

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Revised Sexual Harassment Guidance: Harassment of Students by School Employees, Other Students, or Third Parties**

AGENCY: Office for Civil Rights, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education (Department), announces the availability of a document (revised sexual harassment guidance) that replaces the 1997 document entitled "Sexual Harassment Guidance: Harassment of Students by School Employees, Other Students, or Third Parties," issued by the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) on March 13, 1997 (1997 guidance). We revised the guidance in limited respects in light of subsequent Supreme Court cases relating to sexual harassment in schools.

The revised guidance reaffirms the compliance standards that OCR applies in investigations and administrative enforcement of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) regarding sexual harassment. The revised guidance re-grounds these standards in the Title IX regulations, distinguishing them from the standards applicable to private litigation for money damages and clarifying their regulatory basis as distinct from Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 agency law. In most other respects the revised guidance is identical to the 1997 guidance. Thus, we intend the revised guidance to serve the same purpose as the 1997 guidance. It continues to provide the principles that a school should use to recognize and effectively respond to sexual harassment of students in its program as a condition of receiving Federal financial assistance.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Address requests for copies of the revised sexual harassment guidance to Jeanette J. Lim, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 5212 Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-1100. Telephone: (202) 205-5557 or 1-800-421-3481. For all requests submitted by letter, you must include the term "Revised Sexual Harassment Guidance."

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the TDD number at (202) 260-0471. The document is also available through the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/ocr/shguide>

If you prefer to send your request through the Internet, use the following address: ocr@ed.gov

You must include the term "Revised Sexual Harassment Guidance" in the subject line of your electronic message.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) by contacting the OCR Customer Service Team at 1-800-421-3481.

Electronic Access to This Document

You may view this notice, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at either of the following sites:

<http://ocfo.ed.gov/fedreg.htm>

<http://www.ed.gov/news.html>

To use PDF, you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at either of the previous sites. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

Note: The official version of this notice is the notice published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the Federal Register and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html>.

Dated: January 16, 2001.

Norma V. Cantú,

Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6933-6]

Agency Information Collection**Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Impact of Formal Environmental Policy Statements on the Teaching, Research and Operations of Colleges and Universities**

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that EPA is planning to submit the following proposed Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): "Impact of Formal Environmental Policy Statements on the Teaching, Research and Operations of Colleges

and Universities"; EPA ICR #2013.01. Before submitting the ICR to OMB for review and approval, EPA is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before March 20, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Office of Enforcement and Compliance, EPA Region 10, 1200 6th Ave. (MS OEC-164), Seattle, WA 98101. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the ICR without charge; to do so, see the following Further Information Contact section.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Clark L. Gaulding; Academic Program Manager and Senior Policy Advisor; (206) 553-1849; fax (206) 553-7176. E-mail at clgaulding.clark@epa.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this action are institutions providing college or university education leading to bachelors and graduate degrees.

Title: "Impact of Formal Environmental Policy Statements on the Teaching, Research and Operations of Colleges and Universities"; EPA ICR #2013.01.

Abstract: Many universities and colleges have adopted formal statements of environmental policy, and more are being adopted all the time. This is probably good, but little is known about the impacts that these statements have on the actual behavior of our academic institutions. Do they make a difference, and, if so, how? Where's the evidence? Is articulated environmental policy a prophesy of future behavior at the schools that adopt them, or is it rhetoric, however well intended?

This survey study is intended to develop some possible answers to these questions. Written surveys and selected follow-up interviews will be conducted on a representative number of the approximately 4,000 campuses across the U.S. Part of the inquiry is statistical in nature; how many schools have a formal policy on the environment, and how many do not; does it make a difference whether the school is public or private, large or small, urban or rural? Does region make a difference? Of the schools with policies, when were they adopted and is there a trend? Finally, can anything be made of the numbers?

Beyond the numbers, the survey, and especially the interviews, will focus on (1) substance and (2) impact. A random cross-section of written policy statements will be analyzed in comparative fashion to understand not only who wrote them, but what topics they literally address (especially,

teaching, research and operations) and what tone they impart (especially, how purely philosophical or action-oriented are they).

