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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 97-051-1]

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Approved information collection extension; comment request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's intention to request an extension of a currently approved information collection in support of credit account approval for reimbursable services.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by September 8, 1997 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Send comments regarding the accuracy of burden estimate, ways to minimize the burden (such as through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology), or any other aspect of this collection of information to: Docket No. 97-051-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, suite 3C03, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please send an original and three copies, and state that your comments refer to Docket 97-051-1. Comments received may be inspected at USDA, room 1141, South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Persons wishing to inspect comments are requested to call ahead on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the comment reading room.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: For information regarding credit account

approval for reimbursable services, contact Ms. Donna J. Ford, User Fees Section Head, FSSB, APHIS, 4700 River Road, Unit 54, Riverdale, MD 20737-1232, 301) 734-5752; or e-mail:dford@aphis.usda.gov. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Ms. Celeste Sickles, Agency Support Service Specialist, at (301) 734-7477.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Credit Account Approval for Reimbursable Services.

OMB Number: 0579-0055.

Expiration Date of Approval: November 30, 1997.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The services of an Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) inspector to clear imported and exported commodities requiring release by APHIS personnel are covered by user fees during regular working hours. If an importer wishes to have a shipment of cargo cleared at other hours, such services will usually be provided on a reimbursable overtime basis, unless already covered by a user fee. Exporters wishing cargo certified during nonworking hours may also utilize this procedure.

Requestors of our services are usually repeat customers and request that we bill them for our services. We need to collect certain information in order for our Field Servicing Office to conduct a credit check on prospective applicants to ensure credit worthiness prior to extending credit services, and to prepare billings for such services performed. This is a one-time information collection using APHIS Form 192.

Also, the 1996 Debt Improvement Collection Act requires that agencies collect tax identification numbers from all persons doing business with the Government for purposes of collecting delinquent debts. This is one field on the APHIS Form 192, and it must be completed before credit is extended.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to extend approval of this information collection.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. We need this outside input to help us:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.25 hours per response.

Respondents: Importers/exporters who wish to have a shipment of cargo or animals cleared during nonworking hours.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 480.

Estimated Numbers of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 120 hours.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Done in Washington, DC, this 3rd day of July 1997.

Terry L. Medley,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 97-055-1]

Availability of an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for Field Testing Vaccine Containing Canarypox-Vectored Rabies Fraction

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.