

Grade/level	Level of education
GS-7 or Demo Equivalent	Completion of 1 full academic year of graduate level education; or eligibility under the Superior Academic Achievement Provision and completion of a bachelor's degree.
GS-9 or Demo Equivalent	Completion of 2 academic years of graduate level education, or a master's degree or equivalent graduate degree.
GS-11 or Demo Equivalent	For research positions, completion of all requirements for a master's or equivalent degree. For non-research positions, completion of all requirements for a PhD or equivalent degree.

One full academic year of undergraduate; graduate; technical or high school education is the number of credit hours determined by the college, university or school to represent one year of full-time study. The high school curriculum must be approved by a State or local governing body. All education beyond the high school level must be accredited by an accrediting body or organization recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

Special Provisions/or Students with Previous Related Education or Experience. Previous education and/or experience may be evaluated to determine the highest grade level/band for which the student is qualified.

Dated: June 22, 2017.

Aaron Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2017-13487 Filed 6-27-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army

Withdrawal of Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Chuitna Coal Mine Project, Alaska

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent; withdrawal.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), on January 4, 2011, the Alaska District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) initiated the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process to identify and analyze potential impacts associated with the proposed Chuitna Coal Mine Project to assist in evaluating a Department of the Army permit application pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. On March 30, 2017, the applicant announced its decision to suspend pursuit of permitting efforts on the project. Therefore, the Corps is terminating the EIS process, and is withdrawing the Notice of Intent published in the Tuesday, January 4, 2011, issue of the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, CEPOA-RD, Post Office Box 6898, JBER, Alaska 99506-0898.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions regarding this action can be addressed by Jason Berkner, Regulatory Division, by telephone: (907) 753-5778 (toll free from within Alaska: (800) 478-2712), by fax: (907) 753-5567, by email: Jason.R.Berkner@usace.army.mil, or by mail: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, CEPOA-RD, Post Office Box 6898, JBER, Alaska 99506-0898.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: PacRim Coal, LP, requested Corps authorization, under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, to develop the Chuitna Coal Project (Project), which was comprised of three components; the mine site, the project infrastructure, and the marine port. The Project consisted of mining a 5,050-acre lease tract with coal reserves of approximately 300 million tons of sub-bituminous ultra-low sulfur coal. The Project, as proposed, would have resulted in the discharge of dredged and/or fill material into an approximate total of 2,550 acres of waters of the U.S., including wetlands, 26 miles of streams, and marine waters. Due to the potentially significant environmental effects associated with the Project, on January 4, 2011, the Corps issued a Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS (76 FR 336). The EIS would have also assessed issues related to the Alaska Surface Coal Mining Control and Reclamation Act (ASCMCRA) permit, which governs all aspects of the coal mining operation and infrastructure. On November 2, 2016, the Corps administratively withdrew the PacRim Coal, LP application for the Project pending State of Alaska's completeness determination on the ASCMCRA application. A complete ASCMCRA application would have confirmed availability of the information required by the Corps to enable informed public comment and review of the DA permit application, and development of the EIS. On March 30, 2017, the applicant announced its decision to suspend pursuit of permitting efforts on the Project.

Therefore, in accordance with Corps regulations at 33 CFR part 230, Appendix C(2) and 33 CFR part 325, Appendix B(g), the Corps is terminating the EIS process, and is withdrawing the January 4, 2011, notice of intent to prepare an EIS for the proposal.

Dated: June 19, 2017.

Sheila Newman,

Chief, Special Actions Branch.

[FR Doc. 2017-13505 Filed 6-27-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3720-58-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Applications for New Awards; International Research and Studies Program—Research, Studies, and Surveys

AGENCY: Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Education is issuing a notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2017 for the International Research and Studies Program, Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number 84.017A.

DATES:

Applications Available: June 28, 2017.
Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: August 14, 2017.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cheryl E. Gibbs, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., Room 3E245, Washington, DC 20202-4260. Telephone: (202) 453-5690 or by email: cheryl.gibbs@ed.gov.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The International Research and Studies (IRS) Program provides grants to institutions, public and private agencies, organizations, and individuals to conduct research and

studies to improve and strengthen instruction in modern foreign languages, area studies, and other international fields.

The Department is authorized to invite applications for research, surveys, or studies and applications for instructional materials for an IRS competition. For FY 2017, however, the Department is inviting applications only for research, surveys, or studies.

