

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,500.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 5 hr., 33 min.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 8,325.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on:

(a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper

performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: April 10, 1998.

Garrick R. Shear,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Request for Information on Impact to Discontinue Use of Bisynchronous Communications for E-filing

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

SUMMARY: This announcement is requesting that current transmitters of electronically filed returns send to the Internal Revenue Service their comments on the impact of switching from bisynchronous communications to asynchronous or other file transfer protocols by the year 2000. Please submit your comments in writing to Carolyn E. N. Davis by May 15, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Questions or concerns should be directed to Carolyn E. N. Davis at IRS, Electronic Tax Administration, T:ETA:E:P, 5000 Ellin Road C4-187, Lanham, MD 20706 or via email at carolyn.e.davis@ccmail.irs.gov.

Approved:

Steve Holden,

National Director, Electronic Program Enhancement Office, Electronic Tax Administration.

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