

*accepted.* Written requests for information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to the Director of the Information Collection Clearance Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., LBJ, Room 2E103, Washington, DC 20202-4537.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Jon Utz, 202-377-4040.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department of Education (ED), in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. ED is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. 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:** William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program Federal Direct PLUS Loan Master Promissory Note and Endorser Addendum.

**OMB Control Number:** 1845-0068.

**Type of Review:** A revision of an existing information collection.

**Respondents/Affected Public:** Individuals or Households.

**Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:** 1,380,923.

**Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:** 690,462.

**Abstract:** The Federal Direct PLUS Loan Master Promissory Note (Direct PLUS Loan MPN) serves as the means by which an individual applies for and agrees to repay a Federal Direct PLUS Loan. The Direct PLUS Loan MPN also

informs the borrower of the terms and conditions of Direct PLUS Loan and includes a statement of borrower's rights and responsibilities. A Direct PLUS Loan borrower must not have an adverse credit history. If an applicant for a Direct PLUS Loan is determined to have an adverse credit history, the applicant may qualify for a Direct PLUS Loan by obtaining an endorser who does not have an adverse credit history. The Endorser Addendum serves as the means by which an endorser agrees to repay the Direct PLUS Loan if the borrower does not repay it. This revision incorporates changes to information based on regulatory changes, expands repayment plan information, and clarifies information through updated language.

Dated: December 11, 2015.

**Kate Mullan,**

*Acting Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Office of the Chief Privacy Officer, Office of Management.*

[FR Doc. 2015-31580 Filed 12-15-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No. ED-2015-ICCD-0113]

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; TEACH Grant: Study of Institutional Practices and Grant Recipient Outcomes and Experiences

**AGENCY:** Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development (OPEPD), Department of Education (ED).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 3501 *et seq.*), ED is proposing a new information collection.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before January 15, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** To access and review all the documents related to the information collection listed in this notice, please use <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching the Docket ID number ED-2015-ICCD-0113. Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> by selecting the Docket ID number or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. *Please note that comments submitted by fax or email and those submitted after the comment period will not be accepted.* Written requests for

information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to the Director of the Information Collection Clearance Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., LBJ, Room 2E115, Washington, DC 20202-4537.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Joanne Bogart, 202-205-7855.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department of Education (ED), in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. ED is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. 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:** TEACH Grant: Study of Institutional Practices and Grant Recipient Outcomes and Experiences

**OMB Control Number:** 1875-NEW  
**Type of Review:** A new information collection.

**Respondents/Affected Public:** Individuals or Households, Private Sector

**Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:** 243

**Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:** 165

**Abstract:** The U.S. Department of Education (Department) requests OMB clearance for a survey of a purposively selected sample of 473 institutions of higher education, and a sample of 500 randomly selected grant recipients participating in the TEACH Grant

program. The surveys will inform a study addressing issues and challenges regarding the implementation of TEACH Grants, which is being conducted in response to a GAO audit addressing the high grant to loan conversion rate among TEACH grant recipients.

Dated: December 10, 2015.

**Tomakie Washington,**

*Acting Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Office of the Chief Privacy Officer, Office of Management.*

[FR Doc. 2015-31570 Filed 12-15-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[OE Docket No. PP-82-4]

### Application To Amend Presidential Permit; Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc., as Agent for the Joint Owners of the Highgate Project

**AGENCY:** Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, DOE.

**ACTION:** Notice of Application.

**SUMMARY:** Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. ("VELCO"), as operating-and-management agent for the Joint Owners of the Highgate Transmission Interconnection (the "Highgate Joint Owners") filed an application to amend PP-82, issued on May 14, 1985 and amended on March 1, 1994, on September 3, 2003, and again on February 7, 2005. The application requested that DOE remove certain operating conditions in the Permit that are no longer necessary.