The impact of articulated environmental policy on institutional behavior will be weighed in two ways. The institutions themselves will be asked to explain and document the impacts across the full range of university activities. In parallel, EPA data will be used to look at environmental compliance at schools both with and without written policy to see whether there is any inferential relationship. Response to the study will be voluntary, and results will be reported in statistical fashion rather than with reference to any particular school. The analytical information and conclusions resulting from this study will be useful to academic institutions as they consider their role and responsibility toward society with respect to the natural environment, and to EPA in its policy deliberations regarding its relationship with higher education as an important element of society.

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. The OMB control numbers for EPA's regulations are listed in 40 CFR part 9 and 48 CFR Chapter 15.

The EPA would like to solicit comments 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.

Burden statement: Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for

the purposes of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; search data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

There are two elements to this proposed study: a written survey questionnaire and a follow-up interview for a selected sub-set of those responding to the questionnaire. Using the burden definition above, it is estimated that the total hour burden for an institution to respond to the written survey questionnaire will be between five (5) and fifteen (15) hours depending on the size and organization of the respondent institution. The hour burden for an institution to participate in a follow-up interview is estimated not to exceed two (2) hours. It is not expected that any institution will incur any capital or recurring costs to participate in the study. Therefore, the dollar cost burden of participation will be directly related to the hour burden and the wage or salary rate of the individuals who handle the response at each institution.

Dated: January 8, 2001.

Lauris Davies,

Director, Office of Enforcement and Compliance, Region 10.

[FR Doc. 01-1345 Filed 1-18-01; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-6614-8]

Environmental Impact Statements and Regulations; Availability of EPA Comments

Availability of EPA comments prepared pursuant to the Environmental Review Process (ERP), under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act as amended. Requests for copies of EPA comments can be directed to the Office of Federal Activities at (202) 564-7167. An explanation of the ratings assigned to draft environmental impact statements (EISs) was published in FR dated April 14, 2000 (65 FR 20157).

Draft EISs

ERP No. D-AFS-L65367-AK Rating EC2, Chugach National Forest, Proposed Revised Land and Resource

Management Plan, Implementation, Glacier, Seward and Cordora Ranger Districts, Kenai Peninsula Borough, AK.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental concerns with the lack of clarity in the direction and protections in the proposed Standards and Guidelines and the lack of detail in the proposed monitoring and evaluation plan. EPA recommended that the FEIS be revised clarifying how the new plan would conform with the new planning rule, clarify and strengthen the standards and guidelines, revise and refine the monitoring plan, and provide information to support conclusions of the predicted effects.

Final EISs

ERP No. F-AFS-L65327-WA Stimson Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) Access Easement Project, Easement Authorization Grant for Construction, Reconstruction and Use of Seven Road Segments for Hauling Logs and Resource Management, Colville National Forest, Sullivan Ranger District, Pend Oreille County, WA.

Summary: No formal comment letter was sent to the preparing agency.

ERP No. F-AFS-L65353-ID Lakeface-Lamb Fuel Reduction Project, To Reduce the Risk of Lethal Fires within a Wildland/Urban Interface, Implementation, Idaho Panhandle National Forests, Priest Lake Ranger District, Bonner County, ID.

Summary: No formal comment letter was sent to the preparing agency.

ERP No. F-AFS-L65365-ID Swan Flat Timber Sale, Proposal to Cut and Haul Sawtimber, Caribou National Forest, Land Resource Management Plan (LRMP), Montpelier Ranger District, Bear Lake County, ID.

Summary: No formal comment letter was sent to the preparing agency.

ERP No. F-BLM-K67040-CA Imperial Project, Open-Pit Precious Metal Mining Operation Utilizing Heap Leach Processes, Updated Information concerning "Endangered, Rare or Threatened" Biological Resources, Plan of Operations and Reclamation Plan Approvals, Right-of-Way Grants, Conditional Use/U.S. COE Permits, El Centro Resource Area, Desert District.

Summary: EPA commended BLM on its consideration of the unique characteristics of the project area within the California Desert Conservation Area, and the proposed project's potential irreparable degradation of sacred and historic values of the Indian Pass-Running Man Area of Traditional Cultural Concern, in identifying its preference for the No Action Alternative.