

exemption to justify its use during the 4th year of the exemption. Roses, Inc. would consolidate these statements and submit them to the Agency. An individual statement of need would continue to be required during the 5th year of the exemption. The exemption would terminate at the end of its 5th year.

Roses, Inc. bases its exception request on the following proposed conditions. There is continued development of IPM programs that include effective and economic predator and parasite biological control agents for the rose greenhouse industry during the proposed 5 years of the exemption. There is also continued development and registration of effective short REI pesticides for this industry during this time. An annual review of the exception and the industry's progress toward phasing out the exception would be conducted by Roses, Inc. and the Agency. There is continued EPA support of the Rose Exception Advisory Workgroup. The Food Quality Protection Act will not negatively impact the cut-rose industry because of mitigation measures or suspensions based on aggregate and cumulative risk assessments. Increasing foreign imports will not be priced so low that individual growers cannot afford transition to new insect and disease control agents and products that facilitate optimal harvesting procedures. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health study on risk to early-entry workers in the rose greenhouse does not produce significant adverse effects data on early entry after pesticide use or other adverse pesticide effects in floral greenhouses.

B. Agency Assessment, Concerns, and Opinion

Under CFR 40 170.112, (e) *Exception requiring Agency approval—(1) Requesting an exception*, the following information must be submitted to the Agency for an exception to be considered:

- (i) The name, address and telephone number of the submitter.
- (ii) The time period for which the exception is requested.
- (iii) A description of the crop(s) and specific crop production tasks for which the exception is requested.
- (iv) A description of the geographic area for which the exception is requested.
- (v) An explanation as to why, for each requested crop-task combination, alternative practices would not be technically or financially viable. This information should include estimates or data on a per acre revenue and cost of production for the crop and area for which the exception is requested. These estimates or data should

include: the situation prior to implementation of this final rule, the situation after implementation of this final rule if the exception is not granted, the situation after implementation of this final rule if the exception is granted, and specific information on individual factors which cause differences in revenues and costs among the three situations.

(vi) A description or documentation of the safety and feasibility of such an exception, including, but not limited to, the feasibility of performing the necessary hand labor activity while wearing the personal protective equipment required for early entry for the pesticide(s) expected to be applied, the means of mitigating heat-related illness concerns, the period of time required daily per worker to perform the hand labor activity, any suggested methods of reducing the worker's exposure, and any other mitigating factors such as the availability of running water for routine and emergency decontamination and mechanical devices that would reduce the workers' contact with the treated surfaces.

The information should include the costs associated with early-entry, such as decontamination facilities, special information and training for the workers, heat stress avoidance procedures, and provision, inspection, cleaning, and maintenance of PPE. EPA will not grant exceptions where the costs of early entry equal or exceed the expected loss in value of crop yield or quality.

Since receipt of Roses, Inc.'s request for an exception, the Agency has been discussing the content with Roses, Inc. and within the Agency to better understand and supplement the request with other information. Even though the request remains incomplete, the Agency has chosen to publish this notice of receipt and would like public comment prior to making a decision on the request.

The petition by Roses, Inc. does not adequately address the information requirements regarding specific information on individual factors which cause differences in revenues and costs. The petition also did not provide the information required regarding the means of mitigating heat-related illness concerns, the period of time required daily per worker to perform the hand labor activity, and the costs associated with early-entry as stated above.

The Agency would also like to consider a narrower exception request, such as one confined to specific pesticide products, time, pest or infestations where risks and benefits can be better defined. This would allow for an exception with potentially less risk for workers because of less frequent exposure.

C. Comments Solicited

The Agency is interested in a full range of comments and information on this exception request. The Agency particularly welcomes comments supported by information that would help establish the economic need for the exception in light of the significant number of rose growers that continue production without it, the appropriate group to administer or manage the exception since Roses Inc. has proposed to administer several aspects such as grower registration, justification of need, limitation of eligibility to use an exception to Roses, Inc. membership, and pesticide exposure risks to workers from allowing early entry for harvesting. Data and information that will assist worker and harvester risk assessment and adverse incident reports are of particular need. Through public comment, the Agency is seeking information to further improve the risk-benefit analysis. Individuals are encouraged to provide comments on all or any portions of the information sought by the Agency.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 170

Environmental protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Occupational safety and health, Pesticides and pests, Roses.