Priorities: In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(b)(2)(ii), these priorities are from regulations (34 CFR 660.1, 660.10, 660.32, and 660.34).

Absolute Priority: For FY 2017 and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applications from this competition, this priority is an absolute priority. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3), we consider only applications that meet this priority.

This priority is:

Applications that propose research projects, surveys, or studies.

Competitive Preference Priorities: For FY 2017 and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applications from this competition, these priorities are competitive preference priorities. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i), we award an additional 5 points to an application, depending on how well the application meets one of these priorities.

These priorities are:

Competitive Preference Priority 1—Research Projects, Surveys, and Studies regarding U.S. School-based Dual Language Immersion Programs. (5 points)

Under this priority the Department gives competitive preference to research projects, studies, and surveys focused on Dual Language Immersion (DLI) programs in U.S. preschool to grade 12 schools. For the purpose of this priority, a DLI program means a program that includes native English-speaking students and native speakers of a foreign language. The goals of DLI programs are to develop bilingualism/biliteracy, academic achievement, and cross-cultural competencies for all students. In DLI programs, students learn content through both their native language and the target language.¹

Topics may include, but are not limited to, the effect of participation in DLI programs on student outcomes such as proficiency level in the second language or graduation or employment rates; the effectiveness of specific DLI approaches or models; the relationship between DLI instruction and learners'

cognitive and problem-solving skills or achievement in other academic areas; the availability and articulation of DLI programming as students matriculate through the grade levels in their current school or at other educational institutions, and the effect of DLI programming on students' progress in the second language or on other outcomes; and contexts that may support successful adoption of DLI, among other topics.

Competitive Preference Priority 2—Research Projects, Surveys, and Studies on the Outcomes of International Education Programs for U.S. Postsecondary Education Students. (5 points)

Under this priority the Department gives competitive preference to research projects, surveys, and studies that focus on the outcomes of participation in and/or access to international education programs for students in the U.S. postsecondary education sector. Topics may include, but are not limited to: The relationship between participation in international education and students' persistence, completion, and/or academic and/or personal achievement in postsecondary education; underserved students' access to, and participation and success in international education; the impact of international education participation on career readiness and post-college employment outcomes; and international education and the development of global competence that contributes to economic competitiveness, among other topics.

For the purpose of this priority:

Global competence means the acquisition of in-depth knowledge and understanding of international issues, an appreciation of and ability to learn and work with people from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds, proficiency in foreign language(s), and skills to function productively in an interdependent world community. ("Global Competence is a 21st Century Imperative" (2010), National Education Association, Education Policy and Practice Department, Washington, DC).

International education means teaching and learning about other world regions. It is generally understood to include, but is not limited to, knowledge of other world regions, cultures, and global issues; proficiency in communicating in languages other than English; working in global or cross-cultural environments; critical thinking skills and the ability to apply them flexibly to world problems; and study abroad. A study abroad program might be a part of undergraduate or graduate training and occurs outside the

student's home country. It could include experiential learning such as work, volunteering, non-credit internships, and directed travel, as long as these experiences are guided to a significant degree by learning goals. International education opportunities are designed to prepare American students to be contributing citizens, productive employees, and competent leaders in the interconnected world of the 21st century.²

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1125.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 75, 77, 82, 84, 86, 97, 98, and 99. (b) The OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3485. (c) The Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards in 2 CFR part 200, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3474. (d) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR parts 655 and 660.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

Area of National Need: In accordance with section 601(c) of the HEA (20 U.S.C. 1121(c)), the Secretary has consulted with and received recommendations regarding national need for expertise in foreign language and world regions from the head officials of a wide range of Federal agencies. The Secretary has taken these recommendations into account and a list of foreign languages and world regions identified by the Secretary as areas of national need may be found on the following Web site: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/iegps/consultation-2014.pdf>.

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Discretionary grants.

Estimated Available Funds: \$712,329.

Contingent upon the availability of funds and the quality of applications, we may make additional awards in FY 2018 from the list of unfunded applications from this competition.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$40,000–\$101,761 per year.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$71,232 per year.

¹Lindholm-Leary, Kathryn J. *Dual Language Education*. Avon, England: Multilingual Matters, 2001, p. 30.

²Asia Society and the Council of Chief State School Officers, "Putting the World into World Class Education: State Innovations and Opportunities," 2008.

