

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Submission for OMB Review;
Comment Request**

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before March 10, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Danny Werfel, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, N.W., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the internet address DWERFEL@OMB.EOP.GOV. Requests for copies of the proposed information collection requests should be addressed to Patrick J. Sherrill, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651, or should be electronically mailed to the internet address *Pat_Sherrill@ed.gov*, or should be faxed to 202-708-9346.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patrick J. Sherrill (202) 708-8196.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public 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 Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, 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 at the address specified above. Copies of the requests are available from Patrick J. Sherrill at the address specified above.

Dated: February 2, 1999.

William E. Burrow,

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

Office of Postsecondary Education

Type of Review: Revision.

Title: Annual Performance Report for the Student Support Services (SSS) Program.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Burden:

Responses: 800

Burden Hours: 3,600

Abstract: SSS grantees must submit the report annually so the Department can evaluate the performance of grantees prior to awarding continuation grants and to assess a grantee's prior experience at the end of each budget period. The Department will also aggregate the data to provide descriptive information and analyze program impact.

[FR Doc. 99-2884 Filed 2-5-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Federal Student Financial Assistance
Programs—Distance Education
Demonstration Program**

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of regional meetings to provide advice and technical assistance to institutions of higher education (institutions), systems of institutions, and consortia of institutions that are (1) interested in applying to participate in the Distance Education Demonstration Program authorized under section 486 of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, or (2) interested in providing Federal financial aid to students enrolled in distance education programs.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Education (Secretary) will conduct three regional meetings in the District of Columbia, San Francisco, and Denver to provide advice and technical assistance to potential applicants of the Distance Education Demonstration Program and

to other institutions interested in providing Federal financial aid to students enrolled in distance education programs.

DATES: The regional meetings will be held on February 11, 1999 in the District of Columbia, February 17, 1999 in San Francisco, California, and February 19, 1999 in Denver, Colorado.

ADDRESSES: Marianne R. Phelps, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW (ROB-3, Room 4082), Washington, DC 20202-5257. Telephone: (202) 708-5547.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Marianne R. Phelps at (202) 708-5547 or E-Mail to DistanceDemo@ed.gov. Information regarding the program can also be found on the Web site of the Department of Education (<http://www.ed.gov>). If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotope, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed in the preceding paragraph.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

On October 7, 1998, President Clinton signed into law Pub. L. 105-244, the Higher Education Amendments of 1998, amending the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA). This legislation established the Distance Education Demonstration Program. Under this program, up to a total of 15 institutions, systems of institutions, or consortia of institutions may offer Title IV, HEA financial assistance to students enrolled in distance education programs without being subject to certain statutory and regulatory provisions, which the Secretary may waive, upon their request. As described in section 486(a) of the HEA, the purpose of the program is to—

(1) Allow demonstration programs that are strictly monitored by the Department of Education to test the quality and viability of expanded distance education programs currently restricted under this Act;

(2) Provide for increased student access to higher education through distance education programs; and

(3) Help determine the—

(A) Most effective means of delivering quality education via distance education course offerings;

(B) Specific statutory and regulatory requirements which should be altered to provide greater access to high quality distance education programs; and

(C) Appropriate level of federal assistance for students enrolled in distance education programs.

The Secretary anticipates publishing a notice inviting applications for participation in the Distance Education Demonstration Program in the **Federal Register** during the first week of February, 1999. This notice will specify the eligibility requirements for participation in the Distance Education Demonstration Program, the statutory and regulatory provisions that may be waived, the application requirements, and the criteria that will be used to select participants.

Regional Hearings

Interested parties are invited to attend three regional meetings that will provide advice and technical assistance about applying to participate in the Distance Education Demonstration Program and providing Federal financial aid to students enrolled in distance education programs. The regional meetings will begin with a brief description of eligibility requirements for the Distance Education Demonstration Program and the application and selection processes for this program. Then, individuals will be provided an opportunity to ask questions regarding the application process and other matters relating to the Distance Education Demonstration Program. Department of Education staff with expertise on various issues relating to the Distance Education Demonstration Program will be available to answer these questions.

