

response. This includes summarizing accomplishments for the past year's funded efforts. The currently approved "hour" burden for this collection is 12,300 hours. We do not expect the total burden for this process to change as a result of this request.

*Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping "Non-Hour Cost"*

**Burden:** We have not identified any "non-hour cost" burdens associated with this collection of information.

**Public Disclosure Statement:** The PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*) provides that an agency may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Until OMB approves a collection of information, you are not obligated to respond.

**Comments:** We are soliciting comments as to: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the agency to perform its duties, including whether the information is useful; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) how to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) how to minimize the burden on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that the comments submitted in response to this notice are a matter of public record. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask OMB in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that it will be done. To comply with the public process, we publish this **Federal Register** notice announcing that we will submit this ICR to OMB for approval. The notice provided the required 60 day public comment period.

**USGS Information Collection Clearance Officer:** Phadrea Ponds 970-226-9445.

Dated: September 16, 2009.

**William S. Leith,**

*Associate Program Coordinator.*

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**BILLING CODE 4311-AM-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

#### Information Collection for Energy and Mineral Development Program Grants; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed information collection.

**SUMMARY:** As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act, the Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development (IEED), in the Office of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, is seeking comments on a proposed information collection related to grants provided under the Energy and Mineral Development Program (EMDP). Indian tribes whose lands are held in trust or restricted status may be considered for grants for energy and mineral development projects under the EMDP if they provide certain information as part of an application. Once an application is accepted, the Indian tribe must then submit reports regarding the progress of their project. This notice requests comments on the information collection associated with the application and progress reports.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before November 23, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** Mail or hand-carry comments to Darryl Francois, Department of the Interior, Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development, Room 20—South Interior Building, 1951 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20245, fax (202) 208-4564; e-mail: [Darryl.Francois@bia.gov](mailto:Darryl.Francois@bia.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Darryl Francois, Department of the Interior, Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development. Telephone (202) 219-0740.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Abstract

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to provide grants to Indian tribes for energy development. *See* 25 U.S.C. 3502. IEED administers and manages the EMDP. Congress appropriates funds to EMDP on a year-to-year basis. When funding is available, IEED may solicit proposals for energy and mineral development projects from Indian tribes whose lands are held in trust or restricted fee by the Federal government. Tribes may use the contracting mechanism established by the Indian Self-Determination Act or may receive the grant money through

adjustments to their funding from the Office of Self-Governance. *See* 25 U.S.C. 450 *et seq.* The projects may be in the areas of exploration, assessment, development, feasibility, or market studies. Indian tribes that would like to apply for an EMDP grant must submit an application that includes certain information, and must assist IEED by providing information in support of any National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analyses. A complete application must contain the following elements.

- A current, signed tribal resolution that: (1) Authorizes the energy and mineral development project for the appropriate fiscal year; (2) describes the commodity or commodities to be studied; (3) states that the tribe is willing to consider developing any potential energy or mineral resources discovered; (4) describes how the tribe prefers to have the energy or mineral program conducted (*i.e.*, through the sole utilization of IEED in-house professional staff, in conjunction with professional tribal staff, through private contractors, or through other appropriate means); and (5) states that the tribe will consider public release of information obtained from the energy and mineral development study upon request from IEED.

- A proposal describing the planned activities and deliverable products that will be accomplished within the fiscal year for which funding is requested, including:
  - Overview, including the elements of the proposed study, reasons why the proposed study is needed, total requested funding, responsible parties for technical execution and administration, and tribal point of contact for the project;
  - Technical summary of the project, including whether the request will begin a new study or continue a study and the duration of the study, a description of any known energy and/or mineral deposit, reference to any existing mineral exploration information, and a description of any environmental or cultural sensitive areas;
  - Project objective, goals and scope of work;
  - Deliverable products, such as technical data and maps; and
  - Resumes of key personnel.

- A detailed budget estimate, including contracted personnel costs, travel estimates, data collection and analysis costs, and other expenses.

IEED requires this information to ensure that it provides funding only to those projects that meet the goals of the

EMDP and the purposes for which Congress provides the appropriations.

Once a tribe has been accepted into the EMDP, the tribe must also submit quarterly reports, which are one- or two-page documents summarizing events, accomplishments, problems and/or results in executing the project. Each report is due two weeks after the end of the fiscal quarter.

