

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:

Individuals seeking to determine whether this system of records contains information about themselves should address written inquiries to Commander, Naval Supply Systems Command, Navy Cash Program Office (N3/4), 5450 Carlisle Pike, Building 309, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-0791.

The request should be signed and include full name, last four digits of Social Security Number (SSN), rate/rank, and a complete mailing address. The system manager may require an original signature or a notarized signature as a means of proving the identity of the individual requesting access to the records.

RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:

Individuals seeking access to records about themselves contained in this system of records should address written inquiries to Commander, Naval Supply Systems Command, Navy Cash Program Office (N3/4), 5450 Carlisle Pike, Building 309, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-0791.

The request should be signed and include full name, last four digits of Social Security Number (SSN), rate/rank, and a complete mailing address. The system manager may require an original signature or a notarized signature as a means of proving the identity of the individual requesting access to the records.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

The Navy's rules for accessing records, and for contesting contents and appealing initial agency determinations are published in Secretary of the Navy Instruction 5211.5; 32 CFR part 701; or may be obtained from the system manager.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:

Individual.

EXEMPTIONS CLAIMED FOR THE SYSTEM:

An exemption rule for this system has been promulgated in accordance with the requirements of 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(1), (2) and (3)(c) and (e) and it published at 32 CFR part 701.

[FR Doc. 2012-15953 Filed 6-28-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests; Federal Student Aid; Federal Perkins Loan Program/ NDSL Assignment Form

SUMMARY: The Federal Perkins Loan Program allows for assignment of

certain defaulted loans from schools to continued collection efforts when the school has exhausted all of its efforts in recovering an outstanding loan. The Perkins Assignment Form serves as the transmittal document in the assignment of such loans to the Federal Government.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before August 28, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Written comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be electronically mailed to ICDocketMgr@ed.gov or mailed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., LBJ, Washington, DC 20202-4537. 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 04886. 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., LBJ, Washington, DC 20202-4537. Requests may also be electronically mailed to ICDocketMgr@ed.gov or faxed to 202-401-0920. Please specify the complete title of the information collection and OMB Control Number when making your request.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that Federal agencies provide interested parties an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. The Acting Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Privacy, Information and Records Management Services, Office of Management, publishes this notice containing proposed information collection requests at the beginning of the Departmental review of the information collection. 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. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

Title of Collection: Federal Perkins Loan Program/NDSL Assignment Form.
OMB Control Number: 1845-0048.

Type of Review: Extension.
Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 14,055.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 7,028.

Abstract: Schools participating in the Federal Perkins Loan Program, formerly the National Direct/Defense Student Loan Program (NDSL), currently use this form to assign defaulted loans to the U.S. Department of Education (the Department) for collection. These defaulted loans may, as outlined in 20 U.S.C. 1087cc and under program regulations 34 CFR 674.50, be assigned to the Federal government (i.e., U.S. Department of Education) for collection when the school has exhausted all efforts in the recovery of the outstanding loan. In addition, schools use this form to assign loans for which a school has approved a total and permanent disability discharge request, in accordance with 34 CFR 674.61(b) (2) (v).

Dated: June 26, 2012.

Tomakie Washington,

Acting Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Privacy, Information and Records Management Services, Office of Management.

[FR Doc. 2012-15996 Filed 6-28-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Applications, Reports, and Other Records for the 2011-2012 Award Year: Student Assistance General Provisions, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Federal Work-Study, Federal Perkins Loan, Federal Pell Grant, etc.

AGENCY: Federal Student Aid, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

Overview Information

Catalog Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Numbers: 84.007

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant Program; 84.033
Federal Work-Study Programs; 84.038
Federal Perkins Loan Program; 84.063
Federal Pell Grant Program; 84.268
William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program; 84.379
Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grant Program; 84.408
Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant Program.

SUMMARY: The Secretary announces deadline dates for the receipt of documents and other information from institutions and applicants for the Federal student aid programs authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, for the 2011–2012 award year. The Federal student aid programs include the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), Federal Work-Study (FWS), Federal Perkins Loan, Federal Pell Grant, William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan), Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant, and the Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant programs.

