

	FE Docket No.
TRIPOLARITY ENERGY CORPORATION .....	15-37-NG
ECOGAS DE MEXICO S. DE R.L. DE C.V. ....	15-48-NG
ENVIRO EXPRESS, INC .....	15-55-LNG
ENCANA MARKETING (USA) INC .....	15-56-NG
E.ON GLOBAL COMMODITIES NORTH AMERICA LLC .....	15-58-NG
CP ENERGY MARKETING (US) INC .....	15-60-NG
MIECO INC .....	15-61-NG
DOMINION COVE POINT LNG, LP .....	11-128-LNG