

with 10 CFR 903.23(a) and 10 CFR part 904.

Western is establishing the electric service Base Charge and Rates for BCP under the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7152); the Reclamation Act of 1902 (ch. 1093, 32 Stat. 388), as amended and supplemented by subsequent laws, particularly section 9(c) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (43 U.S.C. 485h(c)); and other acts that specifically apply to the projects involved.

By Delegation Order No. 00–037.00A, effective October 25, 2013, the Secretary of Energy delegated: (1) The authority to develop power and transmission rates to the Administrator of Western; (2) the authority to confirm, approve, and place such rates into effect on an interim basis to the Deputy Secretary of Energy; and (3) the authority to confirm, approve, and place into effect on a final basis, to remand, or to disapprove such rates to the FERC. Existing Department of Energy (DOE) procedures for public participation in power rate adjustments (10 CFR part 903) were published on September 18, 1985.

Attendance at the Forum

Access to Western facilities is controlled. If you are a U.S. citizen, please be sure to bring an official form of picture identification (that meets the requirement of the Real ID Act), such as a driver's license, U.S. passport, U.S. Government ID, or U.S. Military ID, which you will be asked to show prior to signing in at Western.

If you are a foreign national and plan to attend, please contact Mr. Jack Murray, Rates Manager, (602) 605–2442, email jmurray@wapa.gov, immediately to obtain the necessary form for admittance at Western. To allow time for background checks this form must be completed at least 30 days in advance for visitors from non-sensitive countries; and 45 days in advance for visitors from sensitive countries. Failure to complete this approval process may result in denial of visit.

Availability of Information

All brochures, studies, comments, letters, memorandums, and other documents that Western initiated or used to develop the proposed base charge and rates are available for inspection and copying at the Desert Southwest Customer Service Regional Office, located at 615 South 43rd Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona. Many of these documents and supporting information are also available on Western's Web site at: <http://www.wapa.gov/dsw/pwrmt/BCP/RateAdjust.htm>.

Ratemaking Procedure Requirements

Environmental Compliance

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321–4347 *et seq.*); Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500–1508); and DOE NEPA Regulations (10 CFR part 1021), Western is in the process of determining whether an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement should be prepared or if this action can be categorically excluded from those requirements.

Determination Under Executive Order 12866

Western has an exemption from centralized regulatory review under Executive Order 12866; accordingly, no clearance of this notice by the Office of Management and Budget is required.

Dated: January 6, 2015.

Mark A. Gabriel,
Administrator.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA–HQ–OARM–2014–0857; FRL–9922–64–OARM]

Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request; Background Checks for Contractor Employees (Renewal)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is planning to submit an information collection request (ICR), “Background Checks for Contractor Employees (Renewal)” (EPA ICR No. 2159.06, OMB Control No. 2030–0043) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*). Before doing so, EPA is soliciting public comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below. This is a proposed extension of the ICR, which is currently approved through April 30, 2015. An Agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before April 10, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OARM–2014–0857 online using www.regulations.gov (our preferred method), by email to oei.docket@epa.gov, or by mail to: EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460.

EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes profanity, threats, information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Dianne Lyles, Policy Training and Oversight Division, Office of Acquisition Management (3802R), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 564–6111; email address: lyles.dianne@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Supporting documents which explain in detail the information that the EPA will be collecting are available in the public docket for this ICR. The docket can be viewed online at www.regulations.gov or in person at the EPA Docket Center, WJC West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW., Washington, DC. The telephone number for the Docket Center is 202–566–1744. For additional information about EPA's public docket, visit <http://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

Pursuant to section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, EPA is soliciting comments and information to enable it to: (i) 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; (ii) 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; (iii) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (iv) 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 submission of responses. EPA will consider the comments received and amend the ICR as appropriate. The final ICR package

will then be submitted to OMB for review and approval. At that time, EPA will issue another **Federal Register** notice to announce the submission of the ICR to OMB and the opportunity to submit additional comments to OMB.

