

analysis of higher tropic level processes with minimal distortion and loss of information by coupling two frames of reference and exploiting the advantages associated with each.

Title: Method and System Capable of Performing a Substantially Continuous Uptake During a Trawling Operation. A trawler method and system achieving an increased consumption ratio of catch-to-bycatch during the trawling operation, reducing the mortality of the bycatch in commercial trawling, and also minimizing loss of the target species.

Title: A Wearable Computer Configured for Geophysical Radar Profiling Applications. A portable, lightweight system, fully integrated for using penetrating ground radar for taking simplified field geophysical measurements and can be operated from the body of an operator while the operator is moving. The system operates for extended periods of time using lightweight portable rechargeable and replaceable batteries and facilitates continuous, glare-free viewing of computer screens associated with the scanning system. The computer-controlled radar system boards are easily changeable for a wide variety of different environments. Real-time viewing of radar data and integration with other real-time data input sources create an integrated data stream with accurate time correlation between all data inputs.

Title: Instrument Channel Approach. A system to determine the water depth in a channel or harbor below a low water reference permitting the navigation of a channel or harbor having a reference GPS signal receiving station on land which sends information to a ship with its GPS signal receiving system.

Title: Method and Apparatus for Measuring and Assessing Corrosive Conditions of a Surface by a Remotely Controlled Robotic Vehicle. A remotely controlled robotic vehicle is used for inspecting the interior of ferrous structures such as liquid storage tanks without removing the stored liquid. The robotic vehicle cleans the surface of debris and corrosive deposits prior to inspection, measures and assesses wall integrity and thickness, and communicates the results to a computer which continuously ascertains the position of the robotic vehicle. The robotic vehicle can navigate in various orientations, including vertical and inverted orientations throughout the interior of a substantially cylindrical tank.

Title: Method and Apparatus for Installing a Small-scale Groundwater Sampling Well. A method and

apparatus for installing a small-scale groundwater sampling device which is easy to construct and inexpensive to manufacture. The device can be used by the conventional push-in equipment associated with a civil engineering cone penetrometer. The conventional penetrometer can install a well that can be used for continuous monitoring of groundwater quality using two penetrometer operators with only one or two hours of work and uses the same design that the U.S. EPA requires for a full-scale monitoring well. The installation of the well is done by pushing and not drilling and does not generate any well cuttings which typically have to be tested prior to disposal to determine if the soil is contaminated.

Title: Method of Manufacturing Cement Board Incorporating Recycled Carpet Fiber and Cement. A method of manufacturing a smooth surface cement board incorporating recycled carpet fiber which produces a strong cement board even with a fluid mortar. Air-filled voids or "bugholes" are eliminated. The use of tangled fibers produces a cement board in which the fiber has high pull-out resistance. The mixed fiber and mortar can be placed as a discrete layer thereby making it possible to make a cement board that has two exterior layers containing fiber and a central layer containing only mortar.

Title: Bag Dispenser. Plastic, paper, aluminum foil, or aluminum foil laminated with plastic bags are dispensed, one at a time, from a bag dispenser. Bags are either provided in rolls connected top-to-top and bottom-to-bottom, nested with one bag inside the next adjacent bag, or are nested and attached to a perforated central tab that passes through the bottom seam of each bag, which may be placed in a funnel-like dispenser that holds the nested bags in an upright position.

Title: Detection of Sub-Surface Failures in Barriers. An early warning method to remotely and continually monitor the structural integrity of a barrier such as levees and dams. Failure mechanisms due to the existence of water or moisture content within the structure and structural irregularities due to changes in moisture content such as boils are detected in their early stages thus allowing remedial measures.

Richard L. Frenette,
Counsel.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Student Assistance General Provisions, Federal Perkins Loan, Federal Work-Study, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Federal Family Education Loan, William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan, Federal Pell Grant, and Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership Programs

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of deadline date.

SUMMARY: We give notice that institutions participating in the student financial assistance programs authorized by title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (Title IV, HEA programs), must meet the updated minimum technical hardware and software specifications described in this notice in order to participate in the designated electronic processes that the Department uses in the administration of those programs.

DATES: The provisions in this notice are effective January 1, 2002.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Student Assistance General Provisions regulations in 34 CFR 668.16(o) provide that the Secretary considers an institution to have administrative capability if it participates in electronic processes that the Secretary identifies in a notice published in the **Federal Register** and provides at no substantial charge to the institution. On September 19, 1997 (62 FR 49414), we published a notice in the **Federal Register** that provided the minimum hardware and software technical specifications that an institution had to have in order to participate in those electronic processes. Because of advances in technology it is necessary to update those minimum technical specifications. Beginning January 1, 2002, for the 2002-2003 processing year, institutions must meet the updated minimum hardware and software requirements that appear in the technical specifications table provided under the next heading in order to continue to participate in those electronic processes. Most institutions already have hardware and software that satisfy the updated specifications. We believe that those institutions that have to upgrade hardware or software to meet these standards will be making an investment that will improve their institutional processes at minimal cost.

Technical Specifications

The technical specifications table that follows provides the current and future minimum hardware and software requirements. The table includes two

columns of specifications; the left column provides the current specifications, the right column provides the specifications that must be satisfied beginning January 1, 2002. We recommend that participating institutions prepare now to upgrade their equipment and software in time to meet the January 1, 2002, requirements. When reviewing these specifications,

institutions should be aware that capacity requirements (processor speed, available memory, hard drive storage, etc.) are greatly affected by specific factors at each institution, including which EDEExpress and other Departmental functions the institution uses, the number of records processed, and institutional database interfaces.