These programs, administered by the U.S. Department of Education (Department), provide financial assistance to students attending eligible postsecondary educational institutions to help them pay their educational costs.

Deadline and Submission Dates: See Tables A, B, and C at the end of this notice.

Table A—Deadline Dates for Application Processing and Receipt of Institutional Student Information Records (ISIRs) or Student Aid Reports (SARs) by Institutions for the 2011–2012 Award Year

Table A provides information and deadline dates for application processing, including receipt of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and corrections to and signatures for the FAFSA, receipt of ISIRs and SARs, and receipt of verification documents.

The deadline date for the receipt of a FAFSA by the Department's Central Processing System is June 30, 2012, regardless of the method that the applicant uses to submit the FAFSA. The deadline date for the receipt of a signature page for the FAFSA (if required), corrections, changes of addresses or schools, or requests for a duplicate SAR is September 21, 2012. Verification documents must be received by the institution no later than the earlier of 120 days after the student's last date of enrollment or September 28, 2012. As a reminder, verification is not required for unsubsidized Direct Stafford Loans and PLUS Loans, TEACH Grants, and Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants.

For all Federal student aid programs except Direct PLUS Loans made to parent borrowers, an ISIR or SAR with an official expected family contribution must be received by the institution no later than the earlier of the student's last date of enrollment for the 2011–2012

award year or September 28, 2012. For Direct PLUS Loans made to parent borrowers, FAFSA information processed by the Secretary must be received by the institution no later than the earlier of the student's last date of enrollment for the 2011–2012 award year or September 28, 2012. For purposes of only the Federal Pell Grant Program, a valid ISIR or a valid SAR for a student not meeting the conditions for a late disbursement must be received no later than the earlier of the student's last date of enrollment or September 28, 2012. A valid ISIR or valid SAR for a student meeting the conditions for a late disbursement under the Federal Pell Grant, FSEOG, FWS, Federal Perkins Loan or Direct Subsidized Loan programs must be received according to the deadline dates provided in Table A.

In accordance with the regulations in 34 CFR 668.164(g)(4)(i), an institution may not make a late disbursement later than 180 days after the date of the institution's determination that the student withdrew, as provided in 34 CFR 668.22, or for a student who did not withdraw, 180 days after the date the student otherwise became ineligible. Table A provides that an institution must receive a valid ISIR or valid SAR no later than 180 days after its determination of a student's withdrawal or, for a student who did not withdraw, 180 days after the date the student otherwise became ineligible, but not later than September 28, 2012.

Table B—Federal Pell Grant Program and Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant Program Submission Dates for Disbursement Information by Institutions for the 2011–2012 Award Year

Table B provides the earliest submission and deadline dates for institutions to submit Federal Pell Grant and Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant disbursement records to the Department's Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System and deadline dates for requests for administrative relief if the institution cannot meet the established deadline for specified reasons.

In general, an institution must submit Federal Pell Grant or Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant disbursement records no later than 30 days after making a Federal Pell Grant or Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant disbursement or becoming aware of the need to adjust a student's previously reported Federal Pell Grant or Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant disbursement. In accordance with the regulations in 34 CFR 668.164, we consider that Federal Pell Grant and Iraq and Afghanistan

Service Grant funds are disbursed on the date that the institution: (a) Credits those funds to a student's account at the institution or (b) pays those funds to a student directly. We consider that Federal Pell Grant and Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant funds are disbursed even if an institution uses its own funds in advance of receiving program funds from the Department. An institution's failure to submit disbursement records within the required 30-day timeframe may result in an audit or program review finding. In addition, the Secretary may initiate an adverse action, such as a fine or other penalty for such failure, in accordance with subpart G of part 668.

Table C—William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program and Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program Submission Dates for Disbursement Information by Institutions for the 2011–2012 COD Processing Year

Table C provides the earliest submission and deadline dates for institutions to submit Direct Loan and TEACH Grant disbursement records to the Department's COD System.

