

*Authority:* 20 U.S.C. 1066f.

**Nasser H. Paydar,**

*Assistant Secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED–2023–SCC–0185]

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Southwest Write To Succeed Evaluation

**AGENCY:** Institute of Education Sciences (IES), Department of Education (ED).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Department is proposing a new information collection request (ICR).

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before December 26, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** To access and review all the documents related to the information collection listed in this notice, please use <https://www.regulations.gov> by searching the Docket ID number ED–2023–SCC–0185. 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. If the [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) site is not available to the public for any reason, the Department will temporarily accept comments at [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@ed.gov). Please include the docket ID number and the title of the information collection request when requesting documents or submitting comments. 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 Manager of the Strategic Collections and Clearance Governance and Strategy Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave. SW, LBJ, Room 6W203, Washington, DC 20202–8240.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Christopher Boccanfuso, 202–453–7383.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department, 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. The Department is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. The Department 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:* Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Southwest Write to Succeed Evaluation.

*OMB Control Number:* 1850–NEW.

*Type of Review:* A new ICR.

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

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 2,453.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 366.

*Abstract:* The current authorization for the Regional Educational Laboratories (REL) program is under the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002, part D, section 174, (20 U.S.C. 9564), administered by the Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences (IES), National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance (NCEE). The central mission and primary function of the RELs is to support applied research and provide technical assistance to state and local education agencies within their region (ESRA, part D, section 174[f]). The REL program's goal is to partner with educators and policymakers to conduct work that is change-oriented and supports meaningful local, regional, or state decisions about education policies, programs, and practices to improve outcomes for students.

Supporting equitable educational opportunities and achievement for English learner students in New Mexico is a high priority for the New Mexico

Public Education Department (NMPED, n.d., 2021). In light of analysis showing English learner students in the state have lower rates of English language arts (ELA) proficiency (Arellano et al., 2018), plus legal rulings in the state that English learner students' rights to a sufficient public education have been violated (NMPED, 2022a), NMPED created a strategic plan that includes supporting the whole child through literacy instruction that is culturally and linguistically responsive (NMPED, 2022b). Improving English learner students' English proficiency and the literacy skills of all students is a top priority of NMPED and the district and regional partners of REL Southwest. To address this problem, REL Southwest is implementing, refining, and building evidence for the Write to Succeed professional learning program. The core focus of the Write to Succeed program is scaffolded writing instruction that can support all students but with embedded opportunities to meet the language needs to English learner students. Prior to this study, the program will be further enhanced with supports for teacher collaboration and culturally and linguistically relevant instructional routines, as prior work with New Mexico partners has indicated these are two elements in need of further support.

This study is designed to measure the efficacy and implementation of the Write to Succeed. The evaluation team plans to conduct an independent evaluation using a school-level, cluster randomized control trial design to assess the program's impact on teachers' practices and beliefs and students' language and literacy outcomes. The evaluation will also assess the implementation of the program and how it may be effectively scaled. The evaluation will take place in 40 schools across an estimated 10 districts in New Mexico and will focus on teachers and students in grades 4–8. The evaluation will produce a report and presentations to study participants, practitioners, policymakers, and researchers, and infographics and blog posts for a wider audience of educators and policymakers. These will be designed to inform district and school leaders and teachers about scaffolded writing practices that could be beneficial for English learner students and all students.

Dated: October 23, 2023.

**Juliana Pearson,**

*PRA Coordinator, Strategic Collections and Clearance Governance and Strategy Division, Office of Chief Data Officer, Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Notice of Availability of Draft Basis for Section 3116 Determination for Closure of the Calcined Solids Storage Facility at the Idaho National Laboratory Site, Idaho**

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announces the availability of the *Draft Basis for Section 3116 Determination for Closure of the Calcined Solids Storage Facility at the Idaho National Laboratory Site* (Draft CSSF 3116 Basis Document). The Draft CSSF 3116 Basis Document demonstrates that the Calcined Solids Storage Facility (CSSF) at closure after waste retrieval is not high-level radioactive waste (HLW) and may be disposed of in place as low-level radioactive waste (LLW). DOE prepared the Draft CSSF 3116 Basis Document pursuant to Section 3116 of the “Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005” (hereafter NDAA Section 3116). DOE is consulting with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), and is also making the Draft CSSF 3116 Basis Document available for comments from states, Tribal Nations, stakeholders, and the public. After consultation with the NRC, carefully considering comments received, and performing any necessary revisions of analyses and technical documents, DOE will prepare a final CSSF 3116 Basis Document. Based on the final document, the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the NRC, may determine in the future whether the stabilized CSSF bins (including integral equipment), transport lines, and any residual waste remaining therein at closure are non-HLW and may be disposed of in place as LLW.

