

Date	City	Location	Time
Thursday, December 9 .....	Washington, DC .....	Hyatt Arlington, 1325 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22209	6:30–8:00 8:00–10:00

Public scoping meetings will be held at the National forest level. Forest Supervisors will give notice of these meetings in newspapers of local circulation and through other media.

Dated: November 4, 1999.

**James R. Furnish,**

*Deputy Chief, National Forest System.*

[FR Doc. 99–29398 Filed 11–9–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–11–M

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Office of the Secretary

#### Race and National Origin Information of Job Applicants

**ACTION:** Proposed collection; Comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC), 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 proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before January 10, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5027, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20230 (or via the Internet at LEngelme@doc.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Debby Blackwood, Office of Human Resources Management, Office of Programs and Policies, Room 5102, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20230, (202) 482–6187.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Abstract

The Department of Commerce is below parity with the relevant civilian labor force representation for many of our primary occupations. The only method to determine if there are barriers in the recruitment and selection process for these occupations is to track groups

that apply and how they fare through the selection process. Without this information, DOC does not have the ability to evaluate the effectiveness of its recruitment efforts, or to determine barriers in its selection process. There is no other objective way to make these determinations, and no source of this information other than from applicants.

The race and national origin (RNO) information of job applicants was previously collected by all Federal agencies using OPM Form 1386. The form expired several years ago and DOC is seeking to establish a replacement form. It will not be a required part of their application package. A number of Federal agencies have already recreated this form for the same purpose—collecting race, national origin, gender and disability information of job applicants.

The information is not provided to selecting officials and plays no part in the selection of individuals. Instead, it is used in summary form to determine trends over many selections within a given occupation or organizational area. The information is treated in a very confidential manner.

##### II. Method of Collection

Initially job applicants will complete the form in a paper version and submit it with their application. DOC is in the process of automating this form. Applicants should have the option of completing the form electronically within a year. Those without access to automated applicant processing will be able to continue submitting a paper version. Job applicants complete the form on a voluntary basis.

##### III. Data

*OMB Number:* None.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular Submission.

*Affected Public:* Individuals Seeking Employment.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 10,000.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 5 minutes.

*Estimated Annual Burden Hours:* 833.33.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$0 (no capital expenditures are required).

##### IV. Request for Comments

*Comments are invited on:* (a) Whether the proposed 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 (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection; (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 respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: November 3, 1999.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

*Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 99–29454 Filed 11–9–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–BS–P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce (DoC) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

*Agency:* Patent and Trademark Office (PTO).

*Title:* Payment of Patent and Trademark Office Fees by Credit Card.

*Form Numbers:* PTO–2038.

*OMB Approval Number:* None.

*Type of Request:* New collection.

*Burden:* 20,000 hours per year.

*Number of Respondents:* 100,000 responses per year.

*Avg. Hours Per Response:* 12 minutes (0.2 hours) to complete the credit card form, PTO–2038 U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Credit Card Payment Form.

*Needs and Uses:* The PTO is required to collect fees during the patent process, during the trademark process, and for information products through its laws and regulations. This fee collection is required in 35 U.S.C. 41 and 15 U.S.C. 1113 and in 37 CFR 1.16 through 1.26, 1.492, 2.6, and 2.7. The public uses the