

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stu Huffman at PEESAEnergySanctions@state.gov or (202)-647-7201.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

PEESA Public Guidance

The Department of State is committed to fully implementing sanctions authorities in the Protecting Europe's Energy Security Act of 2019 ("PEESA" or "the Act," Title LXXV, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, Public Law 116-92). We continue to call on Russia to cease using its energy resources for coercive purposes. Russia uses its energy export pipelines to create national and regional dependencies on Russian energy supplies, leveraging these dependencies to expand its political, economic, and military influence, weaken European security, and undermine U.S. national security and foreign policy interests. These pipelines also reduce European energy diversification, and hence weaken European energy security.

PEESA provides the United States with the authority to advance U.S. national security and foreign policy objectives, in particular, to address Russian pipeline projects that create risks to U.S. national security, threaten Europe's energy security, and consequently, endanger Europe's political and economic welfare.

In accordance with PEESA Section 7503, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, is to submit a report to Congress for the relevant period, identifying (A) vessels that engaged in pipe-laying at depths of 100 feet or more below sea level for the construction of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline project, the TurkStream pipeline project, or any project that is a successor to either such project; and (B) foreign persons that the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, determines have knowingly sold, leased or provided those vessels for the construction of such a project; or facilitated deceptive or structured transactions to provide those vessels for the construction of such a project.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How does the State Department interpret the term knowingly "provide[d] those vessels for the construction of such a project" in PEESA Section 7503(a)(1)(B)?

For the purposes of PEESA, which focuses on vessels engaged in pipe-laying at depths of 100 feet or more below sea level for the construction of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline project, the TurkStream pipeline project, or any

project that is a successor to either such project (see Section 7503(a)(1)(A)), the phrase knowingly "provide[d] those vessels for the construction of such a project" in Section 7503(a)(1)(B) may cover foreign firms or persons who provide certain services or goods that are necessary or essential to the provision or operation of a vessel engaged in the process of pipe-laying for such projects. Such activities subject to sanctions pursuant to PEESA or other authorities may include, but are not limited to, providing services or facilities for upgrades or installation of equipment for those vessels, or funding for upgrades or installation of equipment for those vessels. The Department of State and the Department of the Treasury are prepared to use the full range of sanctions authorities to halt construction of these pipelines.

Pursuant to section 7503(e)(3) of PEESA, sanctions will not apply to persons providing provisions to a relevant vessel if such provisions are intended for the safety and care of the crew aboard the vessel, the protection of human life aboard the vessel, or the maintenance of the vessel to avoid any environmental or other significant damage.

Pursuant to section 7503(e)(4) of PEESA, sanctions will not apply to persons engaging in activities necessary for or related to the repair or maintenance of, or environmental remediation with respect to, Nord Stream 2, TurkStream, or any project that is a successor to either such project.

2. Will the United States impose sanctions on persons engaged in certain activities prior to the issuance of this clarification of the term "provided?"

No, the United States will not impose sanctions on persons that the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, determines, on or after October 20, 2020 meet the above criteria for having knowingly "provided those vessels for the construction of such a project" under Section 7503(a)(1)(B) of PEESA, if those persons immediately engage in, and complete within 30 days, a good-faith wind down of such activities upon the issuance of this clarification.

Melissa M. Simpson,

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Energy Resources, Department of State.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice:11252]

In the Matter of the Designation of the Eastern Turkistan Islamic Movement Also Known as ETIM as a "Terrorist Organization" Pursuant to Section 212(a)(3)(B)(vi)(II) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as Amended

Acting under the authority of Section 212(a)(3)(B)(vi)(II) if the INA, as amended, I hereby revoke the designation of the Eastern Turkistan Islamic Movement, also known as ETIM, as a "terrorist organization" under Section 212(a)(3)(B)(vi)(II) if the INA. This determination shall be published in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: October 20, 2020.

Michael R. Pompeo,
Secretary of State.

[FR Doc. 2020-24620 Filed 11-4-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 11249]

60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Training/Internship Placement Plan

ACTION: Notice of request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of State is seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the information collection described below. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we are requesting comments on this collection from all interested individuals and organizations. The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

DATES: The Department will accept comments from the public up to *January 4, 2021*.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Web:* Persons with access to the internet may comment on this notice by going to www.Regulations.gov. You can search for the document by entering "Docket Number: DOS-2020-0047" in the Search field. Then click the "Comment Now" button and complete the comment form.

