

The burden for the collection of information is reflected in the burden for Form 945, Annual Return of Withheld Federal Income Tax.

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: March 5, 2001.

**Garrick R. Shear,**

*IRS Reports Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 01-5967 Filed 3-9-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4830-01-P**

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

[INTL-870-89]

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, 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)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing notice of proposed rulemaking, INTL-870-89, Earnings Stripping (Section 163(j)).

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before May 11, 2001 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5244, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the regulation should be directed to Carol Savage, (202) 622-3945, Internal Revenue Service, room 5242, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Earnings Stripping (Section 163(j)).

*OMB Number:* 1545-1255.

*Regulation Project Number:* INTL-870-89.

*Abstract:* Internal Revenue Code section 163(j) concerns the limitation on the deduction for certain interest paid by a corporation to a related person. This provision generally does not apply to an interest expense arising in a taxable year in which the payer corporation's debt-equity ratio is 1.5 to 1 or less. Regulation section § 1.163(j)-5(d) provides a special rule for adjusting the basis of assets acquired in a qualified stock purchase. This rule allows the taxpayer, in computing its debt-equity ratio, to elect to write off the basis of the stock of the acquired corporation over a fixed stock write-off period, instead of using the adjusted basis of the assets of the acquired corporation.

*Current Actions:* There is no change to this existing regulation.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 2,300.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent:* 31 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 1,196.

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: March 5, 2001.

**Garrick R. Shear,**

*IRS Reports Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 01-5968 Filed 3-9-01; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

[PS-55-89]

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, 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)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing final regulation, PS-55-89 (TD 8566), General Asset Accounts Under the Accelerated Cost Recovery System (§ 1.168(i)-1).

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before May 11, 2001 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5244, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the regulation should be directed to Carol Savage, (202) 622-3945, Internal Revenue Service, room 5242, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* General Asset Accounts Under the Accelerated Cost Recovery System.

*OMB Number:* 1545-1331.

*Regulation Project Number:* PS-55-89.

*Abstract:* Section 168(i)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to provide rules under which a taxpayer may elect to account for property in one or more general asset accounts for depreciation purposes. The regulations describe the time and manner of making the election described in Code section 168(i)(4). Basic information regarding this election is necessary to monitor compliance with the rules in Code section 168.

*Current Actions:* There is no change to this existing regulation.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations and farms.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 1,000.

*Estimated Time Per Respondents:* 15 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 250.

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

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**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: March 5, 2001.

**Garrick R. Shear,**

*IRS Reports Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 01-5969 Filed 3-9-01; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

**Internal Revenue Service**

**[PS-66-93 and PS-120-90]**

**Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project**

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, 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)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning existing final regulations, PS-66-93 (TD 8609), Gasohol; Compressed Natural Gas, and PS-120-90 (TD 8241), Gasoline Excise Tax (§§ 48.4041-21, 48.4081-2(c)(3), 48.4081-3(d)(2)(iii), 48.4081-3(e)(2)(ii), 48.4081-3(f)(2)(ii), 48.4081-4(b)(2)(ii), 48.4081-4(b)(3)(i), 48-4081-4(c), 48.4081-6(c)(1)(ii), 48.4081-7, and 48.4081-9).

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before May 11, 2001 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5244, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the regulations should be

directed to Carol Savage, (202) 622-3945, Internal Revenue Service, room 5242, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* PS-66-93, Gasohol; Compressed Natural Gas; and PS-120-90, Gasoline Excise Tax.

*OMB Number:* 1545-1270.

*Regulation Project Number:* PS-66-93 and PS-120-90.

*Abstract:* PS-66-93: This regulation relates to gasohol blending and the tax on compressed natural gas (CNG). The sections relating to gasohol blending affect certain blenders, enterers, refiners, and throughputters. The sections relating to CMG affect persons that sell or buy CNG for use as a fuel in a motor vehicle or motorboat. PS-120-90: This regulation relates to the federal excise tax on gasoline. It affects refiners, importers, and distributors of gasoline and provides guidance relating to taxable transactions, persons liable for tax, gasoline blendstocks, and gasohol.

*Current Actions:* There is no change to these existing regulations.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations, not-for-profit institutions, farms and state, local or tribal governments.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 3,170.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent:* 7 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 371.

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

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**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