

replace the existing US 181 Harbor Bridge and construct improvements to SH 286 in Nueces County, Texas. The proposed improvements described in the original NOI would involve replacement of the existing Harbor Bridge and approaches where US 181 crosses the Corpus Christi Ship Channel for a roadway distance of approximately 2.25 miles. Since the original NOI was published on May 20, 2005, the project and study limits have been expanded to accommodate added capacity that may include managed lanes or various tolling strategies. The project limits are defined as the limits of the schematic design effort and the study limits are defined as the limits of potential impacts from the proposed action. The new project limits are as follows: the northern limit is the US 181 and Beach Avenue interchange located north of the Corpus Christi Ship Channel but south of the Nueces Bay Causeway; the southern limit is the SH 286 and SH 358 (South Padre Island Drive) interchange; the eastern limit is the Interstate Highway (IH) 37/US 181 intersection with Shoreline Boulevard; and the western limit is the IH 37 and Nueces Bay Boulevard interchange. The new project limits total approximately 7.5 miles in length from north to south along US 181 and SH 286, and 2.1 miles in length from east to west along IH 37. The new study limits are as follows: the northern limit is the US 181 and SH 35 interchange just south of Gregory; the southern limit is the SH 286 and SH 358 (South Padre Island Drive) interchange; the eastern limit is Shoreline Boulevard; and the western limit is the IH 37 and SH 358 (North Padre Island Drive) interchange.

The proposed Harbor Bridge and SH 286 improvements are based on several needs: safety concerns, lack of capacity, connectivity to local roadways, poor level of service and increasing traffic demand. In addition to those needs, the bridge's existing structure also has deficiencies, including high maintenance costs and shipping height restrictions. The improvements to both the Harbor Bridge and SH 286 will address the structural deficiencies and improve safety, connectivity, and level of service, while identifying future plans for the US 181 and SH 286 roadway structure, and the areas served by these two highways.

Alternatives under consideration include (1) Taking no action, and (2) replacing the existing US 181 Harbor Bridge and approach roads, including SH 286, with a facility that meets current highway standards. A Feasibility Study completed in 2003 evaluated four corridor alternatives

along existing alignments—new location alignments and a No-build alternative—resulting in the identification of a recommended study corridor for the bridge replacement component. Capacity improvements and interchange design alternatives will be evaluated along the SH 286 corridor. A reasonable number of alignment alternatives will be identified and evaluated in the EIS, as well as the No-build Alternative, based on input from federal, state, and local agencies, as well as private organizations and concerned citizens. Alternative designs and funding alternatives will include tolling options or new managed lanes.

Impacts caused by the construction and operation of the proposed improvements would vary according to the alternative alignment utilized. Impacts generally would include the following: Impacts to residences and businesses, including potential relocation; impacts to parkland; transportation impacts (construction detours, construction traffic, and mobility improvement); air and noise impacts from construction equipment and operation of the roadway; social and economic impacts, including impacts to minority and low-income residences; impacts to historic cultural resources; endangered and threatened species and impacts to waters of the U.S. including wetlands from right-of-way encroachment; and potential indirect and cumulative impacts.

A letter that describes the proposed action and a request for comments will be sent to appropriate federal, state, and local agencies, and to private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed interest in the proposal. In conjunction with the Feasibility Study completed in June 2003, TxDOT developed a public involvement plan, sponsored three citizens' advisory committee (CAC) meetings, held two public meetings, and distributed two newsletters. Initial agency and public scoping meetings were held in June 2005. An agency scoping meeting will be held by TxDOT on May 17, 2007, to brief agency representatives on the revised limits of the project area, introduce project team members, obtain comments pertaining to the scope of the EIS, identify important issues, set goals, and respond to questions. A continuing public involvement program will include a project mailing list, project Web site, project newsletters, a May 17, 2007, public scoping meeting (public notice will be given of the time and place), and numerous informal meetings with interested citizens and stakeholders. In addition, a public hearing will be held

after the publication of the Draft EIS. Public notice will be given of the time and place of the hearing. The Draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action is addressed and all significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA at the address provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Research, Planning, and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program)

Issued on: March 14, 2007.

Donald E. Davis,

District Engineer, Austin, Texas.

[FR Doc. 07-1338 Filed 3-19-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 8916-A

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 Form 8916-A, Reconciliation of Cost of Goods Sold Reported on Schedule M-3.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before May 21, 2007 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Glenn P. Kirkland, Internal Revenue Service, room 6516, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Carolyn N. Brown, at (202) 622-6688, or at Internal Revenue Service, room 6516, 1111

Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224, or through the Internet, at Carolyn.N.Brown@irs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Reconciliation of Cost of Goods Sold Reported on Schedule M-3.

OMB Number: 1545-2061.

Form Number: Form 8916-A.

Abstract: Form 8916-A is a detailed schedule that reconciles the amount of the cost of goods sold reported on Schedule M-3 for the Form 1120, Form 1065, or Form 1120-S.

Current Actions: There are no changes being made to Form 8916-A at this time.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 156,000.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 22 hours, 10 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 3,456,960.

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 12, 2007.

Glenn P. Kirkland,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E7-4963 Filed 3-19-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 8857

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 Form 8857, Request for Innocent Spouse Relief.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before May 21, 2007 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Glenn P. Kirkland, Internal Revenue Service, room 6516, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Carolyn N. Brown at Internal Revenue Service, room 6516, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224, or at (202) 622-6688, or through the Internet at Carolyn.N.Brown@irs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Request for Innocent Spouse Relief.

OMB Number: 1545-1596.

Form Number: 8857.

Abstract: Section 6013(e) of the Internal Revenue Code allows taxpayers to request, and IRS to grant, "innocent spouse" relief when: the taxpayer files a joint return with tax substantially understated; the taxpayer establishes no knowledge of, or benefit from, the understatement; and it would be inequitable to hold the taxpayer liable. Form 8857 is used to request relief from liability of an understatement of tax on a joint return resulting from a grossly

erroneous item attributable to the spouse.

Current Actions: There were 63 lines, 3 pages, and 9,803 words added to the form, due to major changes during revision.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 50,000.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 4 hours, 10 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 208,500.

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 12, 2007.

Glenn P. Kirkland,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

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