Dated: May 23, 2000.

Marcia E. Mulkey,

Director, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 00-14322 Filed 6-6-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), 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 new information collections. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), this notice seeks comments concerning implementation of Project Impact Baseline and Progress Reports in Project Impact communities. These reports will provide data, both narrative and quantitative, for assessing

a community's progress towards disaster resistance.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Congress tasked FEMA with the responsibility to design and implement a meaningful pre-disaster initiative that would reduce rapidly escalating disaster costs, and provided funding towards that goal. This initiative is entitled Project Impact: Building a Disaster Resistant Community. Congress, through the mechanism of the Government Performance Results Act, requires that we show that the money is being used effectively by establishing a systematic process of evaluation. The Baseline Report and subsequent Annual Progress Report provide a means of data collection for this objective and have been developed to capture the progress of a community towards disaster resistance in a non-disaster situation. The questions in both reports request information relevant to the hazards and vulnerabilities faced by the community. There are also questions that request information about damage prevention activity and public education and awareness activity. The requested

information will not only gauge the momentum towards disaster resistance but will indicate success of the collaborative processes as well. The data collected will also be used as a basis for initiative development.

The community may also use the data for their own evaluation. The results of the evaluation, particularly when they reflect hard work and accomplishment, can be publicized as a way of affirming the community's commitment to the initiative in the previous year. Included in the reports are questions about the community's insurance ratings (the Building Code Effectiveness Grading Scale (BCEGS) and the Community Rating System (CRS)). These indicators provide financial incentives, in the form of lower premium rates, to communities who are increasing their disaster resistance.

Collection of Information

Title. Project Impact Baseline and Annual Progress Reports.

Type of Information Collection. New.

Abstract. The Baseline report, due only the 1st year and 60 days after the Signing Ceremony, is critical to provide

a picture of the community's ability to withstand disasters at the beginning of its designation as a Project Impact community. It requests information necessary to evaluate the disaster resistant status of a community and should help Project Impact Communities establish their initial focus. The Annual Progress Report, which is due annually to FEMA for five years starting on the 1st anniversary of the Signing Ceremony, allows FEMA to assess the community's progress with respect to both national goals and program initiatives. It also provides an opportunity for a community to evaluate its own success with respect to local goals. Both of these data collection mechanisms provide means to measure the proper use of grant funding as well as data for Government Performance Results Act (GPRA) reporting.

Affected Public: Completing the form will be the primary responsibility of the Local Government or their designee but will contain information about households, businesses, not for profit institutions, State, Local, and tribal Government.

FEMA Forms	No. of respondents (A)	Frequency of response (B)	Hours per response (C)	Annual burden hours (A x B x C)
Baseline Report	65	One-time	2 Hours	130 Hours
Progress Reports	113	Annually	2 Hours	226 Hours
Total	178	356 Hours

Estimated Cost. \$15,000.00 (Fifteen Thousand dollars).

Comments

Written comments are solicited to (a) evaluate whether the proposed data collection is necessary for the proper performance of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) 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, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses. Comments should be received within 60 days of the date of this notice.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons should submit written comments to Muriel B. Anderson, Chief, Record Management Branch, Program Service Division, Operations Support Directorates, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street, SW, Room 316, Washington, DC 20472. Telephone number (202) 646-2625. FAX number (202) 646-3524, Or e-mail muriel.anderson@fema.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Priscilla Scruggs, Evaluation and Assessment Specialist, Mitigation Directorate—Project Impact, at (202) 646-4155 for additional information. Contact Muriel B. Anderson at (202) 646-2625 for copies of the proposed collection of information.

Mike Bozzelli,
Acting Director, Program Services Division, Operations Support Directorate.
[FR Doc. 00-14298 Filed 6-6-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6718-01-P

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

[FEMA-1326-DR]

Maine; Amendment No. 2 to Notice of a Major Disaster Declaration

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice amends the notice of a major disaster for the State of Maine (FEMA-1326-DR), dated April 28, 2000, and related determinations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 24, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Madge Dale, Response and Recovery Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-3772.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that the incident period for this disaster is closed effective April 26, 2000.

(The following Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers (CFDA) are to be used for reporting and drawing funds: 83.537,