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 provides an opportunity for interested parties to comment on proposed information collection requests. IEED is proceeding with this public comment period as the first step in obtaining an information collection clearance from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Each clearance request contains (1) Type of review, (2) title, (3) summary of the collection, (4) respondents, (5) frequency of collection, (6) reporting and record keeping requirements.

## II. Request for Comments

IEED requests your comments on this collection concerning: (a) The necessity of this information collection for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (hours and cost) of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways we could enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways we could minimize the burden of the collection of the information on the respondents, such as through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that an agency may not sponsor or request, and an individual need not respond to, a collection of information unless it has a valid OMB Control Number.

It is our policy to make all comments available to the public for review at the location listed in the **ADDRESSES** section. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address or other personally identifiable information, be advised that your entire comment—including your personally identifiable information—may be made public at any time. While you may request that we withhold your personally identifiable information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

## III. Data

*OMB Control Number:* 1076-0XXX.

*Type of Review:* New.

*Title:* Energy and Mineral Development Program Grant Solicitation.

*Brief Description of Collection:* Indian tribes that would like to apply for an EMDP grant must submit an application that includes certain information. A complete application must contain a current, signed tribal resolution that provides sufficient information to authorize the project and comply with the terms of the grant; a proposal describing the planned activities and deliverable products; and a detailed budget estimate. IEED requires this information to ensure that it provides funding only to those projects that meet the goals of the EMDP and purposes for which Congress provides the appropriation. Upon acceptance of an application, a tribe must then submit one- to two-page quarterly progress reports summarizing events, accomplishments, problems and/or results in executing the project. Approximately 55 tribes apply each year, but IEED accepts approximately 18 of those applications each year.

*Respondents:* Indian tribes with trust or restricted land.

*Number of Respondents:* 55 applicants per year; 18 project participants each year.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 40 hours per application; 1.5 hours per progress report.

*Frequency of Response:* Once per year for applications; 4 times per year for progress reports.

*Total Annual Burden to Respondents:* 2,308 hours (2,200 for applications and 108 for progress reports).

Dated: September 16, 2009.

**Alvin Foster,**

*Acting Chief Information Officer—Indian Affairs.*

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**BILLING CODE 4310-4M-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### U.S. Geological Survey

#### Agency Information Collection

#### Activities: Comment Request for the USGS Mine, Development, and Mineral Exploration Supplement

**AGENCY:** U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of an extension of an information collection (1028-0060).

**SUMMARY:** To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), we are notifying the public that we have submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) an information collection request (ICR) for the extension of the currently approved paperwork requirements for the USGS

*Mine, Development, and Mineral Exploration Supplement.* This collection consists of one form and this notice provides the public an opportunity to comment on the paperwork burden of this form. We 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.

**DATES:** You must submit comments on or before October 22, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** Please submit written comments on this information collection directly to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior via e-mail to *OIRA\_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov* or fax at 202-395-5806; and identify your submission as 1028-1060. Please also submit a copy of your written comments to Phadrea Ponds, USGS Information Collection Clearance Officer, 2150-C Centre Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80526-8118 (mail); 970-226-9230 (fax); or *pponds@usgs.gov* (e-mail). Use OMB Control Number 1028-0060 in the subject line.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Shonta E. Osborne at 703-648-7960 or by mail at U.S. Geological Survey, 985 National Center, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, VA 20192.

## I. Supplementary Information

**Abstract:** Respondents supply the U.S. Geological Survey with domestic production, exploration, and mine development data for nonfuel mineral commodities. The data obtained from this canvass are used by Government agencies, Congressional offices, educational institutions, research organizations, financial institutions, consulting firms, industry, and the public. They provide essential mining, exploration, and development information to make domestic ore resource analyses. Tabulations of volumetric data concerning domestic mining operations' use of land can be used to compare the total volume of earth disturbed with the actual crude ore mined and the resulting marketable product. These data are an indicator of the future mining outlook. This information will be published as an Annual Report for use by Government agencies, industry, academia, and the general public.

## II. Data

*OMB Control Number:* 1028-0060.

*Title:* Mine, Development, and Mineral Exploration Supplement.