Maximum Award: The maximum award amount is \$101,761. We will not consider any application that proposes a budget exceeding \$101,761 for a single budget period of 12 months.

Estimated Number of Awards: 10.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 36 months.

III. Eligibility Information

1. **Eligible Applicants:** Public and private agencies, organizations, and institutions, and individuals.

2. **Cost Sharing or Matching:** This program does not require cost sharing or matching.

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. **Address To Request Application Package:** Cheryl E. Gibbs, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., Room 3E245, Washington, DC 20202-4260. Telephone: (202) 453-5690 or by email: cheryl.gibbs@ed.gov.

If you use a TDD or a TTY, call the FRS, toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities can obtain a copy of the application package in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotope, or compact disc) by contacting the program contact person listed in this section.

2. **Content and Form of Application Submission:** Requirements concerning the content of an application, together with the forms you must submit, are in the application package for this program. The IRS Program covers two types of applications, 84.017A-1 for research, surveys, and studies; and 84.017A-3 for instructional materials. For FY 2017, all potential applicants must submit applications under type 84.017A-1 for research, surveys, and studies because the Department will only consider applications for research, studies, and surveys.

Page Limit: The application narrative (Part III of the application) is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. We recommend that you (1) limit the application narrative to no more than 30 pages and (2) use the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11", on one side only, with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.
- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, reference citations, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, graphs, and screen shots.
- Use a font that is 12 point or larger.

- Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New, or Arial.

The recommended page limit does not apply to Part I, the cover sheet; Part II, the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the abstract (follow the guidance provided in the application package for completing the abstract), the table of contents, the list of priority requirements, the resumes, the reference list, the letters of support, or the appendices. However, the recommended page limit does apply to all of Part III, the application narrative, including all text in charts, tables, figures, graphs, and screen shots.

3. **Submission Dates and Times:** Applications Available: June 28, 2017. Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: August 14, 2017.

Applications for grants under this program must be submitted electronically using the *Grants.gov* Apply site (*Grants.gov*). For information (including dates and times) about how to submit your application electronically, or in paper format by mail or hand delivery if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, please refer to *Other Submission Requirements* in section IV of this notice.

We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements.

Individuals with disabilities who need an accommodation or auxiliary aid in connection with the application process should contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. If the Department provides an accommodation or auxiliary aid to an individual with a disability in connection with the application process, the individual's application remains subject to all other requirements and limitations in this notice.

4. **Intergovernmental Review:** This program is not subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79.

5. **Funding Restrictions:** We specify unallowable costs in 34 CFR 660.40. We reference additional regulations outlining funding restrictions in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

6. **Data Universal Numbering System Number, Taxpayer Identification Number, and System for Award Management:** To do business with the Department of Education, you must—

- a. Have a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN);

b. Register both your DUNS number and TIN with the System for Award Management (SAM), the Government's primary registrant database;

c. Provide your DUNS number and TIN on your application; and

d. Maintain an active SAM registration with current information while your application is under review by the Department and, if you are awarded a grant, during the project period.

You can obtain a DUNS number from Dun and Bradstreet at the following Web site: <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>. A DUNS number can be created within one to two business days.

If you are a corporate entity, agency, institution, or organization, you can obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service. If you are an individual, you can obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service or the Social Security Administration. If you need a new TIN, please allow two to five weeks for your TIN to become active.

The SAM registration process can take approximately seven business days, but may take upwards of several weeks, depending on the completeness and accuracy of the data you enter into the SAM database. Thus, if you think you might want to apply for Federal financial assistance under a program administered by the Department, please allow sufficient time to obtain and register your DUNS number and TIN. We strongly recommend that you register early.

Note: Once your SAM registration is active, it may be 24 to 48 hours before you can access the information in, and submit an application through, *Grants.gov*.

If you are currently registered with SAM, you may not need to make any changes. However, please make certain that the TIN associated with your DUNS number is correct. Also note that you will need to update your registration annually. This may take three or more business days.

Information about SAM is available at www.SAM.gov. To further assist you with obtaining and registering your DUNS number and TIN in SAM or updating your existing SAM account, we have prepared a SAM.gov Tip Sheet, which you can find at: <http://www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/sam-faqs.html>.

In addition, if you are submitting your application via *Grants.gov*, you must (1) be designated by your organization as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR); and (2) register yourself with *Grants.gov* as an AOR. Details on these steps are outlined at the following *Grants.gov* Web page: www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html.