We plan to continue to upgrade and enhance our Title IV, HEA program delivery system. Therefore, we recommend that institutions include in their automated data processing budgets, on a regular basis, plans for appropriate hardware and software upgrades and enhancements.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

	Current Minimum Configuration (Depending Upon Volume and Usage)	Minimum Configuration Required by January 1, 2002
Equipment	IBM or fully IBM-compatible PC	IBM or fully IBM-compatible PC
	200MHz Pentium Processor or comparable	800MHz Pentium Processor or comparable
	64MB RAM	128 MB RAM or more
	4.0 GB SCSI Hard Drive	20 GB hard drive or more
	56K Analog Modem	56K modem (that meets or is upgradable to V.90 standard)
	3.5"/1.44 MB Diskette Drive	3.5"/1.44 MB Diskette Drive
	Super Video Graphics Adapter (SVGA) Monitor	Monitor and video card capable of Super Video Graphics Adapter (SVGA) (800x600) resolution (small fonts only) or higher*
	Windows 95 Keyboard	Windows 95 Keyboard with Microsoft compatible mouse
	Laser printer capable of printing on standard paper (8½" x 11")	Laser printer capable of printing on standard paper (8½" x 11")
	12x CD-ROM Drive with sound board	24x CD-ROM Drive or higher with sound board
Software	32 bit operating system (Windows 95 or Windows NT 4.x)	32 bit operating system (Microsoft Windows 98, Microsoft Windows NT 4.0, or Microsoft Windows 2000)
	Internet Service Provider (ISP)	Internet Service Provider (ISP) that supports 56K modem connection or higher
	Netscape Navigator 3.0 or 3.01 (domestic) or web browser	<u>Browser Requirements</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet Explorer v4.01 Service Pack 2 or higher, or • Netscape Navigator v4.73 or higher
		Supported Networks: Windows NT or Novell Netware
Phone Line	Dedicated phone line	Dedicated phone line
Diskettes	3.5" high-density double-sided diskettes	3.5" high-density double-sided diskettes

* EDEExpress is designed in SVGA. You may use a higher resolution than SVGA at your own discretion without adverse impact on EDEExpress.

Applicable Regulations

The regulations applicable to this notice are the Student Assistance General Provisions, 34 CFR part 668.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions relating to these requirements, contact the Customer Service Call Center at 1-800-433-7327. For questions relating to EDEXpress software, contact the Central Processing System (CPS) Customer Service at 1-800-330-5947.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to Katie Mincey, Director of Alternate Format Center, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., (Switzer Bldg., Room 1000), Washington, DC 20202-4560. Telephone: (202) 260-9895.

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Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a, 1070b-1070b-4, 1070c-1070c-4, 1071-1087-2, 1087a-1087j, 1087aa-1087ii, 1094, and 1099c; 42 U.S.C. 2751-2756b.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance numbers: 84.007 Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) Program; 84.032 Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Programs; 84.033 Federal Work-Study (FWS) Program; 84.038 Federal Perkins (Perkins) Loans; 84.063 Federal Pell Grant (Pell) Program; 84.069 Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership (LEAP) Programs; and 84.268 William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Programs)

Dated: December 19, 2000.

Greg Woods,

Chief Operating Officer, Student Financial Assistance.

[FR Doc. 00-32705 Filed 12-21-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Paducah

AGENCY: Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Paducah. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. No. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: Thursday, January 18, 2001, 5:30 p.m.-9 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Paducah Information Age Park Resource Center, 2000 McCracken Boulevard, Paducah, Kentucky.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John D. Sheppard, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, Department of Energy Paducah Site Office, Post Office Box 1410, MS-103, Paducah, Kentucky 42001, (270) 441-6804.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Board: The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations to DOE and its regulators in the areas of environmental restoration and waste management activities.

Tentative Agenda

5:30 p.m.
Informal Discussion
6:00 p.m.
Call to Order
6:10 p.m.
Approve Minutes
6:20 p.m.
Presentations
Board Response
Public Comments
8:00 p.m.
Subcommittee Reports
Board Response
Public Comments
8:30 p.m.
Administrative Issues
9:00 p.m.
Adjourn

Copies of the final agenda will be available at the meeting.

Public Participation: The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Committee either before or after the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral statements

pertaining to agenda items should contact John D. Sheppard at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests must be received 5 days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision will be made to include the presentation in the agenda. The Designated Federal Officer is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Each individual wishing to make public comment will be provided a maximum of five minutes to present their comments as the first item of the meeting agenda.

Minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday-Friday, except Federal holidays. Minutes will also be available at the Department of Energy's Environmental Information Center and Reading Room at 175 Freedom Boulevard, Highway 60, Kevill, Kentucky between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Monday thru Friday or by writing to John D. Sheppard, Department of Energy Paducah Site Office, P.O. Box 1410, MS-103, Paducah, Kentucky 42001 or by calling him at (270) 441-6804.

Issued at Washington, DC on December 18, 2000.

Rachel M. Samuel,

Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-32680 Filed 12-21-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Fernald

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Fernald. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. No. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: Saturday, January 13, 2001, 8:30 p.m.-12:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Fernald Environmental Mangement Project, Site Services Building Conference Room, 7400 Willey Road, Hamilton, OH 45219.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Victoria Spriggs, Phoenix Environmental, 6186 Old Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA 22310, at (703)