

Issued in Washington, DC, this 11th day of March 1996 by the Commission.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

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CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

Notice of Transmittal of Sequestration Preview Report for Fiscal Year 1997 to Congress and the Office of Management and Budget

Pursuant to Section 254(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 904(b)), the Congressional Budget Office hereby reports that it has submitted its Sequestration Preview Report for Fiscal Year 1997 to the House of Representatives, the Senate, and the Office of Management and Budget.

Stanley L. Greigg,

Director, Office of Intergovernmental Relations, Congressional Budget Office.

[FR Doc. 96-6407 Filed 3-14-96; 8:45 am]

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CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Proposed Collection of Information; Comment Request—Procurement of Goods and Services

AGENCY: Consumer Product Safety Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Consumer Product Safety Commission requests comments on a proposed extension of approval of a collection of information associated with the procurement of goods and services. Forms used by the Commission for procurement of goods and services request persons who quote, propose, or bid on contracts to provide information needed to evaluate quotes, proposals, and bids in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

The Commission will consider all comments received in response to this notice before requesting reinstatement of approval of this collection of information from the Office of Management and Budget.

DATES: Written comments must be received by the Office of the Secretary not later than May 14, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be captioned "Procurement of Goods and Services; Paperwork Reduction Act" and mailed to the Office of the

Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, DC 20207, or delivered to that office, room 502, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information about the proposed reinstatement of approval of the collection of information, or to obtain a copy of the forms used by the Commission for procurement of goods and services, call or write Nicholas V. Marchica, Director, Office of Planning and Evaluation, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, DC 20207; telephone (301) 504-0416, extension 2243.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commission's procurement of goods and services is governed by the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended (41 U.S.C. 253 *et seq.*). That law requires the Commission to procure goods and services under conditions most advantageous to the government, considering cost and other factors.

A. Information Required by Procurement Forms

The Commission requires persons and firms to submit quotations, proposals, and bids for contracts to provide goods and services on standardized forms. These forms request information from offerors about costs or prices of goods and services to be supplied; specifications of goods and descriptions of services to be delivered; competence of the offeror to provide the goods or services; and other information about the offeror such as the size of the firm and whether it is minority owned. The Commission uses the information provided by offerors to determine the reasonableness of prices and costs and the responsiveness of potential contractors to undertake the work involved so that all bids may be awarded in accordance with Federal procurement laws.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved the collection of information requirements in the procurement forms used by the Commission under control number 3041-0059. OMB's most recent extension of approval will expire on May 31, 1996. The CPSC now proposes to request extension of approval without change for the information collection requirements in the forms used for procurement of goods and services.

B. Information Collection Burden

The Commission staff estimates that each year about 2,500 persons and firms submit quotations, proposals, and bids

on one or more procurement contracts with the agency. The Commission staff estimates further that, on average, the burden imposed by the regulations on each of these persons or firms in a given year is approximately 3 hours. Thus, the total annual burden imposed by the request for information in the Commission's procurement forms on all bidders is about 7,500 hours per year.

The Commission staff estimates that the hourly wage for the time required to obtain and provide the information required by procurement forms is about \$35 per hour, and that the annual total cost to all offerors is approximately \$262,500.

During a typical year, the Commission will expend approximately 161 months of professional staff time reviewing the information required to be submitted on procurement forms. The annual cost to the Federal Government of the collection of information in the procurement forms is estimated to be \$230,000.

C. Request for Comments

The Commission solicits written comments from all interested persons about the proposed extension of approval of the collection of information in forms used for the procurement of goods and services. The Commission specifically solicits information about the hourly burden and monetary costs imposed by the collection of information on persons and firms who quote, propose, and bid for contracts with the Commission. The Commission also seeks information relevant to the following topics:

- Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the Commission's functions;
- Whether the information will have practical utility for the Commission;
- Whether the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected could be enhanced; and
- Whether the burden imposed by the collection of information could be minimized by use of automated, electronic or other technological collection techniques, or other forms of information technology.

Dated: March 11, 1996.

Sadye E. Dunn,

Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission.

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