

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket ID ED–2026–IES–2146]

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

AGENCY: Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of a new system of records.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (Privacy Act), the U.S. Department of Education (Department) publishes this notice of a new system of records titled “National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance (NCEE) Evaluation Studies” (18–14–49) and rescindment of the following system of records notices, as the records previously covered by those notices are now covered by the NCEE Evaluation Studies system of records: DC Choice Program Evaluation (18–13–07), Evaluation of Teacher Residency Programs (18–13–24), National Longitudinal Transitions Study 2012 (18–13–27), Evaluation of the Pell Grant Experiments Under the Experimental Sites Initiative—2012 (18–13–31), Study of Enhanced College Advising in Upward Bound (18–13–36), National Evaluation of the Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy and Comprehensive Literacy State Development Programs (18–35–45), Connecting Adults to Success: Evaluation of Career Navigator Training (18–13–46), and Impact Evaluation of Training in Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for Reading in Early Elementary School (18–13–48). The Department proposes this new system of records to cover records from the identified studies and future NCEE evaluation studies that fall within the categories of individuals, categories of records, purposes, routine uses, and other terms described in this notice, in order to promote efficiency across its research and evaluation functions.

DATES: Submit your comments on this notice of a new system of records on or before November 25, 2026. This new system of records will become applicable upon publication in the **Federal Register** on October 26, 2026, unless it needs to be changed as a result of public comment. The routine uses outlined in the section titled “ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND PURPOSES OF SUCH USES” will become effective on the expiration of the 30-day period of public comment on November 25, 2026, unless they need to

be changed as a result of public comment. The Department will publish any significant changes to the system of records or routine uses resulting from public comment.

ADDRESSES: Comments must be submitted via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov). However, if you require an accommodation or cannot otherwise submit your comments via [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov), please contact the program contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. The Department will not accept comments submitted by fax or by email, or comments submitted after the comment period closes. To ensure that the Department does not receive duplicate copies, please submit your comments only once. In addition, please include the Docket ID at the top of your comments.

Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to www.regulations.gov to submit your comments electronically. Information on using [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov), including instructions for accessing agency documents, submitting comments, and viewing the docket, is available on the site under “FAQ”.

Privacy Note: The Department’s policy is to make all comments received from members of the public available for public viewing in their entirety on the Federal eRulemaking Portal at www.regulations.gov. Therefore, commenters should be careful to include in their comments only information that they wish to make publicly available.

Assistance to Individuals with Disabilities in Reviewing the Rulemaking Record: On request, we will provide an appropriate accommodation or auxiliary aid to an individual with a disability who needs assistance to review the comments or other documents in the public rulemaking record for this notice. If you want to schedule an appointment for this type of accommodation or auxiliary aid, please contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Matthew Soldner, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: 202–453–7441. Email: Contact.IES@ed.gov.

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability and wish to access telecommunications relay services, please dial 7–1–1.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NCEE conducts large-scale evaluations of education programs in accordance with the Education Sciences Reform Act (20 U.S.C. 9501 *et seq.*) and other applicable

laws, supports applied research studies related to questions of education policy and practice, provides technical assistance, and supports the development and use of research and evaluation findings throughout the United States. This system of records is used to fulfill NCEE’s legislative mandate to conduct research and evaluation activities related to education policy, programs, and practices and to support the wide dissemination of the results of evaluation, research, and products developed to stakeholders such as policymakers, practitioners, and researchers. By law, NCEE research, evaluations, and data projects must be timely, objective, and non-ideological; free of political influence and bias; and relevant and useful to practitioners, researchers, policymakers, and the public.

Accessible Format: On request to the program contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, individuals with disabilities can obtain this document in an accessible format. The Department will provide the requestor with an accessible format that may include Rich Text Format (RTF) or text format (txt), a thumb drive, an MP3 file, braille, large print, audiotape, compact disc, or other accessible format.

Electronic Access to This Document: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. You may access the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations at www.govinfo.gov. At this site you can view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site.

You may also access documents of the Department published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Matthew Soldner,
Acting Director, Institute of Education Sciences.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Acting Director of the Institute of Education Sciences (IES), U.S. Department of Education (Department), publishes a new system of records notice to read as follows:

SYSTEM NAME AND NUMBER:

National Center for Education
Evaluation and Regional Assistance
Evaluation Studies (18–14–49).

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION:

Unclassified.

SYSTEM LOCATION(S):

National Center for Education
Evaluation and Regional Assistance,
Institute of Education Sciences (IES),
U.S. Department of Education, 400
Maryland Ave. SW, Washington, DC
20202.

A current list of contractor sites where
system records are maintained is
available from the System Manager and
at <https://ies.ed.gov/about>.