In general, an institution must submit Direct Loan or TEACH Grant disbursement records no later than 30 days after making a Direct Loan or TEACH Grant disbursement or becoming aware of the need to adjust a student's previously reported Direct Loan or TEACH Grant disbursement. In accordance with the regulations in 34 CFR 668.164, we consider that Direct Loan and TEACH Grant funds are disbursed on the date that the institution: (a) Credits those funds to a student's account at the institution, or (b) pays those funds to a student directly. We consider that Direct Loan and TEACH Grant funds are disbursed even if an institution uses its own funds in advance of receiving program funds from the Department. An institution's failure to submit disbursement records within the required 30-day timeframe may result in an audit or program review finding. In addition, the Secretary may initiate an adverse action, such as a fine or other penalty for such failure.

Other Sources for Detailed Information

We publish a detailed discussion of the Federal student aid application process in the following publications:

- 2011–2012 *Funding Education Beyond High School.*
- 2011–2012 *Counselors and Mentors Handbook.*
- 2011–2012 *ISIR Guide.*

• *2011–2012 Federal Student Aid Handbook.*

Additional information on the institutional reporting requirements for the Federal Pell Grant Program, Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant Program, Direct Loan Program, and TEACH Grant Program is contained in the 2011–2012 *COD Technical Reference*.

You may access these publications by selecting the “Publications” link at the Information for Financial Aid Professionals Web site at: www.ifap.ed.gov.

Applicable Regulations: The following regulations apply:

- (1) Student Assistance General Provisions, 34 CFR part 668,
- (2) Federal Pell Grant Program, 34 CFR part 690,
- (3) William D. Ford Direct Loan Program, 34 CFR part 685, and
- (4) Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grant Program, 34 CFR part 686.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ian Foss, U.S. Department of Education, Federal Student Aid, 830 First Street, NE., Union Center Plaza, Room 11411, Washington, DC 20202–5345. Telephone: (202) 377–3681. Email: Ian.Foss@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) or text telephone (TTY), call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free, at 1–800–877–8339.

Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) on request to the program contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Electronic Access to This Document: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is

available via the Federal Digital System at: www.gpo.gov/fdsys. At this site you can view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site.

You may also access documents of the Department published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at: www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a, 1070a–1, 1070b–1070b–4, 1070g, 1070h, 1087a–1087j, and 1087aa–1087ii; 42 U.S.C. 2751–2756b.

Dated: June 26, 2012.

James W. Runcie,
Chief Operating Officer, Federal Student Aid.

TABLE A—DEADLINE DATES FOR APPLICATION PROCESSING AND RECEIPT OF INSTITUTIONAL STUDENT INFORMATION RECORDS (ISIRs) OR STUDENT AID REPORTS (SARs) BY INSTITUTIONS FOR THE 2011–2012 AWARD YEAR

Who submits?	What is submitted?	Where is it submitted?	What is the deadline date for receipt?
Student	Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)—“FAFSA on the Web” (original or renewal). Signature Page (if required)	Electronically to the Department’s Central Processing System (CPS). To the address printed on the signature page.	June 30, 2012. ¹ September 21, 2012.
Student through an Institution. Student	An electronic FAFSA (original or renewal). A paper original FAFSA	Electronically to the Department’s CPS To the address printed on the FAFSA or envelope provided with the form.	June 30, 2012. ¹ June 30, 2012.
Student	Electronic corrections to the FAFSA using “Corrections on the Web”. Signature Page (if required)	Electronically to the Department’s CPS To the address printed on the signature page.	September 21, 2012. ¹ September 21, 2012.
Student through an Institution. Student	Electronic corrections to the FAFSA Paper corrections to the FAFSA using a SAR, including change of mailing and email addresses or institutions.	Electronically to the Department’s CPS To the address printed on the SAR	September 21, 2012. ¹ September 21, 2012.
Student	Change of mailing and email addresses, change of institutions, or requests for a duplicate SAR.	To the Federal Student Aid Information Center by calling 1–800–433–3243.	September 21, 2012.
Student	SAR with an official expected family contribution (EFC) calculated by the Department’s CPS (except for Parent Direct PLUS).	To the institution	The earlier of: —the student’s last date of enrollment; or —September 28, 2012. ²
Student through CPS.	ISIR with an official EFC calculated by the Department’s CPS (except for Parent Direct PLUS).	To the institution from the Department’s CPS.	The earlier of: —the student’s last date of enrollment; or —September 28, 2012. ²
Student	Valid SAR (Pell Grant Only)	To the institution	Except for a student meeting the conditions for a late disbursement under 34 CFR 668.164(g), the earlier of: —the student’s last date of enrollment; or —September 28, 2012. ²
Student through CPS.	Valid ISIR (Pell Grant Only)	To the institution from the Department’s CPS.	

