

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 5878]

60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Form DS-1998E, Foreign Service Officer Test Registration Form, OMB Control Number 1405-0008**ACTION:** Notice of request for public comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of State is seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the information collection described below. The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment in the **Federal Register** preceding submission to OMB. We are conducting this process in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

- Title of Information Collection: Registration for the Foreign Service Officer Test.
- OMB Control Number: 1405-0008.
- Type of Request: Extension of a Currently Approved Collection.
- Originating Office: Human Resources, HR/REE/BEX.
- Form Number: DS-1998E.
- Respondents: Registrants for the Foreign Service Officer Test.
- Estimated Number of Respondents: 20,000.
- Estimated Number of Responses: 20,000.
- Average Hours Per Response: 3 hours.
- Total Estimated Burden: 60,000 hours.
- Frequency: Annually.
- Obligation to Respond: Required to Obtain or Retain a Benefit.

DATES: The Department will accept comments from the public up to 60 days from August 9, 2007.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- E-mail: blakesj@state.gov.
- Mail (paper, disk, or CD-ROM submissions): Stephen Blake, HR/REE/BEX, SA-1, 2401 E Street, NW., H-518, Washington, DC 20522.
- Fax: (202) 261-8843, Attn: Stephen Blake.

You must include the DS form number (if applicable), information collection title, and OMB control number in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Direct requests for additional information regarding the collection listed in this notice, including requests for copies of the proposed information collection and supporting documents, to Stephen Blake, HR/REE/BEX, SA-1, 2401 E Street, NW., H-518, Washington, DC 20522, who may be reached on (202) 261-8898 or at blakesj@state.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of our functions.
- Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of technology.

Abstract of Proposed Collection

Individuals registering for the Foreign Service Officer Test will complete a Registration Form that consists of an application form and six personal narrative questions about experience and qualifications. This includes information about their name, age, Social Security Number, contact information, ethnicity, education and work history, military experience, and their knowledge, skills and abilities they would bring to the Foreign Service. The information will be used to prepare and issue admission to the Foreign Service Officer Test, to assess registrants' qualifications for selection as a Foreign Service Officer, to provide data useful for improving future tests, and to conduct research studies based on the test results.

Methodology

Responses can be submitted electronically.

Dated: July 16, 2007.

Ruben Torres,

Executive Director, HR/EX, Department of State.

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BILLING CODE 4710-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE**Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed TransCanada Keystone Pipeline Project**

August 3, 2007.

AGENCY: Department of State.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Proposed TransCanada Keystone Pipeline Project.

SUMMARY: The staff of the Department of State has prepared a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

for the Proposed TransCanada Keystone Pipeline Project. On April 19, 2006, TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LLC ("Keystone") filed an application for a Presidential permit for the construction, operation, and maintenance of pipeline facilities at the border of the U.S. and Canada for the transport of crude oil across the U.S.-Canada international boundary. According to the application, Keystone has requested authorization to construct and operate the border crossing facilities at the U.S.-Canadian border at Cavalier County, North Dakota, in connection with its proposed international pipeline project (the "Keystone Pipeline Project"), which is designed to transport incremental Canadian crude oil production from the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin ("WCSB") to existing terminals in Missouri, Illinois, and potentially Oklahoma.

The Secretary of State is designated and empowered to receive all applications for Presidential permits, as referred to in Executive Order 13337, as amended, for the construction, connection, operation, or maintenance, at the borders of the United States, of facilities for the exportation or importation of petroleum, petroleum products, coal, or other fuels to or from a foreign country. Any person wishing to comment on the draft EIS may do so. To ensure consideration prior to a Department of State decision on the Keystone proposal, it is important that we receive your comments by no later than September 24, 2007.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The draft EIS was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of the proposed pipeline project. The document also evaluates alternatives to the proposal, including system alternatives and pipeline route alternatives.

The Federal cooperating agencies for the development of this EIS are: U.S. Department of Energy; U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; U.S. Department of Agriculture—Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Rural Utility Service; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; and the Advisory Council of Historic Preservation. Cooperating agencies either have jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to the environmental impacts assessed in connection with the proposal and are involved in the Department's analysis of those environmental impacts.