

of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Utilities Programs, invites comments on this information collection for which approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) will be requested.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by April 1, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michele L. Brooks, Acting Director, Program Development & Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., STOP 1522, Room 5168—South Building, Washington, DC 20250-1522. Telephone: (202) 690-1078. Fax: (202) 720-8435.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) regulation (5 CFR part 1320) implanting provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) requires that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)). This notice identifies an information collection that RUS is submitting to OMB for extension.

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 will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumption used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to 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 on other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to: Joyce McNeil, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Room 5166-South, STOP 1522, Washington, DC 20250-1522. Fax: (202) 720-8435. E-mail: Joyce.mcneil@wdc.usda.gov.

Title: 7 CFR 1726, Electric System Construction Policies and Procedures.

OMB Control Number: 0572-0107.

Type of Request: Extension of a previously approved collection.

Abstract: In order to facilitate the programmatic interest of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, 7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.* (RE Act), and, in order to assure that loans made or guaranteed by RUS are adequately secured, RUS, as a secured lender, has established certain

standards and specifications for materials, equipment, and construction of electric systems. The use of standard forms, construction contracts, and procurement procedures helps assure RUS that appropriate standards and specification are maintained; RUS' loan security is not adversely affected; and the loan and loan guarantee funds are used effectively and for the intended purposes.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.5 minutes per response.

Respondents: Businesses or other for profits; Not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 697.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 5.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 71 hours.

Copies of this information collection, and related form and instructions, can be obtained from Joyce McNeil, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, at (202) 720-0812.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: January 24, 2008.

James M. Andrew,

Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce (DOC) will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA).

Title: Expenditures Incurred by Recipients of Biomedical Research Awards from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

OMB Control Number: None.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Burden Hours: 1,650.

Number of Respondents: 150.

Average Hours Per Response: 11.

Needs and Uses: The survey to obtain the distribution of expenditures incurred by recipients of biomedical research awards from the National Institutes of Health Research (NIH) will

provide information on how the NIH award amounts are expended across several major categories. This information, along with wage and price data from other published sources, will be used to generate the Biomedical Research and Developmental Price Index (BRDPI). The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) of the Department of Commerce develops this index for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) under reimbursable contract. The BRDPI is an index of prices paid for the labor, supplies, equipment, and other inputs required to perform the biomedical research the NIH supports in its intramural laboratories and through its awards to extramural organizations. The BRDPI is a vital tool for planning the NIH research budget and analyzing future NIH programs. A survey of award recipient entities is currently the only means for updating the expenditure categories that are used to prepare the BRDPI.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations, and not-for-profit institutions.

Frequency: Annually.

Respondent's Obligations: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: 45 CFR Subpart C, Post-Award Requirements, Sections 74.21 and 74.53; 42 U.S.C. 282; Economy Act (31 U.S.C. 1535 and 1536); 15 U.S.C. 1525; and 15 U.S.C. 1527a.

OMB Desk Officer: Paul Bugg, (202) 395-3093.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0266, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington DC 20230, or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov.

Send comments on the proposed information collection within 30 days of publication of this notice to Paul Bugg, OMB Desk Officer, via the Internet at pbugg@omb.eop.gov or by fax (202) 395-7245.

Dated: January 29, 2008.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E8-1831 Filed 1-31-08; 8:45 am]

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