

operation might dive into the water. Consequently, no significant effects on individual bearded seals or their population are expected, and the number of individuals that might be temporarily disturbed would be very low.

As a result, AES Lynx believes the effects of on-ice seismic are expected to be limited to short-term and localized behavioral changes involving relatively small numbers of seals. NMFS has preliminarily determined, based on information in the application and supporting documents, that these changes in behavior will have no more than a negligible impact on the affected species or stocks of ringed and bearded seals. Also, the potential effects of the proposed on-ice seismic operations during 2006 are unlikely to result in more than small numbers of seals being affected and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on subsistence uses of these two species.

Proposed Authorization

NMFS proposes to issue an IHA to AES Lynx for conducting seismic surveys in the Harrison Bay area of the western U.S. Beaufort Sea, provided the previously mentioned mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements are incorporated. NMFS has preliminarily determined that the proposed activity would result in the harassment of small numbers of marine mammals; would have no more than a negligible impact on the affected marine mammal stocks; and would not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of species or stocks for subsistence uses.

Information Solicited

NMFS requests interested persons to submit comments and information concerning this request (see **ADDRESSES**).

Dated: February 21, 2006.

James H. Lecky,

*Director, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. E6-2740 Filed 2-24-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meetings

TIME AND DATE: 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 8, 2006.

PLACE: 1155 21st St. NW., Washington, DC, 9th Floor Conference Room.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Registered Futures Association Review.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Jean A. Webb, 202-418-5100.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 06-1874 Filed 2-23-06; 2:54 pm]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary of Defense; Meeting of the DOD Advisory Group on Electron Devices

AGENCY: Department of Defense, Advisory Group on Electron Devices.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The DoD Advisory Group on Electron Devices (AGED) announces a closed session meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held at 0830, Tuesday, February 28, 2006.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at Noesis, Inc., 4100 No. Fairfax Drive, Suite 800, Arlington, VA 22203.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Vicki Schneider, Noesis, Inc., 4100 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 800, Arlington, VA 22203, 703-741-0300.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The mission of the Advisory Group is to provide advice to the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics to the Director of Defense Research and Engineering (DDR&E), and through the DDR&E to the Director, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and the Military Departments in planning and managing an effective and economical research and development program in the area of electron devices.

The AGED meeting will be limited to review of research and development efforts in electronics and photonics with a focus on benefits to national defense. These reviews may form the basis for research and development programs initiated by the Military Departments and Defense Agencies to be conducted by industry, universities or in government laboratories. The agenda for this meeting will include programs on rf technology, microelectronics, electro-optics, and electronic materials.

In accordance with section 10(d) of Pub. L. No. 92-463, as amended, (5 U.S.C. App. 2), it has been determined that this Advisory Group meeting concerns matters listed in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1), and that accordingly, this meeting will be closed to the public.

Dated: February 21, 2006.

L.M. Bynum,

*Alternate, OSD Federal Register Liaison
Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 06-1780 Filed 2-24-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-06-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before April 28, 2006.

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 IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, 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. 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: February 17, 2006.

Angela C. Arrington,

IC Clearance Official, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: Unsafe School Choice Option.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public:

State, local, or tribal gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 56.

Burden Hours: 1,120.

Abstract: Regulation will establish an implementation deadline for states for the Unsafe School Choice Option, Section 9532 of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

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 2993. 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 IC DocketMgr@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 the e-mail address IC DocketMgr@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. E6-2689 Filed 2-24-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Publication of State Plan Pursuant to the Help America Vote Act

AGENCY: U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to sections 254(a)(11)(A) and 255(b) of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), Public Law 107-252, the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) hereby causes to be published in the **Federal Register** material changes to the HAVA State plans previously submitted by Maryland and Puerto Rico.

DATES: This notice is effective upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bryan Whitener, Telephone 202-566-3100 or 1-866-747-1471 (toll-free).

Submit Comments: Any comments regarding the plans published herewith should be made in writing to the chief election official of the individual State at the address listed below.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 24, 2004, the U.S. Election Assistance Commission published in the **Federal Register** the original HAVA State plans filed by the fifty States, the District of Columbia and the Territories of American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. 69 FR 14002. HAVA anticipated that States, Territories and the District of Columbia would change or update their plans from time to time pursuant to HAVA section 254 (a)(11) through (13). HAVA sections 254(a)(11)(A) and 255 require EAC to publish such updates. EAC published the first update to Puerto Rico's State plan in the **Federal Register** on January 24, 2005. 70 FR 3464. EAC has not previously published an update to the Maryland State plan.

The submissions from Maryland and Puerto Rico address material changes in the State budgets and State plan committees of their previously submitted State plans and, in accordance with HAVA section 254(a)(12), provide information on how the States succeeded in carrying out their previous State plans. The current submission from Maryland addresses a material change to its budget to account for funds that were appropriated instead of funds that were authorized. The

amendment also includes an estimate of how much Maryland's recently implemented statewide HAVA compliant voting system will cost to maintain through 2014. The current submission from Puerto Rico addresses material changes to the budget and timelines for the procurement and testing of new voting systems. The revised plan addresses the differences between the funding that was authorized for Puerto Rico and used for initial planning and the amount that was actually received. Puerto Rico also emphasizes its work in meeting accessibility requirements for polling places and voting systems.

Upon the expiration of thirty days from February 27, 2006, Maryland and Puerto Rico will be eligible to implement the material changes addressed in the plans that are published herein, in accordance with HAVA section 254(a)(11)(C).

EAC notes that the plans published herein have already met the notice and comment requirements of HAVA section 256, as required by HAVA section 254(a)(11)(B). EAC wishes to acknowledge the effort that went into revising these State plans and encourages further public comment, in writing, to the State election officials listed below.

Chief State Election Officials

Maryland

Ms. Linda Lamone, Administrator, State Board of Elections, 151 West Street, Suite 200, Annapolis, MD 21401-0486, Phone: (800) 222-8683, Fax: (410) 974-2019, E-mail: ntrella@elections.state.md.us.

Puerto Rico

Lcdo. Aurelio Gracia Morales, Presidente, State Elections Commission, P.O. Box 195552, San Juan, PR 00919-5552, Phone: 787-777-8675, Fax: 787-296-0173, E-mail: comentarios@cee.gobierno.pr.

Thank you for your interest in improving the voting process in America.

Dated: February 17, 2006.

Paul S. DeGregorio,

Chairman, U.S. Election Assistance Commission.

BILLING CODE 6820-KF-P