- *Email:* JExchanges@State.gov.

- *Regular Mail:* Send written comments to: U.S. Department of State, ECA/EC, SA-4E, Washington, DC 20522-0505, ATTN: **Federal Register Notice Response**.

You must include the DS form number (if applicable), information collection title, and the OMB control number in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct requests for additional information regarding the collection listed in this notice, including requests for copies of the proposed collection instrument and supporting documents, to G. Kevin Saba, Director, Office of Policy and Program Support, Office of Private Sector Exchange, SA-4E, Washington, DC 20522-0505; the office may be reached by email at JExchanges@state.gov and by telephone at (202) 634-4710.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

- *Title of Information Collection:* Training/Internship Placement Plan.
- *OMB Control Number:* 1405-0170.
- *Type of Request:* Extension of a Currently Approved Collection.
- *Originating Office:* Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Office of Private Sector Exchange (ECA/EC).
- *Form Number:* Form DS-7002.
- *Respondents:* Entities designated by the Department of State as sponsors of exchange visitor programs in the trainee or intern categories and U.S. businesses that provide the training or internship opportunity.
- *Estimated Number of Respondents:* 120.
- *Estimated Number of Responses:* 30,000.
- *Average Time Per Response:* 1.5 hours.
- *Total Estimated Burden:* 45,000 hours.
- *Frequency:* On occasion depending on the number of exchange participants annually.
- *Obligation to Respond:* Required to Obtain or Retain Benefits.

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department.
- 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.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that comments submitted in response to this Notice are public record. Before including any detailed personal information, you should be

aware that your comments as submitted, including your personal information, will be available for public review.

Abstract of Proposed Collection

The collection is the continuation of information collected and needed by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs in administering the Exchange Visitor Program (J-NONIMMIGRANT) under the provisions of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, as amended. Trainee/Internship Placement Plans are to be completed by designated program sponsors. A Training/Internship Placement Plan is required for each trainee or intern participant. It sets forth the training or internship program to be followed, methods of supervision, the skills the trainee or intern will obtain, and trainee or intern remuneration. The plan must be signed by the trainee or intern, sponsor, and the third party placement organization, if a third party organization is used in the conduct of the training or internship. Upon request, trainees or interns must present a fully executed Trainee/Internship Placement Plan on Form DS-7002 to any Consular Official interviewing them in connection with the issuance of J-1 visas.

Methodology

This collection does not employ statistical methods. Access to Form DS-7002 is made available to Department designated sponsors electronically.

Zachary Parker,
Director.

[FR Doc. 2020-24289 Filed 11-4-20; 8:45 am]

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

30-Day Notice of Intent To Seek Approval for Information Collections: Joint Notice of Intent To Arbitrate and Notice of Availability for Arbitrator Roster

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Notice and Request for Comments.

SUMMARY: As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), the Surface Transportation Board (STB or Board) gives notice of its intent to seek approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the existing collections without OMB control numbers of the Joint Notice of Intent to Arbitrate and Notice of Availability for Arbitrator Roster, as described separately below. The Board previously

published a notice about these collections in the **Federal Register**. That notice allowed for a 60-day public review and comment period. No comments were received.

DATES: The comment period for the notice published September 2, 2020, at 85 FR 54615, is extended. Comments on these information collections should be submitted by December 7, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be identified as "Paperwork Reduction Act Comments, Joint Notice of Arbitration and Arbitration Roster." These comments should be directed to the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Michael J. McManus, Surface Transportation Board Desk Officer: by email at oir_submission@omb.eop.gov; by fax at (202) 395-1743; or by mail to Room 10235, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503. Please also direct comments to Chris Oehrle, PRA Officer, Surface Transportation Board, at PRA@stb.gov. For further information regarding these collections, contact Michael Higgins, Deputy Director, Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs, and Compliance at (202) 245-0284 and at Michael.Higgins@stb.gov. Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Comments are requested concerning: (1) The accuracy of the Board's burden estimates; (2) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; (3) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, when appropriate; and (4) whether the collections of information are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Board, including whether the collections have practical utility. Submitted comments will be summarized and included in the Board's request for OMB approval.

Description of Collections

Information Collection 1

Title: Joint Notice of Intent to Arbitrate.

OMB Control Number: 2140-XXXX.

STB Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Existing collection without an OMB control number.

Respondents: Parties seeking to submit to arbitration certain matters before the Board.

Number of Respondents: One.