

participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will 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: May 31, 2006.

Angela C. Arrington,

IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management.

Institute of Education Sciences

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Title: Quick Information Survey System (QRIS) .

Frequency: Other: One time.

Affected Public: State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs (primary).

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 9591.

Burden Hours: 7193.

Abstract: The Quick Response Information System consists of two survey system components—Fast Response Survey System for public and private teachers, schools, districts, libraries and the Postsecondary Education Quick Information System (PEQIS) for postsecondary institutions. Surveys covered under QRIS are intended to be short, one-time, policy-relevant surveys collecting information that is not available from other sources.

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 03130. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Potomac Center, 9th Floor, Washington, DC 20202-4700. Requests may also be electronically mailed to ICDocketMgr@ed.gov or faxed to 202-245-6623. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be electronically mailed to ICDocketMgr@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.

[FR Doc. E6-8695 Filed 6-5-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Education requests comments on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) that the Secretary proposes to use for the 2007-2008 award year. The FAFSA is completed by students and their families and the information submitted on the form is used to determine the students' eligibility and financial need for financial aid under the student financial assistance programs authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (Title IV, HEA Programs). The Secretary also requests comments on changes under consideration for the 2007-2008 award year FAFSA.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before August 7, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted electronically through e-mail to: FAFSAComments@ed.gov.

Written comments and requests for copies of the proposed information collection requests should be addressed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Potomac Center, 9th Floor, Washington, DC 20202-4700.

In addition, interested persons can access this document on the Internet:

(1) Go to IFAP at <http://ifap.ed.gov>
(2) Scroll down to "Current Publications"

(3) Click on "FAFSAs and Renewal FAFSAs"

(4) Click on "By 2007-2008 Award Year"

(5) Click on "Draft FAFSA Form/Instructions"

(6) Scroll down and select "2007-2008 Draft Form in PDF Format"

Please note that the free Adobe Acrobat Reader software, version 4.0 or greater, is necessary to view this file. This software can be downloaded for free from Adobe's Web site: <http://www.adobe.com>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 483 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), requires the Secretary, "in cooperation with agencies and organizations involved in providing student financial assistance," to "produce, distribute and process free of charge a common financial reporting form to be used to determine the need and eligibility of a student for financial assistance * * *" under the Title IV, HEA Programs. This form is the FAFSA. In addition, Section 483 authorizes the Secretary to include non-financial data items that assist States in awarding State student financial assistance. On February 8, 2006, President Bush signed the Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (HERA), Public Law 109-171. The HERA made changes to the HEA that affect student eligibility and need analysis. The HERA changes impact the FAFSA in the following ways: (1) New questions are added for a student (and spouse) or a student and parents asking whether they received benefits from any of five means-tested Federal benefit programs in 2006. Receipt of means-tested Federal benefits during the preceding calendar year (2006 for the 2007-2008 award year) is an alternative to the current question about whether the student or parent filed or was required to file an IRS 1040 Form as one of the criteria used to determine who qualifies for an automatic zero EFC or a simplified needs test. (2) A new dependency question is added to ensure that a member of the U.S. Armed Forces on active duty for other than training purposes is considered an independent student. (3) The question regarding a student's convictions for drug-related offenses has been modified. A student is ineligible for Title IV, HEA financial assistance only if the conviction for a Federal or State offense involving the possession or sale of a controlled substance is for conduct that occurred during a period of enrollment for which the student was receiving Title IV, HEA

financial assistance. The ineligibility period is provided in the HEA. (4) New instructions have been added to clarify that Coverdell savings accounts, 529 college savings plans, and the refund value of 529 or State prepaid tuition plans should be reported as an asset of the account owner (unless the owner is a dependent student). (5) In addition, the FAFSA instructs applicants to exclude the value of a small business that the family owns and controls and that has 100 or fewer full-time or full-time equivalent employees. The following data elements have been deleted from the FAFSA because of space constraints on the paper form: Questions 27 and 28 regarding the student's interest in student loans or work-study and questions 94–97 representing a fifth and sixth college choice. Question numbers refer to the 2006–2007 FAFSA. The Secretary requests comments on these proposed changes to wording, as well as suggestions for ways to further simplify the application for students, parents, and schools. In particular, the Secretary is interested in comments regarding the best manner in which to construct a simplified form for applicants who qualify for an automatic zero or simplified needs test EFC calculation, including applicants who now qualify based on receipt of benefits from a Federal means-tested benefit program. The Secretary is publishing this request for comment under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq. Under that Act, ED must obtain the review and approval of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) before it may use a form to collect information. However, under procedure for obtaining approval from OMB, ED must first obtain public comment of the proposed form, and to obtain that comment, ED must publish this notice in the **Federal Register**. In addition to comments requested above, to accommodate the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, the Secretary is interested in receiving comments with regard to the following matters: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department, (2) will 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: May 31, 2006.

Angela C. Arrington,

IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management.

Federal Student Aid

Type of Review: Revision.

Title: Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: Individuals and families.

Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 15,400,321.

Burden Hours: 7,779,593.

Abstract: The FAFSA collects identifying and financial information about a student applying for Title IV, HEA program funds. This information is used to calculate the student's expected family contribution, which is used to determine a student's financial need. The information is also used for determining a student's eligibility for grants and loans under the Title IV, HEA Programs. It is further used for determining a student's eligibility for State and institutional financial aid programs.

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 03129. When you access the information collection, click on "Download attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Potomac Center, 9th Floor, Washington, DC 20202–4700. Requests may also be e-mailed to ICDocketMgr@ed.gov or faxed to: (202) 245–6623. 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 ICDocketMgr@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1–800–877–8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

[FR Doc. E6–8707 Filed 6–5–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Sunshine Act; Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: United States Election Assistance Commission.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

DATE AND TIME: Thursday, June 15, 2006, 10 a.m.–12 Noon.

PLACE: U.S. Election Assistance Commission, 1225 New York Ave., NW., Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20005. (Metro Stop: Metro Center).

AGENDA: The Commission will receive presentations on developing management guidelines for implementing new voting systems and administering elections. The Commission will receive reports on other administrative matters.

This meeting will be open to the public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bryan Whitener, Telephone: (202) 566–3100.

Thomas R. Wilkey,

Executive Director, U.S. Election Assistance Commission.

[FR Doc. 06–5181 Filed 6–2–06; 12:58 pm]

BILLING CODE 6820–KF–M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP06–277–000]

CenterPoint Energy Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Application

May 31, 2006.

Take notice that on May 10, 2006, CenterPoint Energy Gas Transmission Company (CEGT), 111 Louisiana Street, Houston, Texas 77002–5231, filed in Docket No. CP06–277–000 an application pursuant to section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA), as amended, for authorization to abandon, in place and by sale, certain facilities located in Harrison County, Texas and Caddo Parish, Louisiana. CEGT further requests a finding that certain facilities to be sold to Waskom Gas Processing Company (Waskom Gas), would be exempt from the Commission's jurisdiction, all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. This filing may also be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number, excluding the last three digits, in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, call (202) 502–8659 or TTY, (202) 208–3676.

Specifically, CEGT proposes to abandon its Line F–1–F and appurtenant facilities, two compressor units located at its Buckley Compressor Station. In addition, in conjunction with the proposed abandonment of Line F–1–