SYSTEM MANAGER(S):

Commissioner, National Center for
Education Evaluation and Regional
Assistance, Institute of Education
Sciences, U.S. Department of Education,
400 Maryland Ave. SW, Washington, DC
20202.

AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:

This system of records is authorized
under sections 171, 173 and 174 of the
Education Sciences Reform Act (Pub. L.
107–279), codified at 20 U.S.C. 9561,
9563, and 9564. The collection of Social
Security numbers, where necessary for a
particular study, is authorized under
Executive Order 9397 (November 22,
1943) as amended by Executive Order
13478 (November 18, 2008).

PURPOSE(S) OF THE SYSTEM:

The records in this system are used
for the purpose of conducting research,
evaluation, and data analytic projects
commissioned by the National Center
for Education Evaluation and Regional
Assistance. Each project may involve:
(a) the analysis of data from various
sources; (b) the collection of data
through assessments, surveys,
interviews, focus groups, and other
methods; (c) the evaluation of programs
and services; (d) the provision of
services to populations and evaluating
their outcomes; (e) the provision of
technical assistance to outside entities;
and (f) other research, evaluation, and
data related activities within NCEE's
statutory authority.

This work may be supported or
accomplished by Federal staff or by
contractors, vendors, grantees and other
partners working on behalf of NCEE.

A current list of studies covered
under this system of records notice is
available from the System Manager and
at <https://ies.ed.gov/about>.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

The system will include records about
the following categories of individuals:
(a) individuals who are considered for
inclusion or are included in an NCEE
study (e.g., State, district, and school
staff and other individuals who are
involved with the administration of
programs and strategies under study
such as staff at institutes of higher
education and adult education centers;
individuals and families who
participate in or may benefit from
programs and strategies under study);
(b) individuals who provide information
about those considered or selected for
an NCEE study (e.g., state officials,
school or grantee staff); and (c)
individuals whose information is
contained within an extant dataset
needed to conduct an NCEE study (e.g.,
educators, students, grantee staff). This
includes administrative datasets created
by offices, agencies, or organizations
outside of NCEE when those datasets are
necessary for an NCEE study.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

The records maintained about a
specific individual will depend on
which NCEE study the individual was
considered for or included in and the
individual's role in the study. As
relevant and necessary for a particular
NCEE study, the system may include the
individual's personally identifiable
information (i.e., name, address(es),
telephone number(s), email address(es),
Social Security number); date of birth;
sociodemographic characteristics (e.g.,
race, ethnicity, gender); language
preferences and proficiencies; responses
to assessments and collections (e.g.,
surveys and interviews); voice and
video recordings and transcripts;
correspondences; identifiers specific to
the applicable study or series of studies
in which the individual is involved; and
administrative records (e.g.,
participation in courses or programs,
attendance). As relevant and necessary
for a particular NCEE study, it may also
collect records about an individual's
current and prior education;
employment; current and previous
addresses; mental and physical health
and well-being; involvement with the
criminal justice system; behaviors that
increase the risk of harm to educational
and other outcomes (e.g., illicit drug
use); household structure and dynamics
(e.g., marriage, relationships);
disabilities; social service and benefit
use; other characteristics; experiences
relevant to Federal education programs
or strategies related to such programs;
perceptions relevant to Federal
education programs and strategies.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:

The sources of records in the system
may include, as relevant to a particular
study: the record subject; the
Department; other governmental
agencies (e.g., Federal, state, tribal, and
local) and their agents; NCEE
contractors and subcontractors; research
institutions, foundations, and similar
organizations; publicly available
documents and data sets; commercial
sources; individuals who know the
record subject (e.g., relatives, district
staff, school and postsecondary
institution staff, and service providers)
and other third parties such as vendors
and the National Student Clearinghouse.

ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:

The Department may disclose
information contained in a record in
this system of records under the routine
uses listed in this system of records
notice without the consent of the
individual if the disclosure is
compatible with the purposes for which
the record was collected. The
Department may make these disclosures
on a case-by-case basis or, if the
Department has complied with the
computer matching requirements of the
Privacy Act of 1974, pursuant to a
computer matching agreement. Any
disclosure of personally identifiable
information from a record in this system
must also comply with the requirements
of section 183 of ESRA (20 U.S.C. 9573)
providing for confidentiality standards
that apply to all collections, reporting,
and publication of data by IES. Any
disclosure of personally identifiable
information from student education
records that were obtained from schools,
school districts, postsecondary
institutions, and other sources must also
comply with the requirements of the
Individuals with Disabilities Education
Act (IDEA) (20 U.S.C. 1417(c); 34 CFR
300.610–300.611, 300.613–300.623, and
300.625–300.627), the Family
Educational Rights and Privacy Act
(FERPA) (20 U.S.C. 1232g; 34 CFR part
99), and, where applicable, the
Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment
(PPRA) (20 U.S.C. 1232h; 34 CFR part
98), which protect the privacy of
student education records.