Questions regarding eligibility and administration of Title IV, HEA student financial assistance programs may be relevant to institutions' interest in applying for the Distance Education Demonstration Program. Accordingly, during the course of the meeting, Department staff will also address questions that relate generally to the administration of aid in distance education programs.

The Department of Education has reserved a limited number of hotel rooms at each of the following hotels at a special government per diem room rate. To reserve these rates, be certain to inform the hotel that you are attending the regional hearings with the Department of Education.

The hearing sites are accessible to individuals with disabilities. The Department will provide a sign language interpreter at each of the scheduled hearings. An individual with a

disability who will need an auxiliary aid or service other than an interpreter to participate in the meeting (e.g., assistive listening device, or materials in an alternative format) should notify the contact person listed in this notice at least two weeks before the scheduled meeting date. Although the Department will attempt to meet a request received after that date, the requested auxiliary aid or service may not be available because of insufficient time to arrange it. Dates, Times, and Locations of Regional Hearings.

1. February 11, 1999, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Washington Plaza Hotel, 10 Thomas Circle, NW, Washington, DC 20005. Call (202) 842-1300 for hotel reservations. Sleeping room rate: \$115 plus taxes. Reservations must be made by January 28th.

2. February 17, 1999, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., The Holiday Inn Golden Gateway, 1500 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California 94109. Call 1-800-Holiday or (415) 441-4000 for hotel reservations. Sleeping room rates: \$129 plus taxes. Reservations must be made by February 3rd.

3. February 19, 1999, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., The Adams Marc Hotel, 1550 Court Place, Denver, Colorado 80202. Call 1-303-893-3333 for hotel reservations. Sleeping room rate: \$80 plus taxes. Reservations must be made by February 5th.

Electronic Access to This Document

Anyone may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register**, in Text or portable document format (pdf) on the World Wide Web at either of the following sites:

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

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

To use the pdf, you must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader Program with Search, which is available free at either of the previous sites. If you have questions about using the pdf, call the U.S. Government Printing Office toll free at 1-888-293-6498.

Authority: Sec. 488 of Pub. L. 105-244, enacted October 7, 1998.

Dated: February 2, 1999.

David A. Longanecker,

Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.

[FR Doc. 99-2917 Filed 2-5-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP99-169-000]

ANR Pipeline Company; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization

February 2, 1999.

Take notice that on January 21, 1999, ANR Pipeline Company (ANR, 500 Renaissance Center, Detroit, Michigan 48243, filed pursuant to Sections 157.205 and 157.211 of the Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205, 157.211) for authorization to construct and operate an interconnection between ANR and Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc. (AECI) in Nodaway County, Missouri, all as more fully set forth in the request that is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Specifically, ANR would construct and operate two 10-inch tap valve assemblies and isolating flanges, one each on ANR's 24-inch mainline and loopline; one 4-inch and one 6-inch turbine meter; a 2-inch positive displacement meter; an electronic measurement system; regulation and heater equipment; and approximately 400 feet of 10-inch pipe at an estimated cost of \$659,000. ANR proposes to tie the proposed interconnection in with a 0.5-mile 10-inch line that AECI's would construct to connect to its power plant. ANR contends that the interconnection would provide a maximum daily volume of 57 Mmcf (through firm and interruptible services) to AECI's proposed power plant in Nodaway County. ANR indicates that these deliveries would be within the certificated entitlements of the customer.

Any person or the Commission's staff may, within 45 days after issuance of the instant notice by the Commission, file pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Procedural Rules (18 CFR 385.214) a motion to intervene or notice of intervention and pursuant to Section 157.205 of the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205) a protest to the request. If no protest is filed within the time allowed therefor, the proposed activity shall be deemed to be authorized effective the day after the time allowed for filing a protest. If a protest is filed and not withdrawn within 30 days after the time allowed for filing a protest, the instant request shall be treated as an application for