7. *Other Submission Requirements:* Applications for grants under this program must be submitted electronically unless you qualify for an exception to this requirement in accordance with the instructions in this section.

a. *Electronic Submission of Applications.*

Applications for grants under the IRS Program, CFDA number 84.017A, must be submitted electronically using the Governmentwide *Grants.gov* Apply site at www.Grants.gov. Through this site, you will be able to download a copy of the application package, complete it offline, and then upload and submit your application. You may not email an electronic copy of a grant application to us.

We will reject your application if you submit it in paper format unless, as described elsewhere in this section, you qualify for one of the exceptions to the electronic submission requirement and submit, no later than two weeks before the application deadline date, a written statement to the Department that you qualify for one of these exceptions. Further information regarding calculation of the date that is two weeks before the application deadline date is provided later in this section under *Exception to Electronic Submission Requirement*.

You may access the electronic grant application for the IRS Program at www.Grants.gov. You must search for the downloadable application package for this program by the CFDA number. Do not include the CFDA number's alpha suffix in your search (e.g., search for 84.017, not 84.017A).

Please note the following:

- When you enter the *Grants.gov* site, you will find information about submitting an application electronically through the site, as well as the hours of operation.
- Applications received by *Grants.gov* are date and time stamped. Your application must be fully uploaded and submitted and must be date and time stamped by the *Grants.gov* system no later than 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. Except as otherwise noted in this section, we will not accept your application if it is received—that is, date and time stamped by the *Grants.gov* system—after 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements. When we retrieve your application from *Grants.gov*, we will notify you if we are rejecting your application because it was date and time

stamped by the *Grants.gov* system after 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date.

- The amount of time it can take to upload an application will vary depending on a variety of factors, including the size of the application and the speed of your Internet connection. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you do not wait until the application deadline date to begin the submission process through *Grants.gov*.

- You should review and follow the Education Submission Procedures for submitting an application through *Grants.gov* that are included in the application package for this program to ensure that you submit your application in a timely manner to the *Grants.gov* system. You can also find the Education Submission Procedures pertaining to *Grants.gov* under News and Events on the Department's G5 system home page at www.G5.gov. In addition, for specific guidance and procedures for submitting an application through *Grants.gov*, please refer to the *Grants.gov* Web site at: www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/apply-for-grants.html.

- You will not receive additional point value because you submit your application in electronic format, nor will we penalize you if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, as described elsewhere in this section, and submit your application in paper format.

- You must submit all documents electronically, including all information you typically provide on the following forms: The Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424), the Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424, Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications.

- You must upload any narrative sections and all other attachments to your application as files in a read-only, non-modifiable Portable Document Format (PDF). Do not upload an interactive or fillable PDF file. If you upload a file type other than a read-only, non-modifiable PDF (e.g., Word, Excel, WordPerfect, etc.) or submit a password-protected file, we will not review that material. Please note that this could result in your application not being considered for funding because the material in question—for example, the project narrative—is critical to a meaningful review of your proposal. For that reason it is important to allow yourself adequate time to upload all material as PDF files. The Department will not convert material from other formats to PDF. Additional, detailed information on how to attach files is in the application instructions.

- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive from *Grants.gov* an automatic notification of receipt that contains a *Grants.gov* tracking number. This notification indicates receipt by *Grants.gov* only, not receipt by the Department. *Grants.gov* will also notify you automatically by email if your application met all the *Grants.gov* validation requirements or if there were any errors (such as submission of your application by someone other than a registered Authorized Organization Representative or inclusion of an attachment with a file name that contains special characters). You will be given an opportunity to correct any errors and resubmit, but you must still meet the deadline for submission of applications.

Once your application is successfully validated by *Grants.gov*, the Department will retrieve your application from *Grants.gov* and send you an email with a unique PR/Award number for your application.

These emails do not mean that your application is without any disqualifying errors. While your application may have been successfully validated by *Grants.gov*, it must also meet the Department's application requirements as specified in this notice and in the application instructions. Disqualifying errors could include, for instance, failure to upload attachments in a read-only, non-modifiable PDF; failure to submit a required part of the application; or failure to meet applicant eligibility requirements. It is your responsibility to ensure that your submitted application has met all of the Department's requirements.

- We may request that you provide us original signatures on forms at a later date.