(1) *Contract Disclosure.* If the
Department contracts with an entity for
the purposes of performing any function
that requires disclosure of records in
this system to employees of the
contractor or its subcontractors or
consultants, as applicable, the
Department may disclose the records to
those employees. As part of such a
contract, the Department will require

the contractor and any subcontractors or consultants, if applicable, to agree to maintain safeguards to protect the security and confidentiality of the records in the system and to comply with applicable Privacy Act requirements under 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).

(2) *Research Disclosure.* The Department may disclose records to a researcher if the Department determines that the individual or organization to which the disclosure would be made is qualified to carry out specific research related to the functions or purposes of this system of records. The researcher must agree to safeguards and use restrictions, consistent with section 183(c) of the ESRA (20 U.S.C. 9573(c)), to protect the security and confidentiality of the records disclosed from this system. When personally identifiable information from a student's education record will be disclosed to the researcher, under FERPA (20 U.S.C. 1232g(b) and 34 CFR 99.31), the researcher also must agree to comply with applicable FERPA requirements.

(3) *Obtaining Participants' Academic, Employment, Financial, and Benefits Records.* The Department may disclose information from this system of records to Federal, State and local agencies as well as other organizations (e.g., the National Student Clearinghouse, high school equivalency test vendors) to obtain participants' academic, employment, financial, or benefits records.

(4) *Participant Identification Disclosure.* The Department may disclose information from this system to staff at sites participating in a study for purposes consistent with the conduct of the study. For instance, the Department may disclose information that is necessary for sites to provide education records linked to study participants or to provide services that are part of the study.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORAGE OF RECORDS:

Electronic records are stored in databases on IES' or its contractors' or subcontractors' secure servers.

Records stored in paper copy are stored in secure areas within locked drawers or cabinets.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETRIEVAL OF RECORDS:

Records in this system are indexed and retrieved by a unique number, name, or other identifying particular assigned to or associated with each individual that can be cross-referenced when needed with the separately stored direct personal identifiers.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETENTION AND DISPOSAL OF RECORDS:

The Department has submitted a retention and disposition schedule that is intended to cover the records contained in this system to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) for review. Pending NARA approval, the records will be treated as unscheduled records and will not be destroyed except as authorized by NARA.

ADMINISTRATIVE, TECHNICAL, AND PHYSICAL SAFEGUARDS:

Department and its contractors and subcontractors are required to maintain appropriate administrative, technical, and physical safeguards to protect the records from unauthorized access. Administrative controls include training individuals who have access to the records on how to handle them appropriately, incident response plans, and limiting access to individuals who need to know the information. Technical controls include the use of antivirus software, vulnerability patching, and multi-factor authentication when required. Physical controls include storing hard copy records and computer systems used to access electronic records in physically locked locations when not in use.

Department, contractor, and subcontractor employees who collect or maintain data in this system shall comply with the requirements of the confidentiality standards in section 183 of the ESRA (20 U.S.C. 9573).

RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:

If you wish to gain access to a record that exists regarding you in this system, contact the system manager at the address listed above. Your request must provide necessary particulars such as the study in question, your full name, current address, the date and place of your birth, and any other identifying information requested by the Department while processing the request to distinguish between individuals with the same name. Your request must meet the requirements in 34 CFR 5b.5, including proof of identity.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

If you wish to contest the content of a record regarding you, you must contact the system manager at the address listed above. Requests must contain your full name, address, and telephone number. Your request must meet the requirements of the regulations at 34 CFR 5b.7.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES:

If you wish to determine whether a record exists regarding you in this

system of records, you must contact the system manager at the address listed above. Your request must provide necessary particulars such as the study in question, your full name, current address, the date and place of your birth, and any other identifying information requested by the Department, while processing the request, to distinguish between individuals with the same name. Your request must meet the requirements in 34 CFR 5b.5, including proof of identity.

EXEMPTIONS PROMULGATED FOR THE SYSTEM:

None.

HISTORY:

None.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Acting Director of the Institute of Education Sciences at the Department publishes a rescindment of the following system of records notices: DC Choice Program Evaluation (18–13–07), Evaluation of Teacher Residency Programs (18–13–24), National Longitudinal Transitions Study 2012 (18–13–27), Evaluation of the Pell Grant Experiments Under the Experimental Sites Initiative—2012 (18–13–31), Study of Enhanced College Advising in Upward Bound (18–13–36), National Evaluation of the Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy and Comprehensive Literacy State Development Programs (18–35–45), Connecting Adults to Success: Evaluation of Career Navigator Training (18–13–46), and Impact Evaluation of Training in Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for Reading in Early Elementary School (18–13–48). The records previously covered by these notices will be maintained as part of the National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance Evaluation Studies system of records (18–14–49) and will be retained and disposed of in accordance with the retention schedule applicable to that system.

