

By the Board, David M. Konschnik,
Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Fiscal Service

Financial Management Service; Proposed Collection of Information; Electronic Federal Tax Payment System in an Electronic Data Interchange Environment Survey

AGENCY: Financial Management Service,
Fiscal Service, Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for
comments.

SUMMARY: The Financial Management Service, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on a proposed information collection. By this notice, the Financial Management Service solicits comments concerning a voluntary survey to learn ways to help entities comply with electronic payment requirements using the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System in an Electronic Data Interchange Environment.

DATES: All comments should be received on or before March 1, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Financial Management Service, 3361-L 75th Avenue, Landover, Maryland 20785.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Elizabeth Oldenburn, Financial Program Specialist, Financial Management Service, Room 522B, 401 14th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20227, (202) 874-6835.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506 (c) (2)(A)), the Financial Management Service solicits comments on the collection of information described below.

Title: Electronic Federal Tax Payment System in an Electronic Data Interchange Environment Survey.

OMB Number: None.

Form Number: None.

Abstract: The Financial Management Service (FMS) and its contractor, Logistics Management Institute, plan to conduct a one-time survey which will obtain information about the potential

Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) trading partners for the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System (EFTPS). An EDI payment application would allow taxpayers or tax payment service providers to send multiple tax payments, or single tax payments for multiple taxpayers, in one payment transaction.

Prior to developing an EDI payment application in EFTPS, FMS would like to determine if there is interest in using such an option within the tax payment community. If sufficient interest exists, FMS wants to design the EDI payment application to meet the needs and technical capabilities of the EFTPS trading partners. The survey will gauge interest in using EDI as an EFTPS payment option and will determine the trading partners' needs and expectations for EFTPS in an EDI environment.

The Internet is also being considered as an EFTPS payment and enrollment option. The survey will also gauge interest in using the Internet as a payment vehicle for EFTPS, as well as for enrolling in EFTPS by filling out an on-line application form.

The survey will provide quantitative research information from approximately 3,520 respondents in the tax payment community including businesses, payroll processors, tax preparers, state governments, and financial institutions. FMS and its contractor estimate that the survey will take an average of fifteen (15) minutes to complete. Respondent participation is voluntary. The results of the survey will be used to determine if sufficient interest exists to support development of an EFTPS EDI payment option. Also, the survey will help FMS to design the new payment options to meet the needs and technical requirements of EDI trading partners, as well as to develop a marketing (media) plan which will serve as the basis for a marketing campaign to encourage the use of a new EFTPS payment mechanism(s).

Current Actions: New collection.

Type of Review: Regular.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 3,520.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 15 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 880 hours.

Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget 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 will 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.

Betty H. Lane,

Assistant Commissioner, Federal Finance.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Fiscal Service

Renegotiation Board Interest Rate; Prompt Payment Interest Rate; Contract Disputes Act

AGENCY: Bureau of the Public Debt,
Fiscal Service, Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: For the period beginning January 1, 1999 and ending on June 30, 1999, the prompt payment interest rate is 5% (five) per centum per annum.

DATES: This notice announces the interest rate applicable for the January 1, 1999 to June 30, 1999 period.

ADDRESSES: Comments or inquiries may be mailed to Cynthia S. Winters, Team Leader, Debt Accounting Branch, Office of Public Debt Accounting, Bureau of the Public Debt, Parkersburg, West Virginia, 26106-1328. A copy of this Notice will be made available for downloading from the <http://www.publicdebt.treas.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephanie E. Brown, Director, Division of Accounting Operations, Office of Public Debt Accounting, Bureau of the Public Debt, Parkersburg, West Virginia, 26106-1328, (304) 480-5180, Cynthia S. Winters, Team Leader, Debt Accounting Branch, Office of Public Debt Accounting, Bureau of the Public Debt, (304) 480-5174, Edward C. Gronseth, Deputy Chief Counsel, Office of the Chief Counsel, Bureau of the Public Debt, (304) 480-3692, or Brenda L. Hoffman, Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Chief Counsel, Bureau of the Public Debt, (304) 480-3698.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Although the Renegotiation Board is no longer in