

# Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 61, No. 211

Wednesday, October 30, 1996

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Procurement and Property Management

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request Concerning Procurement: Preparation of Technical and Business Proposals

**AGENCY:** Procurement and Property Management, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments regarding a proposed revision to and extension of an approved information collection requirement.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), Procurement and Property Management (PPM) intends to submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension of a currently approved information collection related to performance under contracts for research, development, or advisory and assistance services. PPM invites comment on this information collection. This information requirement is currently approved by OMB for use through November 30, 1996. PPM proposes that OMB extend its approval for use through November 30, 1999.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by December 30, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to: Joseph J. Daragan, Procurement Analyst, Procurement and Property Management, STOP 9303, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9303. Comments may also be submitted via fax at (202) 720-8972, or through the Internet at JDARAGAN@USDA.GOV.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joseph J. Daragan, Procurement and Property Management, STOP 9303, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9303, (202) 720-5729.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** Procurement: Preparation of Technical and Business Proposals.

**Background:** The Agriculture Acquisition Regulation (AGAR) currently prescribes a solicitation provision standardizing the arrangement and format of technical and business proposals that are submitted by offerors who elect to respond to the agency's request for proposals. Information collection pursuant to this provision has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and assigned OMB Control Number 0505-0013. The AGAR also prescribes a solicitation provision for collection of financial and organizational information. Information collection pursuant to this provision has also been approved by OMB and assigned OMB Control Number 0505-0010. These provisions have been consolidated and streamlined in the proposed revision to the AGAR. To reflect this consolidation, USDA wishes to combine both information collection requests into a single request for approval and extension of an information collection. As revised, the request would cover collection of all cost, technical, and business information needed by USDA contracting offices to evaluate offers, to the extent collection of such information is not required by the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

**OMB Number:** 0505-0013. The proposed revision would incorporate an information collection approved as OMB Number 0505-0010 into this collection.

**Expiration Date:** Both OMB Number 0505-0010 and OMB Number 0505-0013 expire on 11/30/96.

**Type of request:** Revision to, and extension of, a currently approved collection.

**Proposed use of information:** Technical and business proposals received from offerors, including information about offerors' organization and financial systems, are used when conducting negotiated procurement to evaluate and determine the feasibility of the prospective contractor's technical approach, management, and cost/price to accomplish the task and/or provide the supplies or services required under a resultant contract.

**Respondents:** State or local governments; businesses or other for-

profit; small businesses or organizations.

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 3,200.

**Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:** One (1).

**Estimate of Burden:** Public reporting burden to prepare technical and business proposals as part of a response to a solicitation is estimated to average 35 hours per response. This estimate does not include burden associated with providing information required in accordance with information collections prescribed by the Federal Acquisition Regulation. Only businesses submitting offers in response to a solicitation are affected by this collection.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:** 112,000 hours.

Comments received will be considered in order to: (a) evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of USDA contracting offices, including whether the information will have a practical utility; (b) evaluate the accuracy of PPM's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who respond, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval, and will become a matter of public record.

W. R. Ashworth,

Director, Procurement and Property Management.

[FR Doc. 96-27821 Filed 10-29-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-98-P

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request Concerning Collection of Acquisition Information

**AGENCY:** Procurement and Property Management, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments regarding a proposed extension of approved information collection requirements.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44