SYSTEM NAME AND NUMBER:

“DC Choice Program Evaluation” (18–13–07),
 “Evaluation of Teacher Residency Programs” (18–13–24),
 “National Longitudinal Transitions Study 2012” (18–13–27),
 “Evaluation of the Pell Grant Experiments Under the Experimental Sites Initiative—2012” (18–13–31),
 “Study of Enhanced College Advising in Upward Bound” (18–13–36),
 “National Evaluation of the Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy and Comprehensive Literacy State Development Programs” (18–35–45),

“Connecting Adults to Success: Evaluation of Career Navigator Training” (18–13–46),

“Impact Evaluation of Training in Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for Reading in Early Elementary School” (18–13–48)

HISTORY:

The “DC Choice Program Evaluation” (18–13–07) system of records notice was published in full in the **Federal Register** at 69 FR 22014 (April 23, 2004).

The “Evaluation of Teacher Residency Programs” (18–13–24) system of records notice was published in full in the **Federal Register** at 76 FR 18741 (April 5, 2011).

The “National Longitudinal Transitions Study 2012” (18–13–27) system of records notice was published in full in the **Federal Register** at 77 FR 25152 (April 27, 2012).

The “Evaluation of the Pell Grant Experiments Under the Experimental Sites Initiative—2012” (18–13–31) system of records notice was published in full in the **Federal Register** at 78 FR 1206 (January 8, 2013).

The “Study of Enhanced College Advising in Upward Bound” (18–13–36) system of records notice was published in full in the **Federal Register** at 79 FR 54971 (September 15, 2014).

The “National Evaluation of the Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy and Comprehensive Literacy State Development Programs” (18–35–45) system of records notice was published in full in the **Federal Register** at 85 FR 45206 (July 27, 2020).

The “Connecting Adults to Success: Evaluation of Career Navigator Training” (18–13–46) system of records notice was published in full in the **Federal Register** at 88 FR 72446 (October 20, 2023).

The “Impact Evaluation of Training in Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for Reading in Early Elementary School” (18–13–48) system of records notice was published in full in the **Federal Register** at 89 FR 82594 (October 11, 2024).

[FR Doc. 2026–21804 Filed 10–23–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 5728–026]

Sandy Hollow Power Company, Inc.; Notice of Application for Surrender of License Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Protests

Take notice that the following hydroelectric proceeding has been initiated by the Commission:

- a. *Application Type*: Surrender of license.
- b. *Project No*: 5728–026.
- c. *Date Filed*: September 8, 2026.
- d. *Licensee*: Sandy Hollow Power Company, Inc.
- e. *Name of Project*: Sandy Hollow Hydroelectric Project.
- f. *Location*: The Sandy Hollow Hydroelectric Project is located on the Indian River, Jefferson County, New York.
- g. *Filed Pursuant to*: 18 CFR Part 6.
- h. *Applicant Contact*: Sandy Hollow Power Company, Inc., 32151 Sandy Hollow Power Road, Philadelphia, NY 13673.
- i. *FERC Contact*: David Rudisail, (202) 502–6376, david.rudisail@ferc.gov.
- j. *Cooperating agencies*: With this notice, the Commission is inviting federal, state, local, and Tribal agencies with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues affected by the proposal, that wish to cooperate in the preparation of any environmental document, if applicable, to follow the instructions for filing such requests described in item k below. Cooperating agencies should note the Commission’s policy that agencies that cooperate in the preparation of any environmental document cannot also intervene. See 94 FERC ¶ 61,076 (2001).
- k. *Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene and protests*: November 20, 2026 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments, motions to intervene, and protests using the Commission’s eFiling system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866)

208–3676 (toll free), or (202) 502–8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, you may submit a paper copy. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852. The first page of any filing should include docket number P–5728–026. Comments emailed to Commission staff are not considered part of the Commission record.

The Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person whose name appears on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

l. *Description of Request*: The Licensee’s proposed surrender action for the inoperable project consists of deenergizing the three turbine generator units by removing their generator leads. The existing dam, spillway, and hydraulic conveyance structures would be left in place. The penstock intakes are sealed by gates on the upstream face of the dam and would remain closed. All river flows would continue to pass over the spillway consistent with current conditions.

m. *Locations of the Application*: This filing may be viewed on the Commission’s website at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the “eLibrary” link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. You may also register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, call 1–866–208–3676 or email FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, for TTY, call (202) 502–8659. Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant.

n. Individuals desiring to be included on the Commission’s mailing list should so indicate by writing to the Secretary of the Commission.

o. *Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene*: Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the