maintain a list of firms qualified to perform energy efficiency and renewable energy projects specifically using the energy savings performance contracts (ESPCs) project financing methodology. The forms subject to this Paperwork Reduction Act submission constitute the application and recertification statement for inclusion on the DOE Qualified List of Energy Service Companies (ESCOs). The ESCOs on the DOE Qualified List constitute the group of firms that are eligible for contract award under 10 CFR 436.32. ESCOs that would like to bid on ESPC contracts for the Federal government must apply to the DOE Qualified List of ESCOs and complete the annual recertification statement;

(5) *Annual Estimated Number of Respondents:* 128;

(6) *Annual Estimated Number of Total Responses:* 128;

(7) *Annual Estimated Number of Burden Hours:* 466;

(8) *Annual Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden:* $57,318.

Statutory Authority: The ESPC statute (42 U.S.C. 8287(b)(2)(A)–(B)) requires the Secretary of Energy to establish and maintain a list of firms qualified to perform energy efficiency and renewable energy projects specifically using the energy savings performance contracts (ESPCs) project financing methodology.

Signing Authority

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on February 23, 2024, by Mary Sotos, Director, Federal Energy Management Program, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC, on February 27, 2024.

Treena V. Garrett,

Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.

[FR Doc. 2024–04374 Filed 2–29–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Agency Information Collection Extension

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE), pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, intends to extend for three years, an information collection request with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

DATES: Comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before April 30, 2024. If you anticipate any difficulty in submitting comments within that period, contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Written comments may be sent to Ken Hunt, Chief Privacy Officer, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Rm. G–302, Germantown, MD 20874, or by fax at (301) 903–7738, or by email at *privacyactoffice@hq.doe.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ken Hunt, Chief Privacy Officer, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874 or by telephone at (301) 903–3880, or by fax at (301) 903–7738, or by email at *privacyactoffice@hq.doe.gov, https://www.energy.gov/cio/office-chief-information-officer/services/guidance/privacy-program/submitting-privacy-act.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the extended collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

This information collection request contains:

(1) *OMB No.:* 1910–1700;

(2) *Information Collection Request Titled:* Privacy Act Administration;

(3) *Type of Review:* Extension;

(4) *Purpose:* The Privacy Act Information Request form aids the Department of Energy's processing of Privacy Act requests submitted by an individual or an authorized representative, wherein he or she is requesting records the government may maintain on the individual. The Department's use of this form continues to contribute to the implementation of the Department's Privacy Act processes, including, but not limited to, providing for faster processing of Privacy Act information requests by asking individuals or their authorized representative for pertinent information needed for records retrieval;

(5) *Annual Estimated Number of Respondents:* 390;

(6) *Annual Estimated Number of Total Responses:* 390;

(7) *Annual Estimated Number of Burden Hours:* 130;

(8) *Annual Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden:* $14,078.

Statutory Authority: The Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a; Department of Energy, Records Maintained on Individuals (Privacy Act), 10 CFR 1008; 42 U.S.C. 7101 *et. seq.;* 50 U.S.C. 2401 *et. seq.*

Signing Authority

This document of the U.S. Department of Energy was signed on February 20, 2024, by Ann Dunkin, Chief Information Officer, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC, on February 27, 2024.

Treena V. Garrett,

Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.

[FR Doc. 2024–04373 Filed 2–29–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[Docket Number: DOE–HQ–2024–0007]

Notice of Request for Information (RFI) Related to DOE's Responsibilities on Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence

AGENCY: Office of Critical and Emerging Technologies, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Request for information.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) is seeking information to assist in carrying out certain responsibilities under an Executive order (E.O.) titled ''Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence'' issued on October 30, 2023. Among other things, the E.O. directs DOE to issue a public report within 180 days of the E.O. ''describing the potential for Artificial Intelligence (AI) to improve planning, permitting, investment, and operations for electric grid infrastructure and to enable the provision of clean, affordable, reliable, resilient, and secure electric power to all Americans.'' DOE is soliciting information on one or more of the topics outlined in this RFI to address in the public report. The information provided in response to this RFI will inform the preparation of that report.

DATES: Comments containing information in response to this notice must be received on or before April 1, 2024. Submissions received after that date may not be considered.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic submission: Submit electronic public comments via *www.regulations.gov.*

1. Go to *www.regulations.gov* and enter DOE–HQ–2024–0007 in the search field,

2. Click the ''Comment'' icon and complete the required fields.

Electronic submissions may also be sent as an attachment via email to *AIexecutiveorder.RFI@hq.doe.gov* in any of the following unlocked formats: HTML; ASCII; Word; RTF; Unicode, or PDF.

