

you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Sheleen Dumas,

Departmental PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2024-29864 Filed 12-17-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Matters Related to First Inventor To File

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. The USPTO invites comments on this information collection renewal, which helps the USPTO assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on Wednesday, October 9, 2024 during a 60-day comment period (89 FR 81894). This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comment.

Agency: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce.

Title: Matters Related to First Inventor to File.

OMB Control Number: 0651-0071.

Needs and Uses: Section 3 of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (AIA), *inter alia*, amended 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103 consistent with the objectives of the AIA, including the conversion of the United States patent system from a "first to invent" system to a "first inventor to file" system. The changes to 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103 in section 3 of the AIA went into effect on March 16, 2013, but apply only to certain applications filed on or after March 16, 2013.

This information collection covers information required by 37 CFR 1.55(k), 1.78(a)(6), and 1.78(d)(6) to assist the USPTO in determining whether an application is subject to 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103 as amended by Section 3 of the AIA, or 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103 as in effect on March 15, 2013. The

information is only required in nonprovisional applications filed on or after March 16, 2013, that claim foreign priority to, or domestic benefit of, an application filed before March 16, 2013. Moreover, the information is not required if the nonprovisional application filed on or after March 16, 2013, claims the benefit of an earlier application in which a statement under 37 CFR 1.55(k), 1.78(a)(6), or 1.78(d)(6) has already been filed. Given the passage of time, it is increasingly rare for a newly filed nonprovisional application to claim foreign priority to, or domestic benefit of, an application filed before March 16, 2013, without also claiming benefit of an earlier application in which the statement has already been filed. Accordingly, the estimated responses for this collection continue to decrease.

For this 30-day notice, the non-hourly cost burdens have been adjusted, for an overall increase of \$1, due to an increase in the postage rate since the 60-day notice was published.

Forms: None.

Type of Review: Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.

Affected Public: Private sector.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

Frequency: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 50 respondents.

Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 50 responses.

Estimated Time per Response: The USPTO estimates that the responses in this information collection will take the public approximately 2 hours to complete. This includes the time to gather the necessary information, create the document, and submit the completed item to the USPTO.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours: 100 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Non-hourly Cost Burden: \$11.

This information collection request may be viewed at www.reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce, USPTO information collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for this information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website, www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function and entering either the title of

the information collection or the OMB Control Number, 0651-0071.

Further information can be obtained by:

- *Email:* InformationCollection@uspto.gov. Include "0651-0071 information request" in the subject line of the message.

- *Mail:* Justin Isaac, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Justin Isaac,

Information Collections Officer, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2024-29959 Filed 12-17-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Notice of Removal of Designated Chinese Military Companies

AGENCY: Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment), Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of removal of two companies from the Section 1260H List of Chinese Military Companies Operating in the United States.

SUMMARY: The Deputy Secretary of Defense has determined that the entities listed in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice should be removed from the list of "Chinese military companies."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Devante Brown (GIES), (703) 695-8545.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 1260H of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 (Pub. L. 116-283) requires the Secretary of Defense to continue to list "Chinese military companies" annually until December 31, 2030. Paragraph (b)(2) of this section requires the Secretary of Defense to publish the unclassified portion of such list in the **Federal Register** (FR).

The Deputy Secretary of Defense has determined that the following entities should be removed from the list of "Chinese military companies," as set out in 89 FR 22698 (April 2, 2024), in accordance with Section 1260H of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry NDAA for FY 2021 (Pub. L. 116-283) based on current information:

IDG Capital Partners Co., Ltd.,
Advanced Micro-Fabrication
Equipment Inc. China.

Dated: December 13, 2024.

Aaron T. Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison
Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2024-30018 Filed 12-17-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001-FR-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Columbia River System Operations

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army, DoD; Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: In 2020, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), and Bonneville Power Administration (Bonneville) issued the 2020 Columbia River System Operations Final Environmental Impact Statement (CRSO EIS; DOE/EIS-0529), which addressed the ongoing operations, maintenance, and configuration of fourteen Federal Columbia River System (CRS) multiple purpose dams and related facilities located throughout the Columbia River basin. The Corps and Reclamation (Co-Lead Agencies) intend to prepare a supplemental EIS to address environmental effects from proposed changes to the selected alternative in the CRSO EIS and new circumstances and information about the significance of adverse effects that arose or became available after completion of the CRSO EIS. Bonneville has not elected to serve as a co-lead agency for this SEIS and has instead expressed interest in participating as a cooperating agency.