**DATES:** Comments or motions to intervene must be submitted on or before February 16, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments or motions to intervene should be addressed as follows: Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE-20), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Christopher Lawrence (Program Office) at 202-586-5260, or by email to [Christopher.Lawrence@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Christopher.Lawrence@hq.doe.gov), or Katherine Konieczny (Program Attorney) at 202-586-0503.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The construction, operation, maintenance, and connection of facilities at the international border of the United States for the transmission of electric energy between the United States and a foreign country is prohibited in the absence of a Presidential permit issued pursuant to Executive Order (EO) 10485, as amended by EO 12038.

On November 4, 2015, VELCO filed an application with DOE requesting DOE amend PP-82-3 by removing the last sentence of Article 3's preamble and paragraphs a through d of that article which establish operating conditions and limitations that are no longer necessary for two reasons. First, VELCO asserts that it has made transmission reinforcements to the Highgate Transmission Interconnection (the "Highgate Facilities") and other transmission facilities in northern Vermont since 1994. Second, ISO New England Inc. ("ISO-NE"), as the Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) for the six-state New England region, manages real-time operation of these facilities through its operating procedures.

The international transmission facilities authorized by Presidential Permit No. PP-82, as amended, include a back-to-back converter station in Highgate, VT and a 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line extending approximately 7.5 miles from the converter station to the U.S.-Canada border in Franklin, VT. VELCO does not propose to make any physical changes to the Highgate Facilities but rather asks the Department to amend the permit to reflect the transmission-network reinforcements made since 1994 and the role of ISO-NE, as the Regional Transmission Organization, in managing the real-time operation of the transmission system through its operating procedures. VELCO is also requesting several amendments to the Permit including changes to the ownership of the Highgate Facilities and a language change to Article 3 to better reflect the way energy is scheduled and flows over the Highgate Facilities.<sup>1</sup>

**Procedural Matters:** Any person may comment on this application by filing such comment at the address provided above. Any person seeking to become a party to this proceeding must file a motion to intervene at the address provided above in accordance with Rule 214 of FERC's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214). Two copies of each comment or motion to intervene should be filed with DOE on or before the date listed above.

Additional copies of such motions to intervene also should be filed directly with: Mr. Christopher Root, Chief Operating Officer, Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc., 366 Pinnacle Ridge Road, Rutland, VT 05701, [koneill@velco.com](mailto:koneill@velco.com) AND John H. Marshall, Esq., Downs Rachlin Martin

<sup>1</sup> The amendment would replace the words "maximum instantaneous rate of transmission" with "scheduled rate of transmission."

PLLC, 90 Prospect Street, P. O. Box 99, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819-0099, [jmarshall@drm.com](mailto:jmarshall@drm.com).

Before a Presidential permit may be granted or amended, DOE must determine that the proposed action will not adversely impact on the reliability of the U.S. electric power supply system. In addition, DOE must consider the environmental impacts of the proposed action (*i.e.*, granting the Presidential permit or amendment, with any conditions and limitations, or denying the permit) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. DOE also must obtain the concurrences of the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense before taking final action on a Presidential permit application.

Copies of this application will be made available, upon request, for public inspection and copying at the address provided above. In addition, the application may be reviewed or downloaded electronically at <http://energy.gov/oe/services/electricity-policy-coordination-and-implementation/international-electricity-regulation-2>. Upon reaching the home page, select "Pending Applications."

Issued in Washington, DC, on December 10, 2015.

**Christopher A. Lawrence,**

*Electricity Policy Analyst, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability.*

[FR Doc. 2015-31622 Filed 12-15-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

[Case No. CW-026]

### Notice of Petition for Waiver of Whirlpool Corporation From the Department of Energy Clothes Washer Test Procedure, and Grant of Interim Waiver

**AGENCY:** Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of petition for waiver, notice of grant of interim waiver, and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces receipt of a petition for waiver from Whirlpool Corporation (Whirlpool) seeking an exemption from specified portions of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) test procedure for determining the energy consumption of residential clothes washers. Whirlpool seeks to use an alternate test procedure to address