TABLE A—DEADLINE DATES FOR APPLICATION PROCESSING AND RECEIPT OF INSTITUTIONAL STUDENT INFORMATION RECORDS (ISIRs) OR STUDENT AID REPORTS (SARs) BY INSTITUTIONS FOR THE 2011–2012 AWARD YEAR—Continued

Who submits?	What is submitted?	Where is it submitted?	What is the deadline date for receipt?
Student Student through CPS.	Valid SAR Valid ISIR	To the institution To the institution from the Depart- ment's CPS.	For a student receiving a late dis- bursement under 34 CFR 668.164(g)(4)(i), the earlier of: —180 days after the date of the institution's determination that the student withdrew or other- wise became ineligible; or —September 28, 2012. ²
Student	Verification documents	To the institution	The earlier of: ³ —120 days after the student's last date of enrollment; or —September 28, 2012. ²

¹ The deadline for electronic transactions is 11:59 p.m. (Central Time) on the deadline date. Transmissions must be completed and accepted before 12:00 midnight to meet the deadline. If transmissions are started before 12:00 midnight but are not completed until after 12:00 midnight, those transmissions do not meet the deadline. In addition, any transmission submitted on or just prior to the deadline date that is rejected may not be reprocessed because the deadline will have passed by the time the user gets the information notifying him/her of the rejection.

² The date the ISIR/SAR transaction was processed by CPS is considered to be the date the institution received the ISIR or SAR regardless of whether the institution has downloaded the ISIR from its SAIG mailbox or when the student submits the SAR to the institution.

³ Although the Secretary has set this deadline date for the submission of verification documents, if corrections are required, deadline dates for submission of paper or electronic corrections and, for a Federal Pell Grant and applicants selected for verification, the submission of a valid SAR or valid ISIR to the institution must still be met. An institution may establish an earlier deadline for the submission of verification documents for purposes of the campus-based programs and the Federal Direct Loan Program, but no later than this deadline date.

TABLE B—FEDERAL PELL GRANT PROGRAM AND IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN SERVICE GRANT PROGRAM SUBMISSION DATES FOR DISBURSEMENT INFORMATION BY INSTITUTIONS FOR THE 2011–2012 AWARD YEAR

Who submits?	What is submitted?	Where is it submitted?	What are the earliest disbursement, submission, and deadline dates for receipt?
Institutions	At least one acceptable disbursement record must be submitted for each Federal Pell Grant recipient and Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant recipient at the institution.	For the Federal Pell Grant Program only using the Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG); or, for the Federal Pell Grant Program or the Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant, to the Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System using the COD Web site at: www.cod.ed.gov .	<p>Earliest Disbursement Date: February 1, 2011.</p> <p>Earliest Submission Dates:</p> <p>An institution may submit anticipated disbursement information as early as February 21, 2011.</p> <p>An institution may submit actual disbursement information as early as February 21, 2011, but no earlier than:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) 7 calendar days prior to the disbursement date under the advance payment method; (b) 7 calendar days prior to the disbursement date under the Cash Monitoring #1 payment method; or (c) The date of disbursement under the Reimbursement or Cash Monitoring #2 payment methods. <p>Deadline Submission Dates:</p> <p>Except as provided below, an institution is required to submit disbursement information no later than the earlier of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) 30 calendar days after the institution makes a disbursement or becomes aware of the need to make an adjustment to previously reported disbursement data; or (b) October 1, 2012.¹ <p>An institution may submit disbursement information after October 1, 2012, only:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) for a downward adjustment of a previously reported award or disbursement;

