

**ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Election Supporting Technology Evaluation Program Application for Participation Form**

**AGENCY:** Election Assistance Commission (EAC).

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, and as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) gives notice that it is requesting from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the information collection of one Election Supporting Technology Evaluation Program form.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by 5 p.m. Eastern on Wednesday, February 28, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** To view the proposed forms, see: <https://www.regulations.gov> (docket ID: EAC-2023-0011).

Written comments on the proposed information collection can also be sent to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, 633 3rd Street NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20001, Attn: Election Supporting Technology Evaluation Program.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Elizabeth Beatrice, Election Technology Specialist, Election Supporting Technology Evaluation Program, Washington, DC (202) 748-2298. Email: [ESTEP@eac.gov](mailto:ESTEP@eac.gov).

All requests and submissions should be identified by the title of the information collection.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title and OMB Number:* Election Supporting Technology Evaluation Program Application for Participation Form; OMB Number Pending. 88 FR 63559 (Page 63559-63560, Document Number 2023-19950).

**Purpose**

This proposed information collection was previously published in the **Federal Register** on Friday, September 15, 2023, and allowed 60 days for public comment. In compliance with section 3507(a)(1)(D) of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, EAC is submitting to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request for review and approval of the information collection described. The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 days for public comment from all interested individuals and organizations.

The EAC Election Supporting Technology Evaluation Program evaluates the security and accessibility of election-supporting technologies, including electronic poll books, voter registration systems, electronic ballot delivery systems, and election night reporting databases.

The program is to publish one form. This is to be used to collect key information concerning election-supporting technology manufacturers and their systems. The application for participation in the Election Supporting Technology Evaluation Program collects

administrative information on new or modified election-supporting technology systems that are being submitted for testing by a registered manufacturer.

This information is collected to improve the quality of election-supporting technology used in federal elections.

**Public Comments**

We are soliciting public comments to permit the EAC to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary and sufficient for the proper functions of the Election Supporting Technology Evaluation Program.
- Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of information technology.

Please note that comments submitted in response to this notice are public record. Before including any detailed personal information, you should be aware that your comments as submitted, including your personal information, will be available for public review.

*Respondents:* Election Supporting Technology Manufacturers, State and Local Election Officials.

**Annual Reporting Burden**

OMB approval is requested for 3 years.

**ANNUAL BURDEN ESTIMATES**

Instrument	Estimated number of respondents	Total number of responses per year	Average burden hours per response	Annual burden hours
ESTEP Manufacturer Registration Form .....	10	10	2	20
Total .....	.....	20	.....	40

The estimated cost of the annualized cost of this burden is: \$1,681.

The estimated cost of the annualized cost of this burden is: \$3,361.

**Camden Kelliher,**

*Acting General Counsel, U.S. Election Assistance Commission.*

[FR Doc. 2024-01685 Filed 1-26-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810-71-P**

**ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Election Supporting Technology Evaluation Program Manufacturer Registration Form**

**AGENCY:** Election Assistance Commission (EAC).

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, and as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) gives

notice that it is requesting from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the information collection of one Election Supporting Technology Evaluation form. The information collected is to be used to improve the quality of election-supporting technology used in federal elections, and to collect necessary key information on election-supporting technology manufacturers and their systems. Participation in this program is voluntary.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by 5 p.m. Eastern on Wednesday, February 28, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments on the proposed form should be submitted electronically via <https://www.regulations.gov> (docket ID: EAC-2023-0012).

Written comments on the proposed information collection can also be sent to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, 633 3rd Street NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20001, Attn: Election Supporting Technology Evaluation Program.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Elizabeth Beatrice, Election Technology Specialist, Election Supporting Technology Evaluation Program, Washington, DC (202) 748-2298. Email: [ESTEP@eac.gov](mailto:ESTEP@eac.gov)

All requests and submissions should be identified by the title of the information collection.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title and OMB Number:* Election Supporting Technology Evaluation Program Manufacturer Registration Form; OMB Number Pending, 88 FR 78008 (Page 78008-78009, Document Number 2023-25057).

**Purpose**

This proposed information collection was previously published in the **Federal**

**Register** on Friday, November 14, 2023 and allowed 60 days for public comment. In compliance with section 3507(a)(1)(D) of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, EAC is submitting to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request for review and approval of the information collection described. The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 days for public comment from all interested individuals and organizations.

The EAC Election Supporting Technology Evaluation Program evaluates the security and accessibility of election-supporting technologies, including electronic poll books, voter registration systems, electronic ballot delivery systems, and election night reporting databases.

The program is to publish one form. This is to be used to collect key information concerning election-supporting technology manufacturers. The application for registration in the Election Supporting Technology Evaluation Program collects administrative information on manufacturers and their organizations.

This information is collected to improve the quality of election-supporting technology used in federal elections.

**Public Comments**

We are soliciting public comments to permit the EAC to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary and sufficient for the proper functions of the Election Supporting Technology Evaluation Program.
- Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of information technology.

Please note that comments submitted in response to this Notice are public record. Before including any detailed personal information, you should be aware that your comments as submitted, including your personal information, will be available for public review.

*Respondents:* Election Supporting Technology Manufacturers, State and Local Election Officials.

**Annual Reporting Burden**

OMB approval is requested for 3 years.

**ANNUAL BURDEN ESTIMATES**

Instrument	Estimated number of respondents	Total number of responses per year	Average burden hours per response	Annual burden hours
ESTEP Manufacturer Registration Form .....	10	1	2	20
Total .....	.....	10	.....	20

*The estimated cost of the annualized cost of this burden is: \$1,681.*

**Camden Kelliher,**

*Acting General Counsel, U.S. Election Assistance Commission.*

[FR Doc. 2024-01699 Filed 1-26-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810-71-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Project No. 2221-041]

**Empire District Electric Company; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment**

On February 28, 2020, Empire District Electric Company (Empire District) filed

an application for a new major license to continue operating the existing, 16-megawatt Ozark Beach Hydroelectric Project No. 2221 (Ozark Beach Project). Empire District filed an amended application on August 28, 2020. The project is located on the White River, near the Town of Forsyth, in Taney County, Missouri. The project occupies 5.1 acres of federal land administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, on November 9, 2023, Commission staff issued a notice that the project was ready for environmental analysis (REA notice). Based on the information in the record staff does not anticipate that licensing the project would constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Therefore, staff intends to prepare an Environmental

Assessment (EA) on the application to license the Ozark Beach Project.

The EA will be issued and circulated for review by all interested parties. All comments filed on the EA will be analyzed by staff and considered in the Commission's final licensing decision.

The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502-6595 or [OPP@ferc.gov](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov).