

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: May 19, 1998.

**Hazel Fiers,**

*Acting Deputy Chief Information Officer,  
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

**Office of Postsecondary Education**

*Type of Review:* Revision.

*Title:* Application for Ability to Benefit Testing Approval.

*Frequency:* Annually.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households; Businesses or other for-profits; Not-for-profit institutions.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:*

Responses: 150,090.

Burden Hours: 77,040.

*Abstract:* The Secretary will publish a list of approved tests which can be used by postsecondary educational institutions to establish the ability to benefit for a student who does not have a high school diploma or its equivalent.

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Agency Information Collection  
Extensions: Proposed Collection  
Comment Request**

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

**ACTION:** Agency Information Collection Extensions: proposed collection comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Energy (DOE) has submitted an information collection package to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for extension under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13). The package covers the collection of information concerning annual applications from the owners of qualified renewable energy generation facilities for the consideration of renewable energy production incentive payments. This information is used by the Department to determine if the applicant's facility qualifies for these payments and to determine the amount of net electricity produced for sale that qualifies for these payments. This information is critical to ensure that the Government has sufficient information

to ensure the proper use of public funds for these incentive payments.

**DATES:** Comments regarding the information collection package should be submitted to the OMB Desk Officer at the following address no later than June 22, 1998. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, you should advise the OMB Desk officer of your intention to do so as soon as possible. The Desk Officer may be telephoned at (202) 395-3084. (Also, please notify the DOE contact listed in this notice.)

**ADDRESSES:** Address comments to DOE Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA), Room 10102, New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Robert H. Brewer, Office of Utility Technologies (EE-10), Department of Energy, Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-2206.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The package contains the following information: (1) Title of the information collection package; (2) current OMB control number; (3) type of respondents; (4) estimated number of responses; (5) estimated total burden hours, including record keeping hours, required to provide the information; (6) purpose; and (7) number of collections.

*Package Title:* Renewable Energy Production Incentives.

*Current OMB No.:* 1910-0068.

*Type of Respondents:* State, municipal, county, and non-profit electric cooperative owners of qualified renewable energy generation facilities that produce electricity for sale.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 18

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 205

*Purpose:* To receive annual payment consideration for electricity produced in the prior fiscal year, an annual application has to be submitted by the owner/agent of the owner that provides information which establishes the qualification of the facility (ownership qualifications, type of renewable energy source used, time of first use for new or converted facilities, sale of electricity produced, and location in a State) and information on the metered/calculated amount of electricity produced. An owner of a qualified facility can submit an annual application for each of the first ten fiscal years of that facility's operation.

**Statutory Authority:** Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. No 104-13, 44 U.S.C. 3507 (g) and (h).

Issued in Washington, DC, on May 18, 1998.

**Dan W. Reicher,**

*Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Office of Energy Efficiency and  
Renewable Energy**

**State Energy Program Special Projects  
Financial Assistance**

**AGENCY:** The Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice for second round funding for 1998 State Energy Program special projects.

**SUMMARY:** As options offered under the State Energy Program (SEP) for fiscal year 1998, the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy is announcing the availability of financial assistance to States for special project activities for Remote Applications of Solar and Renewable Energy to Reduce or Avoid Diesel and Gasoline Power Generation. Funding is being provided by the Office of Utility Technologies in the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. States that are awarded funding for special projects will carry out their projects in conjunction with their efforts under SEP, with the special projects funding and activities tracked separately so that the end-use sector programs may follow the progress of their projects.

The projects must meet the relevant requirements of the program providing the funding, as well as of SEP, as specified in the program guidance/solicitation. Among the goals of the special projects activities are to assist States to: accelerate deployment of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies; facilitate the acceptance of emerging and underutilized energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies; and increase the responsiveness of Federally funded technology development efforts to private sector needs.

**DATES:** The program guidance/solicitation is available on May 22, 1998. Applications must be received by July 20, 1998.

**ADDRESSES AND FOR FURTHER**

**INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Faith Lambert at the U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-2319, for referral to the appropriate DOE Regional Support Office.