

collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website, [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function and entering either the title of the information collection or the OMB Control Number, 0651–0009.

Further information can be obtained by:

- *Email: InformationCollection@uspto.gov*. Include “0651–0009 information request” in the subject line of the message.

- *Mail: Justin Isaac, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450.*

**Lisa Lawn,**

*Director, Records and Information Compliance Program Office, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office.*

[FR Doc. 2024–14907 Filed 7–5–24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–16–P**

## **CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

### **Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; AmeriCorps Program Life Cycle Evaluation—Puerto Rico Bundled Evaluation**

**AGENCY:** Corporation for National and Community Service.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Corporation for National and Community Service, operating as AmeriCorps, has submitted a public information collection request (ICR) entitled AmeriCorps Program Life Cycle Evaluation—Puerto Rico Bundled Evaluation for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the individual and office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section by August 7, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open

for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Copies of this ICR, with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained by calling AmeriCorps, Dr. Jehyra M. Asencio Yace, 202–956–9736, or by email at [jasencioyace@americorps.gov](mailto:jasencioyace@americorps.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The OMB is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of CNCS, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions;
- Propose ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Propose ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

### **Comments**

A 60-day Notice requesting public comment was published in the **Federal Register** on March 26, 2024 at 89 FR 20952, with a comment period ending May 28, 2024. No public comments were received from that Notice.

*Title of Collection:* AmeriCorps Program Life Cycle Evaluation—Puerto Rico Bundled Evaluation.

*OMB Control Number:* 3045–NEW.  
*Type of Review:* New.

*Respondents/Affected Public:* Individuals and households (national service members, national service member alumni, community members), businesses and organizations (grantee and sponsor organization project director and staff, partner organization staff, non-supported organizations), and State, local, or Tribal governments (the Puerto Rico service commission staff).

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 697 responses.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 530 hours.

*Abstract:* The purpose of this evaluation is to provide insight on the context, implementation, and outcomes of 13 AmeriCorps-supported organizations in Puerto Rico with AmeriCorps State and National formula grants (funded through the Puerto Rico

service commission, Comisión de Voluntariado y Servicio Comunitario), as well as those that have both AmeriCorps State and National grants and AmeriCorps VISTA projects. The evaluation will also explore the effectiveness of evaluation capacity-building workshops to be provided to the bundle participants.

AmeriCorps will conduct a 15 month long bundled evaluation of grantees and sponsors in Puerto Rico. Bundling combines programs and projects in a similar place into a single evaluation. The bundled evaluation will use surveys, interviews, and focus groups with a wide range of stakeholders, including grantee and sponsor organization project directors and staff, national service members, national service member alumni, community members, partner organization staff, non-supported organizations, and the Puerto Rico service commission staff. This is a new information collection.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information. Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; to develop, acquire, install and utilize technology and systems for the purpose of collecting, validating and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; to train personnel and to be able to respond to a collection of information, to search data sources, to complete and review the collection of information; and to transmit or otherwise disclose the information. All written comments will

be available for public inspection on *regulations.gov*.

Mary Hyde,

Director, Office of Research and Evaluation.

[FR Doc. 2024-14795 Filed 7-5-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6050-28-P

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

#### Notice of Adoption of Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Categorical Exclusion Under the National Environmental Policy Act

**AGENCY:** Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** Notice of adoption of categorical exclusion.

**SUMMARY:** DTRA is adopting the Department of Energy's (DOE's) Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations Categorical Exclusion (CE) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to use in DTRA programs and funding opportunities administered by DTRA. This notice describes the categories of proposed actions for which DTRA intends to use DOE's CEs and describes the consultation between the agencies.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Sherry Davis, 703-767-7122, [sherry.j.davis3.civ@mail.mil](mailto:sherry.j.davis3.civ@mail.mil).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

###### *National Environmental Policy Act and Categorical Exclusions*

The NEPA, as amended at 42 U.S.C. 4321-4347, requires all Federal agencies to assess the environmental impact of their actions. Congress enacted NEPA in order to encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between humans and the environment, recognizing the profound impact of human activity and the critical importance of restoring and maintaining environmental quality to the overall welfare of humankind (42 U.S.C. 4321, 4331). NEPA's twin aims are to ensure agencies consider the environmental effects of their proposed actions in their decision-making processes and inform and involve the public in that process (42 U.S.C. 4331). NEPA created the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), which promulgated NEPA implementing regulations, 40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508 (CEQ regulations).