TABLE B—FEDERAL PELL GRANT PROGRAM AND IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN SERVICE GRANT PROGRAM SUBMISSION DATES FOR DISBURSEMENT INFORMATION BY INSTITUTIONS FOR THE 2011–2012 AWARD YEAR—Continued

Who submits?	What is submitted?	Where is it submitted?	What are the earliest disbursement, submission, and deadline dates for receipt?
Institutions	Request for administrative relief based on a natural disaster or other unusual circumstances, or an administrative error made by the Department.	Via COD Web site at: www.cod.ed.gov	(b) based upon a program review or initial audit finding per 34 CFR 690.83; (c) for reporting a late disbursement under 34 CFR 668.164(g); or (d) for reporting disbursements previously blocked as a result of another institution failing to post a downward adjustment. The earlier of: —a date designated by the Secretary after consultation with the institution; or —February 1, 2013.
Institutions	Request for administrative relief if a student reenters the institution within 180 days after initially withdrawing and the institution is reporting a disbursement for the student within 30 days of the student's reenrollment but after October 1, 2012 ² .	Via COD Web site at: www.cod.ed.gov	The earlier of: —30 days after the student re-enrolls; or —May 3, 2013.

¹ The deadline for electronic transactions is 11:59 p.m. (Eastern Time) on October 1, 2012. Transmissions must be completed and accepted before 12:00 midnight to meet the deadline. If transmissions are started before 12:00 midnight but are not completed until after 12:00 midnight, those transmissions will not meet the deadline. In addition, any transmission submitted on or just prior to the deadline date that is rejected may not be reprocessed because the deadline will have passed by the time the user gets the information notifying him/her of the rejection.

² Applies only to students enrolled in clock-hour and nonterm credit-hour educational programs.

Note: The COD System must accept origination data for a student from an institution before it accepts disbursement information from the institution for that student. Institutions may submit origination and disbursement data for a student in the same transmission. However, if the origination data is rejected, the disbursement data is rejected.

TABLE C—WILLIAM D. FORD FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN (DIRECT LOAN) PROGRAM AND TEACHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE FOR COLLEGE AND HIGHER EDUCATION (TEACH) GRANT PROGRAM SUBMISSION DATES FOR DISBURSEMENT INFORMATION BY INSTITUTIONS FOR THE 2011–2012 COD PROCESSING YEAR¹

Who submits?	What is submitted?	Where is it submitted?	What are the earliest submission and deadline dates for receipt?
Institutions	At least one acceptable disbursement record must be submitted for each Direct Loan and TEACH Grant recipient at the institution.	To the Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG) or to the Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System using the COD Web site at: www.cod.ed.gov .	Earliest Disbursement Date: June 21, 2008. Earliest Submission Dates: An institution may submit anticipated disbursement information as early as February 21, 2011. An institution may submit actual disbursement information as early as February 21, 2011, but no earlier than: (a) 7 calendar days prior to the disbursement date under the advance payment method; (b) 7 calendar days prior to the disbursement date under the Cash Monitoring #1 payment method; or (c) The date of disbursement under the Reimbursement or Cash Monitoring #2 payment methods. Deadline Submission Dates:

TABLE C—WILLIAM D. FORD FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN (DIRECT LOAN) PROGRAM AND TEACHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE FOR COLLEGE AND HIGHER EDUCATION (TEACH) GRANT PROGRAM SUBMISSION DATES FOR DISBURSEMENT INFORMATION BY INSTITUTIONS FOR THE 2011–2012 COD PROCESSING YEAR ¹—Continued

Who submits?	What is submitted?	Where is it submitted?	What are the earliest submission and deadline dates for receipt?
			An institution is required to submit disbursement information no later than 30 calendar days after the institution makes a disbursement or becomes aware of the need to make an adjustment to previously reported disbursement data.