Application Deadline Date Extension in Case of Technical Issues with the Grants.gov System: If you are experiencing problems submitting your application through *Grants.gov*, please contact the *Grants.gov* Support Desk, toll free, at 1-800-518-4726. You must obtain a *Grants.gov* Support Desk Case Number and must keep a record of it.

If you are prevented from electronically submitting your application on the application deadline date because of technical problems with the *Grants.gov* system, we will grant you an extension until 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, the following business day to enable you to transmit your application electronically or by hand delivery. You also may mail your application by following the mailing instructions described elsewhere in this notice.

If you submit an application after 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date, please contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** and provide an explanation of the technical problem you experienced with *Grants.gov*, along with the *Grants.gov* Support Desk Case Number. We will accept your application if we can confirm that a technical problem occurred with the *Grants.gov* system and that the problem affected your ability to submit your application by 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. We will contact you after we determine whether your application will be accepted.

Note: The extensions to which we refer in this section apply only to the unavailability of, or technical problems with, the *Grants.gov* system. We will not grant you an extension if you failed to fully register to submit your application to *Grants.gov* before the application deadline date and time or if the technical problem you experienced is unrelated to the *Grants.gov* system.

Exception to Electronic Submission Requirement: You qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, and may submit your application in paper format, if you are unable to submit an application through the *Grants.gov* system because—

- You do not have access to the Internet; or
- You do not have the capacity to upload large documents to the *Grants.gov* system; and
- No later than two weeks before the application deadline date (14 calendar days or, if the fourteenth calendar day before the application deadline date falls on a Federal holiday, the next business day following the Federal holiday), you mail or fax a written statement to the Department, explaining which of the two grounds for an exception prevents you from using the Internet to submit your application.

If you mail your written statement to the Department, it must be postmarked no later than two weeks before the application deadline date. If you fax your written statement to the Department, we must receive the faxed statement no later than two weeks before the application deadline date.

Address and mail or fax your statement to: Cheryl E. Gibbs, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., Room 3E245, Washington, DC 20202–4260. FAX: (202) 453–5780.

Your paper application must be submitted in accordance with the mail or hand delivery instructions described in this notice.

b. Submission of Paper Applications by Mail.

If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, you may mail (through the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial carrier) your application to the Department. You must mail the original and two copies of your application, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the following address: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: (CFDA Number 84.017A), LBJ Basement Level 1, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20202–4260.

You must show proof of mailing consisting of one of the following:

- (1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark.
- (2) A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service.
- (3) A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier.
- (4) Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

If you mail your application through the U.S. Postal Service, we do not accept either of the following as proof of mailing:

- (1) A private metered postmark.
- (2) A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

Note: The U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, you should check with your local post office.

We will not consider applications postmarked after the application deadline date.

c. Submission of Paper Applications by Hand Delivery.

If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, you (or a courier service) may deliver your paper application to the Department by hand. You must deliver the original and two copies of your application by hand, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the following address: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: (CFDA Number 84.017A), 550 12th Street SW., Room 7041, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202–4260.

The Application Control Center accepts hand deliveries daily between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays.

Note for Mail or Hand Delivery of Paper Applications: If you mail or hand deliver your application to the Department—

- (1) You must indicate on the envelope and—if not provided by the Department—in Item 11 of the SF 424 the CFDA number, including suffix letter, if any, of the competition under which you are submitting your application; and

(2) The Application Control Center will mail to you a notification of receipt of your grant application. If you do not receive this notification within 15 business days from the application deadline date, you should call the U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center at (202) 245–6288.

V. Application Review Information

1. **Selection Criteria:** The selection criteria for this program are from 34 CFR 655.31, 660.31, and 660.32, and are listed in the application package.

2. **Review and Selection Process:** We remind potential applicants that in reviewing applications in any discretionary grant competition, the Secretary may consider, under 34 CFR 75.217(d)(3), the past performance of the applicant in carrying out a previous award, such as the applicant's use of funds, achievement of project objectives, and compliance with grant conditions. The Secretary may also consider whether the applicant failed to submit a timely performance report or submitted a report of unacceptable quality.

In addition, in making a competitive grant award, the Secretary requires various assurances including those applicable to Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department of Education (34 CFR 100.4, 104.5, 106.4, 108.8, and 110.23).

