

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before December 13, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for proposed information collection requests should be submitted within 30 days of publication of this notice. Click on this link [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain) to access the site. Find this information collection request (ICR) by selecting "Department of Education" under "Currently Under Review," then check the "Only Show ICR for Public Comment" checkbox. [Reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov) provides two links to view documents related to this information collection request. Information collection forms and instructions may be found by clicking on the "View Information Collection (IC) List" link. Supporting statements and other supporting documentation may be found by clicking on the "View Supporting Statement and Other Documents" link.

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** 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:* REL Peer Review: Pilot Data Collection Methods for Examining the Use of Research Evidence.

*OMB Control Number:* 1850-NEW.

*Type of Review:* New ICR.

*Respondents/Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 115.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 43.

*Abstract:* The Institute of Education Sciences (IES) within the U.S. Department of Education (ED) requests clearance for data collection activities to support a pilot study of the reliability and validity of survey items used to assess the use of research evidence (URE) among education agencies and other partners served by the Regional

Educational Laboratories (RELs). The REL program is an essential IES investment focused on partnering with state and local education agencies to use evidence to improve education outcomes by creating tangible research products and providing engaging learning experiences and consultation. IES seeks to better understand how REL partners use research evidence to improve education outcomes and the role of RELs in promoting URE among partners. This study will test the reliability and validity of new and extant URE items in the REL context. Specifically, the study will (1) assess how existing items from the URE literature perform in a REL context and (2) assess the reliability and validity of a small set of items from the Stakeholder Feedback Surveys (SFS) that are currently administered to REL partners and used by IES to improve the work of REL contractors, inform the REL program as a whole, and address internal requests such as the Congressional Budget Justification. The reliability and validity of the new and existing survey items will be assessed through two data collection activities: an online survey administered to a set of partnerships across RELs and follow-up interviews with a subset of REL partners.

Dated: November 6, 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.*

[FR Doc. 2023-24869 Filed 11-9-23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2023-SCC-0190]

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Scholar Recognition Program

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary (OS), Department of Education (ED).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Department is proposing an extension without change of a currently approved information collection request (ICR).

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before January 12, 2024.

**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-2023-SCC-0190. 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](http://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 Elyse Jones, (202) 453-5627.

**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:* HBCU Scholar Recognition Program.

*OMB Control Number:* 1894-0016.

*Type of Review:* Extension without change of a currently approved ICR.

*Respondents/Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 202.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 707.

*Abstract:* This program was designed to recognize current HBCU students for their dedication to academics, leadership, and civic engagement. Nominees were asked to submit a nomination package containing a signed nomination form, unofficial transcripts, short essay, resume, and endorsement letter. Items in this package provide the tools necessary to select current HBCU students who are excelling academically and making differences in their community.

Dated: November 6, 2023.

**Stephanie Valentine,**

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

[FR Doc. 2023-24870 Filed 11-9-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Notice of Availability of National Transmission Needs Study

**AGENCY:** Grid Deployment Office, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) gives notice of availability of the final “National Transmission Needs Study” (Needs Study) pursuant to the Federal Power Act, which requires DOE to conduct a study of electric transmission capacity constraints and congestion every three years. The Needs Study will inform the potential exercise of DOE’s National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor designation authority and the use of other DOE authorities and funding related to electric transmission.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Adria Brooks, U.S. Department of Energy, Grid Deployment Office, via (202) 586-2006; or [transmission@hq.doe.gov](mailto:transmission@hq.doe.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** DOE’s Grid Deployment Office (GDO) is announcing the availability of the

“National Transmission Needs Study” (Needs Study). Section 216(a) of the Federal Power Act (FPA), as recently amended by section 40105 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), requires DOE to conduct a study of historic and anticipated future electric transmission capacity constraints and congestion every three years. The Needs Study implements that statutory provision and replaces what was formerly known as the National Electric Transmission Congestion Study.

Pursuant to section 216(a)(1), DOE has consulted with states, Tribes, and appropriate regional reliability entities regarding the Needs Study, including by providing a consultation draft in October 2022 for review and comment by these entities, holding a series of six audience-specific webinars following release of the consultation draft, and making available DOE staff for phone calls and meetings. On March 6, 2023, a draft Needs Study was made available for public comment. The draft Needs Study included revisions made in response to comments and input that DOE received from states, Tribes, and regional reliability entities. The final Needs Study incorporates feedback received during the public comment period held between March 6 and April 20, 2023.

Pursuant to section 216(a)(2) of the FPA, the study would inform any decision to exercise DOE’s National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor designation authority. The Needs Study will also inform DOE as it coordinates the use of other authorities and funding related to electric transmission. These include new authorities under the IIJA and existing DOE programs, such as grid-related research and development and financing authorities that support grid infrastructure development. Members of the public can visit GDO’s website to access the Needs Study at: [www.energy.gov/gdo/national-transmission-needs-study](http://www.energy.gov/gdo/national-transmission-needs-study).

### Signing Authority

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on November 3, 2023, by Maria D. Robinson, Director, Grid Deployment Office, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. The

administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC, on November 7, 2023.

**Treena V. Garrett,**

*Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.*

[FR Doc. 2023-24898 Filed 11-9-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee

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

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a virtual meeting of the Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee (BESAC). The Federal Advisory Committee Act requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

**DATES:** Tuesday, December 12, 2023; 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST.

**ADDRESSES:** This meeting is open to the public. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom. Information to participate can be found on the website closer to the meeting date at <https://science.osti.gov/bes/besac/Meetings>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kerry Hochberger; Office of Basic Energy Sciences; U.S. Department of Energy; Germantown Building, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585; Telephone: (301) 903-7661 or Email: [kerry.hochberger@science.doe.gov](mailto:kerry.hochberger@science.doe.gov).

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Purpose of the Committee:* The purpose of this Committee is to make recommendations to DOE-SC concerning the basic energy sciences research program.

### Tentative Agenda

- Call to Order, Introductions, Review of the Agenda
- Updates on 2023 BESAC Charges
- Update from the Office of Science
- Update from the Office of Basic Energy Sciences
- Panel Discussion: *Science Opportunities with the Upgraded LCLS*
- Accelerator Instrumentation BRN
- Distinguished Scientist Presentation
- 2023 Committee of Visitors Reports
- Public Comment
- Adjourn

Breaks taken as appropriate.

*Public Participation:* The meeting is open to the public. A webcast of this