¹ A COD Processing Year is a period of time in which institutions are permitted to submit Direct Loan and TEACH Grant records to the COD System that are related to a given award year. For a Direct Loan, the period of time includes loans that have a loan period covering any day in the 2011–2012 award year. For a TEACH Grant, the period of time includes an award for a payment period that includes any day in the 2011–2012 award year.

Note: The COD System must accept origination data for a student from an institution before it accepts disbursement information from the institution for that student. Institutions may submit origination and disbursement data for a student in the same transmission. However, if the origination data is rejected, the disbursement data is rejected.

[FR Doc. 2012–16034 Filed 6–28–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Notice of Availability of Draft Waste Incidental to Reprocessing Evaluation for the Concentrator Feed Makeup Tank and Melter Feed Hold Tank at the West Valley Demonstration Project for West Valley, NY

AGENCY: Office of Environmental Management, U.S. Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) announces the availability of a draft evaluation which shows that the concentrator feed makeup tank and melter feed hold tank (the vessels) which were used in conjunction with vitrifying waste from reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel and certain treatment material at the West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP), located at the Western New York Service Center in West Valley, New York, are waste incidental to reprocessing and thus are not high-level radioactive waste (HLW) and may be managed and disposed of offsite as low-level waste (LLW). DOE prepared the draft evaluation pursuant to DOE Manual 435.1–1, *Radioactive Waste Management Manual*. DOE is consulting with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) before finalizing this evaluation. Although it is not required by DOE Manual 435.1–1, DOE is making the draft evaluation available for public and state review and comment during the NRC consultative review period. DOE will make its final evaluation and determination as to whether the vessels are HLW, or are waste incidental to

reprocessing which can be managed and disposed of as LLW, after consideration of any public, state, and NRC comments on this draft evaluation.

DATES: The comment period will end August 13, 2012. Comments received after that time will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: The draft waste evaluation is available on the Internet at http://www.wv.doe.gov/Document_Index/vessels.pdf, and is publicly available for review at the following location: U.S. Department of Energy, West Valley Demonstration Project Public Reading Room located at the Ashford Office Complex, 9030 US Route 219, Ashford, NY 14171–9799, during the office hours of Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., phone: (716) 942–4601. Written comments should be submitted to: Mr. Daniel Sullivan, U.S. Department of Energy, West Valley Demonstration Project, 10282 Rock Springs Road, West Valley, New York 14171–9799. Alternatively, comments may also be filed electronically by email to vessels@wv.doe.gov or by fax at (716) 942–4703.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information about this draft waste evaluation, please contact Mr. Daniel Sullivan at the mailing address or Web site listed in **ADDRESSES**.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The vessels were used in the vitrification process to prepare and temporarily store pre-treated HLW slurry supplied to the vitrification melter. They were used as part of the process to solidify the HLW which had been generated by commercial reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel at the Western New York Nuclear Service Center in West Valley, New York, by Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc., from 1966 through 1972. DOE

undertook the solidification activities pursuant to DOE's responsibilities under the WVDP Act. To solidify the waste, DOE vitrified the waste (combined it at a high temperature with borosilicate glass) and transferred the molten glass-waste mixture into specially developed stainless steel canisters where the mixture hardened into a solid glass waste form.

DOE operated the vitrification system between 1996 and 2002. In 2002, prior to shut down, the vessels were flushed with high pressure demineralized water so as to remove key radionuclides to the maximum extent technically and economically practical. The vessels with their remaining residual waste were characterized for radioactivity and determined to have radionuclide concentrations that do not exceed concentration limits for Class C LLW. They were removed from the vitrification cell in 2004 and are presently safely stored at the WVDP in transportation containers that meet Department of Transportation Industrial Package 2 requirements. The vessels were further stabilized by filling them with cement grout. As explained in the draft evaluation, they would be disposed of at a suitable off-site LLW waste disposal facility, either the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Site at DOE's Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) in Nevada or the Waste Control Specialists Federal Facility Waste Disposal Facility near Andrews, Texas. DOE would dispose of the vessel waste packages in accordance with applicable waste acceptance criteria using specific waste profile documentation.

DOE Manual 435.1–1, which implements DOE Order 435.1, *Radioactive Waste Management*, contains a rigorous evaluation process