**DATES:** DOE invites comments on the Draft CSSF 3116 Basis Document during a 45-day comment period beginning the calendar day after publication of this Notice of Availability. A public virtual meeting on the Draft CSSF 3116 Basis Document will be held on a date to be announced, currently anticipated to be November 1, 2023. Before the meeting,

DOE will issue stakeholder and media notifications and publish a notice in the local newspaper providing the date, time, and virtual platform information of the public meeting. Information on the public meeting date and virtual platform information also will be available before the meeting at the website listed in <https://www.id.energy.gov/insideNEID/PublicInvolvement.htm>.

**ADDRESSES:** The Draft CSSF 3116 Basis Document is available on the internet at <https://www.id.energy.gov/insideNEID/PublicInvolvement.htm> and will be publicly available for review on the U.S. DOE Idaho Operations Office Public Reading Room web page at <https://inl.gov/about-inl/general-information/doe-public-reading-room>. Written comments should be submitted to: Mr. Greg Balsmeier, INTEC Program Manager for the Calcine Disposition Project, U.S. Department of Energy Idaho Operations Office, 1955 Fremont Ave., Idaho Falls, ID 83401. Alternatively, comments may also be filed electronically by email to: [DraftCSSFBasisDocument@icp.doe.gov](mailto:DraftCSSFBasisDocument@icp.doe.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information about this Draft CSSF 3116 Basis Document, please contact Mr. Greg Balsmeier, INTEC Program Manager for the Calcine Disposition Project, by mail at U.S. Department of Energy Idaho Operations Office, 1955 Fremont Ave, Idaho Falls, ID 83401, by phone at 208–526–5871, or by email at [balsmege@id.doe.gov](mailto:balsmege@id.doe.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Idaho National Laboratory (INL) Site, near Arco, Idaho, currently stores solid calcined radioactive waste in stainless-steel bins housed in six reinforced concrete vaults that are below or partially below grade at the CSSF. The CSSF is located at the Idaho Nuclear Technology and Engineering Center (INTEC) at the INL Site. The stored calcined HLW was generated by converting liquid HLW and non-reprocessing waste into a granular solid. The liquid HLW was generated by the prior reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel (SNF). DOE’s current mission focuses on the cleanup and remediation of those wastes and ultimate closure of the CSSF.

As part of that mission, DOE plans to retrieve waste from the CSSF for treatment, and disposition out of the State of Idaho. Following waste retrieval, DOE plans to stabilize in grout and pursue closure (disposal in place) of the CSSF bins (including integral equipment), transport lines, and any residual waste remaining therein.

The Draft CSSF 3116 Basis Document concerns the CSSF bins (including integral equipment), transport lines, and any residual waste remaining therein, after waste retrieval, which is anticipated to remove most of the calcine, (approximately 99% or more of the calcine (by volume) and approximately 99% of the radioactivity attributable to highly radioactive radionuclides). A small amount of calcine, less than approximately 1% by volume, is expected to remain in the CSSF at the time of closure. The final CSSF closure configuration is anticipated to include stabilizing (with grout) the bins and transport line piping void spaces. The grout will serve to provide long term structural stability, limit the amount of water infiltration into the bins and transfer lines to mitigate contaminate migration, and provide a barrier for intrusion by burrowing animals, plant roots, or humans.

NDAA Section 3116(a) provides that HLW does not include radioactive waste resulting from the reprocessing of SNF that the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the NRC, determines:

“(1) does not require permanent isolation in a deep geologic repository for spent fuel or high-level radioactive waste;

(2) has had highly radioactive radionuclides removed to the maximum extent practical; and

(3) (A) does not exceed concentration limits for Class C low-level waste as set out in Section 61.55 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, and will be disposed of—

(i) in compliance with the performance objectives set out in subpart C of part 61 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations; and

(ii) pursuant to a State-approved closure plan or State-issued permit, authority for the approval or issuance of which is conferred on the State outside of this section; or

(B) exceeds concentration limits for Class C low-level waste as set out in section 61.55 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, but will be disposed of—

(i) in compliance with the performance objectives set out in subpart C of part 61 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations;

(ii) pursuant to a State-approved closure plan or State-issued permit, authority for the approval or issuance of which is conferred on the State outside of this section; and

(iii) pursuant to plans developed by the Secretary in consultation with the Commission.”

The Draft CSSF 3116 Basis Document demonstrates that after waste retrieval