To comply with NEPA, agencies determine the appropriate level of review—an Environmental Impact

Statement (EIS), Environmental Assessment (EA), or CE (42 U.S.C. 4336). If a proposed action is likely to have significant environmental effects, the agency must prepare an EIS and document its decision in a record of decision (42 U.S.C. 4336). If the proposed action is not likely to have significant environmental effects or the effects are unknown, the agency may instead prepare an EA, which involves a more concise analysis and process than an EIS (42 U.S.C. 4336). Following the EA, the agency may conclude the process with a finding of no significant impact if the analysis shows that the action will have no significant effects. If the analysis in the EA finds that the action is likely to have significant effects, however, then an EIS is required.

Under NEPA and the CEQ regulations, a Federal agency also can establish CEs—categories of actions that the agency has determined normally do not significantly affect the quality of the human environment—in their agency NEPA procedures (42 U.S.C. 4336(e)(1); 40 CFR 1501.4, 1507.3(e)(2)(ii), 1508.1(d)). If an agency determines that a CE covers a proposed action, it then evaluates the proposed action for extraordinary circumstances in which a normally excluded action may have a significant effect (40 CFR 1501.4(b)). If no extraordinary circumstances are present or if further analysis determines that the extraordinary circumstances do not involve the potential for significant environmental impacts, the agency may apply the CE to the proposed action without preparing an EA or EIS (42 U.S.C. 4336(a)(2), 40 CFR 1501.4). If the extraordinary circumstances have the potential to result in significant effects, the agency is required to prepare an EA or EIS.

Section 109 of NEPA, enacted as part of the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023, allows a Federal agency to “adopt” or use another agency's CEs for a category of proposed agency actions (42 U.S.C. 4336(c)). To use another agency's CEs under section 109, an agency must identify the relevant CEs listed in another agency's (“establishing agency”) NEPA procedures that cover its category of proposed actions or related actions; consult with the establishing agency to ensure that the proposed adoption of the CE to a category of actions is appropriate; identify to the public the CE that the agency plans to use for its proposed actions; and document adoption of the CE.

This notice documents DTRA's adoption of DOE's Electric Vehicle Charging Stations CE under section 109 of NEPA to use in DTRA programs and

funding opportunities administered by DTRA Operating Administrations.

## II. Identification of the Categorical Exclusion

### *DOE's EV Charging Stations CE*

DOE's EV charging stations CE is codified in DOE's NEPA procedures at 10 CFR part 1021, subpart D, appendix B, B5.23. DOE provides clarification on the meaning of the phrase, “previously disturbed or developed” used in the CE B5.23 at 10 CFR 1021.410(g)(1).

The DOE CE also includes additional conditions referred to as integral elements at 10 CFR part 1021, subpart D, appendix B that should be considered in order to apply the CE.

### *Proposed DTRA Category of Actions*

DTRA intends to apply this CE to any DTRA EV charging station project undertaken directly by DTRA, to any EV charger action requiring an approval by DTRA, or to any project that is financed in whole or in part through Federal funds made available by DTRA (including the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Program or the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program).

The CE allows for the installation, modification, operation, and removal of EV charging stations. DTRA will consider each proposal for EV charging stations to ensure that the proposal is within the scope of the CE. DTRA intends to apply this CE in a manner consistent with DOE's application—to the same types of proposals (which have included a wide variety of locations on and off Federal property, differences in local conditions, various numbers of EV charging stations per proposal, and different types of equipment and technologies including Level 1, Level 2, and DC Fast Charging stations).

## III. Consideration of Extraordinary Circumstances

When applying this CE, DTRA will evaluate the proposals to ensure evaluation of integral elements listed in the DOE's NEPA procedures at 10 CFR part 1021, subpart D, appendix B. In addition, when considering extraordinary circumstances, DTRA will consider whether the proposed action has the potential to result in significant effects as described at 10 CFR 1021.410(b)(2).

## IV. Consultation With DOE and Determination of Appropriateness

DTRA and DOE consulted on the appropriateness of DTRA's adoption of the CE on September 26, 2023. DTRA and DOE's consultation included a review of DOE's experience developing