

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.

Dated: December 19, 2004.

Angela C. Arrington,

Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Institute of Education Sciences

Type of Review: New Collection.

Title: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) Minimum Data Set (MDS) (KA).

Frequency: Other: one time.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit (primary); Not-for-profit institutions.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 13,000.

Burden Hours: 1,827.

Abstract: IPEDS is a system of surveys designed to collect basic data from postsecondary institutions in the U.S. To date, the main focus of IPEDS has been Title IV institutions, but institutions that do not participate in these federal student financial aid programs are becoming an increasingly important source of educational opportunity in the country. But their scope and nature are not well known. This survey is designed to arrive at a statistical estimate of the number of non-Title IV institutions.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 2432. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651 or to the e-mail address vivian_reese@ed.gov. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the Internet address OCIO_RIMG@ed.gov or faxed to 202-708-9346. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Kathy Axt at her e-mail address, Kathy.Axt@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf

(TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Notice of Preferred Nevada Rail Corridor

AGENCY: Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, U.S. Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of the Preferred Nevada Rail Corridor.

SUMMARY: On July 23, 2002, the President signed into law (Pub. L. 107-200) a joint resolution of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate designating the Yucca Mountain site in Nye County, Nevada, for development as a geologic repository for the disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste. The Department of Energy (DOE or Department) is now responsible for planning and implementing a transportation program for the shipment of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste, in the event the Nuclear Regulatory Commission authorizes receipt and possession of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste at Yucca Mountain.

In the Final Environmental Impact Statement for a Geologic Repository for the Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste at Yucca Mountain, Nye County, Nevada (DOE/EIS-0250F) (Final EIS), the Department evaluated various modes of transportation including mostly rail, mostly legal-weight truck and mostly heavy-haul truck. The Department identified the mostly rail alternative as its preferred mode of transportation in the Final EIS.

In the event that DOE selects the mostly rail alternative, a rail line would need to be constructed to connect the repository site at Yucca Mountain to an existing rail line in the State of Nevada. Accordingly, the Final EIS evaluated five rail corridors¹—Caliente, Carlin, Caliente-Chalk Mountain, Jean, and Valley Modified. The Department, however, did not identify a preferred rail corridor in the Final EIS, but indicated it would do so at least 30 days

before making any decisions on the selection of a corridor.

The Department is now announcing the Caliente rail corridor as its preferred corridor in which to construct a rail line in Nevada, and Carlin as a secondary preference. If the Department adopts the mostly rail mode in Nevada, DOE will issue a Record of Decision selecting a rail corridor no sooner than 30 days after publication of this preference announcement. If the Department selects a rail corridor, DOE will issue a Notice of Intent in the **Federal Register** to initiate the preparation of a rail alignment EIS under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to consider alternative alignments within the selected corridor for construction of a rail line. Under this scenario, the Department would anticipate holding public scoping meetings in early-to-mid February, 2004. The exact date, time and locations of the meetings would be announced in the Notice of Intent.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

To obtain a copy of the Final EIS or for further information contact: Ms. Robin Sweeney, Office of National Transportation, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, U.S. Department of Energy, 1551 Hillshire Drive, M/S 011, Las Vegas, NV 89134, Telephone 1-800-967-3477. The Final EIS is available on the Internet at ocrwm.doe.gov.

For further information regarding the DOE NEPA process contact: Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance (EH-42), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20585, Telephone (202) 586-4600, or leave a message at 1-800-472-2756.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

In the Final EIS, DOE analyzed a Proposed Action to construct, operate and monitor, and eventually close a geologic repository at Yucca Mountain. As part of the Proposed Action, DOE analyzed the potential impacts of transporting spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste from 72 commercial and 5 DOE sites to the Yucca Mountain site.² Transportation

² Additional sites (primarily research reactors) will ship spent nuclear fuel to DOE for disposal at the repository. Shipment from these sites to DOE is covered under a separate Environmental Impact Statement, *Programmatic Spent Nuclear Fuel Management and Idaho National Engineering Laboratory Environment Restoration and Waste Management Programs Environmental Impact Statement* (DOE/EIS-0203; April 1995), and associated Record of Decision (June 1, 1995; 60 FR 28680)). Two of these research reactors were recently closed and the spent fuel removed. Adding

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¹ A corridor is a strip of land, approximately 400 meters (0.25 mile) wide, that encompasses one of several possible routes through which DOE could build a branch rail line. An alignment is the specific location of a rail line in a corridor.