3. **Risk Assessment and Special Conditions:** Consistent with 2 CFR 200.205, before awarding grants under this program the Department conducts a review of the risks posed by applicants. Under 2 CFR 3474.10, the Secretary may impose special conditions and, in appropriate circumstances, high-risk conditions on a grant if the applicant or grantee is not financially stable; has a history of unsatisfactory performance; has a financial or other management system that does not meet the standards in 2 CFR part 200, subpart D; has not fulfilled the conditions of a prior grant; or is otherwise not responsible.

4. **Integrity and Performance System:** If you are selected under this competition to receive an award that over the course of the project period may exceed the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$150,000), under 2 CFR 200.205(a)(2) we must make a judgment about your integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under Federal awards—that is, the risk posed by you as an applicant—before we make an award. In doing so, we must consider any information about you that is in the integrity and performance system (currently referred to as the Federal

Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIS), accessible through SAM. You may review and comment on any information about yourself that a Federal agency previously entered and that is currently in FAPIS.

Please note that if the total value of your currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from the Federal Government exceeds \$10,000,000, the reporting requirements in 2 CFR part 200, Appendix XII, require you to report certain integrity information to FAPIS semiannually. Please review the requirements in 2 CFR part 200, Appendix XII, if this grant plus all the other Federal funds you receive exceed \$10,000,000.

VI. Award Administration Information

1. *Award Notices:* If your application is successful, we notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notification (GAN); or we may send you an email containing a link to access an electronic version of your GAN. We may notify you informally, also.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify you.

2. *Administrative and National Policy Requirements:* We identify administrative and national policy requirements in the application package and reference these and other requirements in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice and include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

3. *Reporting:* (a) If you apply for a grant under this competition, you must ensure that you have in place the necessary processes and systems to comply with the reporting requirements in 2 CFR part 170 should you receive funding under the competition. This does not apply if you have an exception under 2 CFR 170.110(b).

(b) At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive a multiyear award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the most current performance and financial expenditure information as directed by the Secretary under 34 CFR 75.118. The Secretary may also require more frequent performance reports under 34 CFR 75.720(c). For specific requirements on reporting, please go to www.ed.gov/

[fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html](http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html).

Performance reports for the IRS Program must be submitted electronically using the International Resource Information System (IRIS), the International and Foreign Language Education office's web-based reporting system. For information about the system and to view the reporting instructions, please go to <http://iris.ed.gov/iris/pdfs/IRS.pdf>.

(c) Under 34 CFR 75.250(b), the Secretary may provide a grantee with additional funding for data collection analysis and reporting. In this case the Secretary establishes a data collection period.

4. *Performance Measures:* The following performance measures have been established to assess the effectiveness of the IRS Program:

1. Percentage of IRS projects that are focused on improving or strengthening K-16 instruction in less commonly taught languages, area studies, or other international fields.

2. Percentage of IRS projects that are focused on the evaluation of the outcomes and effectiveness of Title VI-Fulbright-Hays International Education programs in addressing national needs.

3. Percentage of IRS projects that result in information from IRS studies, surveys, or research on language, area, and international studies being made available and accessible to the public.

4. The cost per IRS project that is focused on improving or strengthening K-16 instruction in modern foreign languages, area studies, and other international fields.

5. *Continuation Awards:* In making a continuation award under 34 CFR 75.253, the Secretary considers, among other things: Whether a grantee has made substantial progress in achieving the goals and objectives of the project; Whether the grantee has expended funds in a manner that is consistent with its approved application and budget; and, if the Secretary has established performance measurement requirements, the performance targets in the grantee's approved application.

In making a continuation award, the Secretary also considers whether the grantee is operating in compliance with the assurances in its approved application, including those applicable to Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department (34 CFR 100.4, 104.5, 106.4, 108.8, and 110.23).

VII. Other Information

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document

and a copy of the application package in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) 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 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: June 23, 2017.

Kathleen A. Smith,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.

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BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings #2

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric corporate filings:

Docket Numbers: EC17-123-000.

Applicants: American Transmission Company LLC, Wisconsin Power and Light Company.

Description: Supplement to May 20, 2017 Application of American Transmission Company LLC, et. al. (Exhibit N) under Section 203 of the FPA.

Filed Date: 6/21/17.

Accession Number: 20170621-5190.

Comments Due: 5 p.m. ET 7/12/17.

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric rate filings:

Docket Numbers: ER17-193-001.

Applicants: Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.

Description: Compliance filing: 2017-06-22 SA 2856 MidAm-MidAm Substitute 1st Revised GIA to be effective 10/28/2016.