

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**Bureau of Engraving and Printing****Next Generation of Currency; Availability of an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact**

ACTION: Notice of availability and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury is issuing this notice to inform the public of the availability of the Environmental Assessment for the Production of the Next Generation of Currency, Western Currency Facility, Fort Worth, Texas and Washington, DC Facility, and a draft Finding Of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared to address the environmental impacts of the Next Generation of Currency. This EA was prepared under the statutory authority of 40 CFR 1500 *et seq.*, the Council of Environmental Quality's National Environmental Policy Act implementing regulations.

DATES: Comments must be postmarked no later than March 19, 2004. Comments should be sent to the address given under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Department of the Treasury, Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Neal Mohlmann, 14th & C Streets, SW., DC 20228, (202) 874-2048.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For a copy of the EA or for further information, contact Mr. Neal Mohlmann, Chief, Office of Environment and Safety, telephone (202) 874-2048; fax (202) 874-9757. The EA is also available on the Bureau of Engraving and Printing's Web site at <http://www.moneyfactory.com/uploads/BEP-Environmental-Assessment.pdf>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Bureau of Engraving and Printing has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) concerning the introduction of an offset printing process and temporary production increases to phase-in the Next Generation of Currency. On the basis of the EA, the Bureau has concluded that no significant adverse impacts are expected to occur from implementation of the proposed action in either the short-term, long-term, or cumulatively. Because the proposed action would not result in significant adverse environmental impacts, the Bureau concluded that the preparation of a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) was appropriate, and therefore,

an environmental impact statement is not required. The basis for this conclusion is supported by the following findings. Both temporary and permanent increases in certain solid and hazardous waste streams due to increased production rates can be managed within existing Bureau facility capacities and capabilities. Long-term increases in air emission would occur at the Western Currency Facility; however, these emissions would be within permitted limits and would not result in the violation of any air standards or substantially degrade regional air quality. The net volatile organic compounds-related air emissions associated with the DC Facility, in consideration of the recent replacement of several I-8 presses, would actually decrease.

Title: Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact Next Generation of Currency.

Dated: February 12, 2004.

Neal Mohlmann,

Chief, Office of Environment and Safety.

[FR Doc. 04-3437 Filed 2-17-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4840-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**Internal Revenue Service****Proposed Collection; Comment Request for REG-105885-99**

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, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning REG-105885-99 (TD 9075), Compensation Deferred Under Eligible Deferred Compensation Plans (§ 1.457-8).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before April 19, 2004 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Glenn P. Kirkland, Internal Revenue Service, room 6411, 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 at Internal Revenue Service, room 6407, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224, or at (202) 622-3945, or through the Internet at CAROL.A.SAVAGE@irs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Compensation Deferred Under Eligible Deferred Compensation Plans.

OMB Number: 1545-1580.

Notice Number: REG-105885-99.

Abstract: The Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996 and the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 made changes to rules under Internal Revenue Code section 457 regarding eligible deferred compensation plans offered by state and local governments. REG-105885-99 requires state and local governments to establish a written trust, custodial account, or annuity contract to hold the assets and income in trust for the exclusive benefit of its participants and beneficiaries. Also, new non-bank custodians must submit applications to the IRS to be approved to serve as custodians of section 457 plan assets.

Current Actions: There are no changes being made to the regulation at this time.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: State, local or tribal governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 10,260.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 1 hour, 2 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 10,600.

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