Abstract: The EPA uses contractors to perform services throughout the nation with regard to environmental emergencies involving the release, or threatened release, of oil, radioactive materials, or hazardous chemicals that may potentially affect communities and the surrounding environment. The Agency may request contractors responding to any of these types of incidents to conduct background checks and apply Government-established suitability criteria in Title 5 CFR Administrative Personnel 731.104 Appointments Subject to Investigation, 732.201 Sensitivity Level Designations and Investigative Requirements, and 736.102 Notice to Investigative Sources when determining whether employees are acceptable to perform on given sites or on specific projects. In addition to emergency response contractors, EPA may require background checks for contractor personnel working in sensitive sites or sensitive projects. The background checks and application of the Government's suitability criteria must be completed prior to contract employee performance. The contractor shall maintain records associated with all background checks. Background checks cover citizenship or valid visa status, criminal convictions, weapons offenses, felony convictions, and parties prohibited from receiving federal contracts.

Form numbers: None.

Respondents/affected entities: Private Contractors.

Respondent's obligation to respond: Required to obtain a benefit per Title 5 CFR Administrative Personnel 731.104 Appointments Subject to Investigation, 732.201 Sensitivity Level Designations and Investigative Requirements, and 736.102 Notice to Investigative Sources.

Estimated number of respondents: 1,000.

Frequency of response: Annual.

Total estimated burden: 1,000 hours (per year). Burden is defined at 5 CFR 1320.03(b).

Total estimated cost: \$186,730 (per year), includes \$0 annualized capital or operation & maintenance (O&M) costs.

Changes in Estimates: There is no change in the hours in the total estimated respondent burden compared with the ICR currently approved by OMB.

Dated: January 28, 2015.

John R. Bashista,

Director, Office of Acquisition Management.

[FR Doc. 2015-02484 Filed 2-6-15; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-9922-84-OA]

Announcement of the Board of Directors for the National Environmental Education Foundation

AGENCY: Office of External Affairs and Environmental Education, Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Environmental Education and Training Foundation (doing business as The National Environmental Education Foundation or NEEF) was created by Section 10 of Public Law 101-619, the National Environmental Education Act of 1990. It is a private 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established to promote and support education and training as necessary tools to further environmental protection and sustainable, environmentally sound development. It provides the common ground upon which leaders from business and industry, all levels of government, public interest groups, and others can work cooperatively to expand the reach of environmental education and training programs beyond the traditional classroom. The Foundation promotes innovative environmental education and training programs such as environmental education for medical healthcare providers and broadcast meteorologists; it also develops partnerships with government and other organizations to administer projects that promote the development of an environmentally literate public. The Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, as required by the terms of the Act, announces the following appointment to the National Environmental Education Foundation Board of Directors. The appointee is Raul Perea-Henze, M.D., M.P.H., managing director of HORUS Advisors as a strategy advisor in healthcare, global affairs and government relations.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information regarding this Notice of Appointment, please contact Mr. Brian Bond, Senior Advisor to the Administrator for Public Engagement, U.S. EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460. General

information concerning NEEF can be found on their Web site at: <http://www.neefusa.org>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Additional Considerations

Great care has been taken to assure that this new appointee not only has the highest degree of expertise and commitment, but also brings to the Board diverse points of view relating to environmental education. This appointment is a four-year term which may be renewed once for an additional four years pending successful re-election by the NEEF nominating committee.

This appointee will join the current Board members which include:

- Decker Anstrom (NEEF Chairman) Former U.S. Ambassador, Retired Chairman, The Weather Channel Companies
- Trish Silber (NEEF Vice Chair) President, Aliniad Consulting Partners, Inc.
- Diane Wood (NEEF Secretary) President, National Environmental Education Foundation
- Carlos Alcazar, Founder and Chairman, Culture ONE World
- Megan Reilly Cayten, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Catrinka, LLC
- Philippe Cousteau, Co-Founder and CEO, EarthEcho International
- David M. Kiser, Vice President, Environment, Health, Safety and Sustainability, International Paper
- Wonya Lucas, President, Lucas Strategic Consulting
- Shannon Schuyler, Principal, Corporate Responsibility Leader, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC)
- Jacqueline M. Thomas, Vice President of Corporate Responsibility, Toyota Motor Sales USA Inc.

Background

Section 10(a) of the National Environmental Education Act of 1990 mandates a National Environmental Education Foundation. The Foundation is established in order to extend the contribution of environmental education and training to meeting critical environmental protection needs, both in this country and internationally; to facilitate the cooperation, coordination, and contribution of public and private resources to create an environmentally advanced educational system; and to foster an open and effective partnership among Federal, State, and local government, business, industry, academic institutions, community based environmental groups, and international organizations.