Written comments may also be submitted by mail to: Department of Energy, Office of Policy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585. Due to potential delays in DOE's receipt and processing of mail sent through the U.S. Postal Service, DOE encourages responders to submit comments electronically in order to ensure timely receipt.

Submissions must not exceed 25 pages (when printed) in 12-point or larger font, with a page number provided on each page. Please include your name, organization's name (if any), and cite ''DOE AI Executive Order'' in all correspondence.

Comments containing references, studies, research, and other empirical data that are not widely published should include copies of the referenced materials. All comments and submissions, including attachments and other supporting materials, will become part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. Comments will be available on *www.regulations.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions about this RFI contact: *AIexecutiveorder.RFI@hq.doe.gov* or Keith Benes, Department of Energy, Office of Policy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585, 240–278–5478. Direct media inquiries to DOE's Office of Public Affairs at 202–586–4940.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: DOE is seeking information to assist in carrying out certain of its responsibilities under section 5.2(g) of E.O. 14110 issued on October 30, 2023 (88 FR 75191). This RFI addresses the specific responsibilities cited below. Other topics in E.O. 14110 are being addressed separately by DOE and other agencies.

In considering information for submission to DOE, respondents are encouraged to review information on DOE's website for the Office of Critical and Emerging Technologies (*www.energy.gov/cet/office-critical-and-emerging-technology*). Respondents are also encouraged to review DOE's AI Risk Management Playbook (*https://www.energy.gov/ai/doe-ai-risk-management-playbook-airmp*) and the Advanced Research Directions on AI for Science, Energy, and Security report prepared by a consortium of DOE National Laboratories (*www.anl.gov/sites/www/files/2023-05/AI4SESReport-2023.pdf*).

Information that is specific and actionable is of more interest than general statements. Copyright protections of materials, if any, should be clearly noted. Responses that include information generated by means of AI techniques should be identified clearly.

E.O. 14110 section 5.2(g) directs DOE to undertake several actions ''to support the goal of strengthening our Nation's resilience against climate change impacts and building an equitable clean energy economy for the future.'' Among those actions, section 5.2(g)(i) directs DOE to issue a public report within 180 days of E.O. 14110 release describing ''the potential for AI to improve planning, permitting, investment, and operations for electric grid infrastructure and to enable the provision of clean, affordable, reliable, resilient, and secure electric power to all Americans.''

E.O. 14110 directs DOE to undertake the actions specified in section 5.2(g), including preparing this report, ''in consultation with the Chair of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Director of OSTP, the Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality, the Assistant to the President and National Climate Advisor, and the heads of other relevant agencies as the Secretary of Energy may deem appropriate.''

In this RFI, DOE is soliciting input for the public report called for in section 5.2(g)(i). DOE is seeking information regarding topics related to this assignment, including:

1. AI to improve the security and reliability of grid infrastructure and operations and their resilience to disruptions.

DOE is seeking information on how AI can be developed and used by private actors, public-private partnerships, and government entities (at all levels of government, including Federal, State, local, etc.) to improve the security and reliability of grid infrastructure and operations, as well as resilience of the grid to potential disruptions. DOE is specifically requesting comments on the use of AI with regard to the following topics:

- Grid Operations and reliability;
- Improvements in predictive maintenance for utilities;
- For rapid, accurate, and cost-effective load and supply balancing in light of increasing penetration of variable generation sources and increased opportunities for demand management through technologies such as electric vehicle charging/discharging, smart devices, or optimizing clean hydrogen production;
- To improve flexibility of power systems models or other interconnection software tools to facilitate more efficient processing of growing interconnection queues and handling distribution-side generation (such as rooftop solar) and increased demand from demand-side interconnection as, for example, transportation electrifies.
- Grid Resilience:
- Characterization of impacts of climate hazards on electricity system infrastructure, connected to Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation (CMRA) outputs;
- Opportunity for AI-enabled real-time self-healing infrastructure;
- Opportunity for AI-enabled detection and diagnosis of anomalous/malicious events;
- AI-enabled situational awareness and actions for resilience during and after a disruption.

