DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Comment Request for Information Collection for OMB Control No. 1205–0478: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) High Growth and Emerging Industries (HGEI) Grants, Extension With Revisions

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) [44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)]. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is soliciting comments concerning the collection of data for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) High Growth and Emerging Industries (HGEI) Grants, expiring on October 31, 2010. This notice utilizes standard clearance procedures in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and 5 CFR 1320.12. This information collection follows an emergency review that was conducted in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and 5 CFR 1320.13. The submission for OMB emergency review was approved on April 1, 2010. A copy of this ICR can be obtained from the RegInfo.gov Web site at http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.

A copy of the current proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the ADDRESSES section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the ADDRESSES section below on or before July 16, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments to Dani Abdullah, Room N4643, Employment and Training Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210. Telephone number: 202–693–3949 (this is not a toll-free number). Fax: 202–693–3890. E-mail: green.jobs@dol.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number 1205–0478 in the subject line of the e-mail.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background: The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (The Recovery Act) was signed into law by President Obama on February 17, 2009. Among other funding directed to the Department of Labor, the Recovery Act provides $750 million for a program of competitive grants for worker training and placement in high growth and emerging industries, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) High Growth and Emerging Industries (HGEI) grants. It is critical to record the impact of these Recovery Act resources, current information on participants in these grants, and the services provided to them. Therefore, to obtain comprehensive information on participants served by and services provided with Recovery Act resources, ETA proposes an extension with revisions of an information collection set for ARRA HGEI grantees.

II. Review Focus:

The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

• Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, 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 used;

• Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

• 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, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

III. Current Actions:

Type of Review: Extension with revisions.

Title: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) High Growth and Emerging Industries (HGEI) Grants.

OMB Number: 1205–0478.

Affected Public: ARRA HGEI Grantees (includes grantees that provide training and non-training grant-funded services).

Form(s): ETA–9153.

Total Annual Respondents: 244.

Annual Frequency: Quarterly.

Total Annual Responses: 976.

Average Time per Response (Training Grantees): 262 Hours.

Average Time per Response (Non-training Grantees): 16 Hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours (Training Grantees): 159,296 Hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours (Non-Training Grantees): 5,888 Hours.

Total Annual Burden Cost for Respondents: 50.

Comments submitted in response to this comment request will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Signed: At Washington, DC this 7th day of May, 2010.

Jane Oates,
Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training Administration.

BILLING CODE 4510–FN–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Secretary

Job Corps: Final Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for Small Vertical Wind Turbine and Solar Installation at the Paul Simon Job Corps Center Located at 3348 South Kedzie Avenue, Chicago, IL 60623

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary (OSEC), Department of Labor.

ACTION: Notice of final finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR part 1500–08) implementing procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Department of Labor, Office of the Secretary (OSEC), in accordance with 29 CFR 11.11(d), gives final notice of the proposed construction of a small vertical axis wind turbine and solar cells at the Paul Simon Job Corps Center located at 3348 South Kedzie Avenue, Chicago, IL 60623.
Center, and that this project will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment. In accordance with 29 CFR 11.11(d) and 40 CFR 1501.4(e)(2), a preliminary Environmental Assessment was presented through a public meeting held on 5/4/2010 at the Paul Simon Job Corps Center. No comments were received regarding the Environmental Assessment (EA). OSEC has reviewed the conclusion of the EA, and agrees with the finding of no significant impact. This notice serves as the Final Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for Small Vertical Wind Turbine and Solar Installation at the Paul Simon Job Corps Center located at 3348 South Kedzie Avenue, Chicago, IL 60623. The preliminary EA are adopted in final with no change.

Edna Primrose,
National Director of Job Corps.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Notice of Availability of Funds and Solicitation for Grant Applications (SGA) to Fund Demonstration Projects

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor.

Announcement Type: New, Notice of Solicitation for Grant Applications (SGA).

Funding Opportunity Number: SGA/ DFA PY 09–10.
Catalog of Federal Assistance Number: 17.261.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA), announces the availability of $12.2 million from funds made available through the FY 2010 DOL budget for Training and Employment Services for grants to State Workforce Agencies (SWA) to develop the Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI). Grants awarded will provide SWAs the opportunity to develop and use State workforce longitudinal administrative data systems. These State longitudinal data systems will, at a minimum, include information on programs that provide training, employment services, and unemployment insurance and will be linked longitudinally at the individual level to allow for analysis which will lead to enhanced opportunity for program evaluation and lead to better information for customers and stakeholders of the workforce system. Where such longitudinal systems do not exist or are incipient, WDQI grant assistance may be used to design and develop workforce data systems that are longitudinal and which are designed to link with relevant education data or longitudinal education data systems. WDQI grant assistance may also be used to improve upon and more effectively use existing State longitudinal systems.

This solicitation provides background information on workforce longitudinal database systems, describes the application submission requirements, outlines the process that eligible entities must use to apply for funds covered by this solicitation, and details how grantees will be selected.

DATES: Key Dates: The closing date for receipt of applications under this announcement is August 16, 2010. Applications must be received at the address below no later than 4 p.m. (Eastern Time). Application and submission information is explained in detail in Section IV of this SGA. A pre-recorded Webinar for prospective applicants will be online at: http://www.workforce3one.org and available for viewing on June 21, 2010, by 3 p.m. ET, and accessible any time after that date. Reviewing this Webinar is not mandatory but applicants are encouraged to take advantage of this resource to get questions answered.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The WDQI will provide funding to selected SWAs to accomplish a combination of the following objectives: i. Develop or improve State workforce longitudinal data systems. Workforce data are already reported by localities, States, and nationally so grantees will not be creating entirely new data collection systems. What will be new, however, is coordinating, or expanding/strengthening the coordination of these workforce data sources so individual-level records can be matched to one another across programs and over time.

ii. Enable workforce data to be matched with education data, to ultimately create longitudinal data systems with individual-level information from pre-kindergarten (pre-K through post-secondary and into the workforce system to build capacity to measure outcomes while protecting individual privacy. For many years DOL has supported efforts to create workforce longitudinal administrative databases linked to data from other programs, including education data. The WDQI will greatly extend and expand this effort and complement the Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems (SLDS) grant program administered by the Department of Education (ED).

iii. Improve the quality and breadth of the data in workforce longitudinal data systems. It is important that data in the longitudinal systems are complete and accurate and include an array of performance information in order to enhance knowledge about the workforce system and the impact of State workforce development programs. Data collection systems might also be improved to strengthen data validity and to minimize the reporting burden on State agencies and training providers.

iv. Use longitudinal data to provide useful information about program operations and analyze the performance of education and training programs. Policymakers and practitioners can use this data analysis to make programmatic adjustments that improve the workforce system.

v. Provide user-friendly information to consumers to help them select the education and training programs that best suit their needs. For example, Washington State displays information about training program outcomes at http://www.careerbridge.wa.gov, allowing consumers to compare the performance of different training providers.

The relative prominence of each objective for a given State will primarily be determined by the State’s “launch-point” for developing a workforce longitudinal data system that will ultimately be linkable to education data and will reflect high data quality standards while protecting individual privacy (see the Section I.A.5). Additional details on the “launch point” for States can be found in the section of this SGA in Section I.A.1.

B. Background

President Obama’s FY 2010 Budget requested $15 million and the Congress