

regulations for this Act issued by the Department of Justice and the Department of Agriculture requires recipients of RBS, RHS, RUS, and FSA's program assistance to collect information on the race/national origin of the beneficiaries of their specific programs. This information is used by the RBS, RHS, RUS, and FSA for compliance review and monitoring purposes for Title VI.

b. Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (as amended) ("Title VIII). Section 808a of Title VIII (42 U.S.C. 3608a (1988)), in pertinent part, requires the Secretary of Agriculture to collect racial and ethnic data on beneficiaries and recipients of USDA housing programs. Furthermore, the implementing regulations issued by the Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") and adopted by the RBS, RHS, RUS, and FSA, requires recipients and other participants in RHS's housing programs affirmatively to further fair housing by providing housing and the opportunity to acquire housing in a non-discriminatory fashion. One way to demonstrate compliance with Title VIII is to prepare affirmative fair housing marketing plans, and to collect and maintain data to reflect compliance with the requirements of that plan. Furthermore, under the Memorandum of Understanding between HUD and USDA, many complaints of fair housing violation by USDA recipients will be processed by HUD. The collection and maintenance of these data will assist in this enforcement effort.

c. Executive Order 11246. The implementing regulations issued by the Department of Labor (DOL) and adopted by the RBS, RHS, RUS, and FSA, require recipients of Federally assisted construction contracts of \$10,000 or more to maintain goals for hiring minorities and females, and to submit employment utilization reports to the DOL's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs.

The information collected and maintained by the recipients of certain programs from RBS, RHS, RUS, and FSA is used internally by these agencies for monitoring compliance with the civil rights laws and regulations. This information is made available to USDA officials, officials of other Federal agencies, and to Congress for reporting purposes. Without the required information, RBS, RHS, RUS, FSA and its recipients will lack the necessary documentation to demonstrate that their programs are being administered in a nondiscriminatory manner and in full compliance with the civil rights laws. In addition, the RBS, RHS, RUS, and FSA, and their recipients would be

vulnerable in lawsuits alleging discrimination in the affected programs of these agencies and would be without appropriate data and documentation to defend themselves by demonstrating that services and benefits are being provided to beneficiaries on an equal opportunity basis.

Estimate of Burden: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response.

Respondents: Recipients of RBS, RHS, RUS, and FSA's Federal financial assistance, loan, and loan guarantee programs.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 19,565.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 5.40.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 533,017.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Richard Gartman, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Support Services Division, at (202) 720-9745.

Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Rural Development, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agencies' estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Richard Gartman, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Support Services Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Ag Box 0743, Washington, DC 20250. 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.

Dated: April 20, 1998.

Jill Long Thompson,

Under Secretary, Rural Development.

Dated: April 4, 1998.

August Schumacher, Jr.,

Under Secretary, Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

List of Warehouses and Availability of List of Cancellations and/or Terminations

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of publication.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Farm Service Agency has published a list of warehouses licensed under the United States Warehouse Act (7 U.S.C. 241 *et. seq.*) as of December 31, 1997, as required by section 26 of that Act (7 U.S.C. 266). A list of cancellations or terminations that occurred during calendar year 1997 is also available. Interested persons may obtain a copy of either list from the person listed below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Judy Fry, Farm Service Agency, Warehouse and Inventory Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 0553, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-0553; e-mail requests may be sent: Judy—Fry@wdc.fsa.usda.gov.; telephone 202-720-3822.

Signed at Washington, D.C., on April 24, 1998.

Keith Kelly,

Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL

Foreign Agricultural Service

Types and Quantities of Agricultural Commodities Available for Donation Overseas Under Section 416(b) of the Agricultural Act of 1949, as Amended, in Fiscal Year 1998

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On April 6, 1998, the Secretary of Agriculture determined that 10,500 metric tons of nonfortified nonfat dry milk packaged in 25 kilogram bags are available for donation overseas under section 416(b) of the Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended, during fiscal year 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ira Branson, Director, CCC Program Support Division, FAS, USDA, (202) 720-3573.