2. AI to improve planning, permitting, and investment in the grid and related clean energy infrastructure.

DOE is seeking information on how AI can be used both by government entities at all levels of government (Federal, State, local, etc.) as well as by private actors to improve the planning,

siting, permitting, and investment in the grid and related clean energy infrastructure. The following is a non-exhaustive list of topics that may be addressed in comments on this topic:

- Opportunities for siting and permitting authorities to utilize AI (*e.g.,* Large Language Models, multi-modal generative, etc.) to improve and expedite their reviews;
- Actions Federal agencies can take to support the effective deployment of generative AI tools to improve project planning, community engagement, and siting and permitting reviews (*e.g.,* processing of existing government documents into AI- and ML-compatible data formats, clarification of standards around use of generative AI in preparation of submittals to government agencies, etc.);
- Steps Federal agencies could take to improve compatibility of existing structured datasets (*e.g.,* geospatial data on environmental resources, endangered species, environmental justice, historic and cultural resources, etc.) with emerging AI models and/or to utilize AI to revise and improve those existing datasets;
- Opportunities to use AI to validate and improve monitoring of existing projects (*e.g.,* environmental mitigation monitoring, supply chain risks, and socio-economic impacts, etc.);
- Opportunities to use AI to illuminate and address artificial, arbitrary, and unnecessary disproportionate impacts on disadvantaged communities from planning, permitting, or operation of energy infrastructure and to improve energy equity;
- Steps that should be taken to ensure transparency about any use of generative AI in government reviews and decision-making processes to avoid unlawful biases or discrimination in AI algorithms and datasets used.

3. AI to help mitigate climate change risks.

DOE is seeking information regarding how AI can be used to strengthen the Nation's resilience against climate change, including opportunities to help predict, prepare for, and mitigate climate-driven risk. The following is a non-exhaustive list of topics that may be addressed in comments on this topic:

- Opportunities to use AI to forecast climate-driven extreme events (*e.g.,* wildfires, flooding, hurricanes, etc.) and their impact on reliability and resilience requirements, as well as potential to use AI to mitigate climate-driven extreme event risks or otherwise bolster reliability and resilience;
- Opportunities to use AI to understand and forecast climate impacts on long-term future resource levels (compared to historical levels) and its effect on resource adequacy and availability;
- Opportunities to use AI to improve or accelerate numerical weather prediction models, particularly on time scales relevant to infrastructure planning and operations.

Across all of these topics, DOE is seeking information about costs and ease of implementation for tools, systems, practices, and the extent to which they will benefit the public if they can be efficiently adopted and utilized. DOE is interested to learn about how to handle liability for consequences of decisions made by AI algorithms as well as protocols to quantify the benefits of AI. In addition, DOE is interested in information about potential negative effects of broader use of AI on these systems, including concerns about data security and privacy, whether AI may cause unlawful biases or discrimination, and the possibility that AI could have artificial, arbitrary and unnecessary disparate impacts on communities, particularly underserved communities. Pursuant to Executive Order 13985 ''underserved communities'' refers to populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life, as exemplified by the list in the preceding definition of ''equity.''

Confidential Business Information: Pursuant to 10 CFR 1004.11, any person submitting information that he or she believes to be confidential and exempt by law from public disclosure should submit via email two well-marked copies: one copy of the document marked ''confidential'' including all the information believed to be confidential, and one copy of the document marked ''non-confidential'' with the information believed to be confidential deleted. Submit these documents via email. DOE will make its own determination about the confidential status of the information and treat it according to its determination.

Signing Authority

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on February 21, 2024, by Helena Fu, Director, Office of Critical and Emerging Technologies, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC, on February 27, 2024.

Treena V. Garrett,

Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.

[FR Doc. 2024–04367 Filed 2–29–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

National Nuclear Security Administration

Advisory Committee for Nuclear Security

AGENCY: Office of Defense Programs, National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of closed meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a closed meeting of the Advisory Committee for Nuclear Security (ACNS). The Federal Advisory Committee Act requires that public notice of meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**. Due to national security considerations, the meeting will be closed to the public and matters to be discussed are exempt from public disclosure.

DATES: March 26, 2024; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: In-person meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Allyson Koncke-Fernandez, Office of Policy and Strategic Planning (NA–1.1) National Nuclear Security Administration, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585, (202) 287–5327, *allyson.koncke-fernandez@nnsa.doe.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: The ACNS provides advice and recommendations to the Under Secretary Nuclear Security & Administrator, NNSA areas and those of the National Nuclear Security Administration.

Purpose of the Meeting: The Quarterly meeting of the Advisory Committee for Nuclear Security (ACNS) will cover the current status of Committee activities as well as additional charges and is expected to contain discussions of a sensitive nature.

Type of Meeting: In the interest of national security, the meeting will be closed to the public under Executive