DATES: The Co-Lead Agencies invite Federal and State agencies, Native American Tribes, local governments, and the public to submit scoping comments relevant to the supplemental National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process no later than March 20, 2025. Information will also be provided at public meetings. Information on the public meetings is provided under the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this Notice of Intent.

ADDRESSES: Written comments, requests to be placed on the project mailing list,

and requests for information may be mailed by letter to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Northwestern Division Attn: CRSO SEIS, P.O. Box 2870, Portland, OR 97208-2870; or by email to columbiariver@usace.army.mil. All comment letters will be available via the project website at <https://www.nwd.usace.army.mil/CRSO/>. All comments and materials received, including names and addresses, will become part of the administrative record, and may be released to the public. Interested parties should not submit confidential business or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tim Fleeger, Columbia River Basin Policy and Environmental Coordinator, Northwestern Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1 (800) 290-5033 or email columbiariver@usace.army.mil. Additional information can be found at the project website: <https://www.nwd.usace.army.mil/CRSO/Final-EIS>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Background: The fourteen Federal multiple purpose dams and related facilities of the Columbia River System (CRS) are operated as a coordinated system within the interior Columbia River basin in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. The Corps was authorized by Congress to construct, operate, and maintain twelve of these projects for multiple purposes (project purposes vary by project), including flood risk management, power generation, navigation, fish and wildlife conservation, recreation, and municipal and industrial water supply: namely, Libby, Albeni Falls, Dworshak, Chief Joseph, Lower Granite, Little Goose, Lower Monumental, Ice Harbor, McNary, John Day, The Dalles, and Bonneville. Reclamation was authorized by Congress to construct, operate, and maintain two of these projects for purposes of flood risk management, power generation, navigation, and irrigation: Hungry Horse and Grand Coulee. Bonneville is responsible for marketing and transmitting power the dams generate. Together, the Corps, Reclamation, and Bonneville are responsible for managing the system for these various purposes.

In 2020, the Corps, Reclamation, and Bonneville completed the CRSO EIS and signed a Record of Decision (ROD) selecting their preferred alternative identified in the CRSO EIS. Multiple parties filed legal challenges to the CRSO EIS and ROD, as well as to the associated biological opinions the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Service (FWS) issued in conjunction with the CRSO EIS.

Since 2021, the litigation challenging the CRSO EIS ROD and biological opinions has been stayed or administratively terminated, allowing the U.S. government, including the Corps, Reclamation, Bonneville, FWS, and NMFS and other departments and agencies to engage in mediated discussions with the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, and the Spokane Tribe of Indians as well as Oregon, Washington, the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, the Nez Perce Tribe, local governments, stakeholder groups, and nongovernmental organizations.

In December 2023, the United States Government (USG) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (now called the Resilient Columbia Basin Agreement (RCBA)) with Oregon, Washington, the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, the Nez Perce Tribe, and the National Wildlife Federation Plaintiffs. The RCBA provides for a stay of litigation on the CRSO EIS ROD and related biological opinions for up to 10 years and includes agreed upon CRS operations. The RCBA also includes USG commitments to carry out certain analyses related to regional energy needs, Tribal circumstances, water supply replacement, transportation infrastructure, and recreation and public access, as well as commitments on a series of actions to improve conditions for native fish species. As part of the RCBA, and consistent with Corps', Reclamation's, and Bonneville's ongoing responsibilities under NEPA, the USG committed to reviewing existing environmental compliance documents and initiating any supplemental or additional environmental compliance determined to be necessary in fall of 2024.

The Co-Lead Agencies are evaluating triggers for supplementation under NEPA. In determining the scope of supplemental compliance, the Co-Lead Agencies will evaluate new information and circumstances, including any: changes to operations, maintenance, and configuration of the fourteen projects that make up the Columbia River System; new species listed or proposed for listing under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) (e.g., Wolverine); certain USG Commitments associated with the