DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Agency Information Collection Activities: Voluntary Customer Survey


ACTION: 60-Day notice and request for comments; Proposal to establish a new collection of information.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, CBP invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on a proposed information collection requirement concerning a Voluntary Customer Survey. This request for comment is being made pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13; 44 U.S.C. 3505(c)(2)). The comments received on or before July 16, 2010 to be assured of consideration.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before July 16, 2010 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Attn: Tracey Denning, Office of Regulations and Rulings, 799 9th Street, NW., 7th Floor, Washington, DC 20229–1177.

For further information contact: Requests for additional information should be directed to Tracey Denning, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Office of Regulations and Rulings, 799 9th Street, NW., 7th Floor, Washington, DC. 20229–1177, at 202–325–0265.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: CBP invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Public Law 104–13; 44 U.S.C. 3505(c)(2)). The comments should address: (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 estimates 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 including the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operations, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information. The comments that are submitted will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. In this document the CBP is soliciting comments concerning the following information collection:

Title: Voluntary Customer Survey.

OMB Number: Will be assigned upon approval.

Abstract: Customs and Border Protection (CBP) plans to conduct a customer survey of international travelers seeking entry into the United States at the twenty highest volume airports in order to determine perceptions of the arrival process at our ports of entry. This voluntary customer survey will be conducted through short verbal surveys of travelers as they move through entry processing areas. Travelers who do not speak English will be given a written version of the survey in their language and may submit their responses in writing. The survey will include questions about wait times, ease of entry processing, and the level of communication, efficiency and professionalism of CBP officers. The results and analysis of the survey responses will be used to identify actionable items to improve services to the traveling public with respect to the entry processes for travelers arriving at United States air ports of entry.

Current Action: T

Type of Review: Approval of a new collection of information.

Affected Public: Individuals, Travelers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 21,000.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 5 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 1,743.

Dated: May 12, 2010.

Tracey Denning,
Agency Clearance Officer, U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

[FR Doc. 2010–11724 Filed 5–14–10; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Docket ID FEMA–2010–0032]

Federal Radiological Preparedness Coordinating Committee

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Federal Radiological Preparedness Coordinating Committee (FRPCC) is holding a public meeting on June 3, 2010 in Arlington, VA.

DATES: The meeting will take place on June 3, 2010. The session open to the public will be from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Timothy Greten, FRPCC Executive Secretary, DHS/FEMA, 1800 South Bell Street—CC847, Mail Stop 3025, Arlington, VA 20598–3025; telephone (202) 646–3907; fax (703) 305–0837; or e-mail timothy.greten@dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The role and functions of the Federal Radiological Preparedness Coordinating Committee (FRPCC) are described in 44 CFR 351.10(a) and 351.11(a). The FRPCC is holding a public meeting on June 3, 2010, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., at the Crystal City Courtyard Marriott, Blue Ridge Shenandoah Conference Room, located at 2899 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202. Please note that the meeting may close early.

This meeting is open to the public. Public meeting participants must pre-register to be admitted to the meeting. To pre-register, please provide your name and telephone number by close of business on May 21, 2010, to the individual listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section above.

The tentative agenda for the FRPCC meeting includes: (1) Introductions, (2) reports from FRPCC Subcommittees, (3) old business and new business, and (4) business from the floor. The FRPCC Chair shall carry out the meeting in a way that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Reasonable provisions will be made, if time permits, for oral statements from the public of not more than five minutes in length. Any member of the public who wishes to make an oral statement at the meeting should send a written request for time by close of business on May 21, 2010, to the individual listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section above. Any member of the public who wishes to file a written statement with the FRPCC should provide the statement by close of business on May 21, 2010, to the individual listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section above.
Information on Services for Individuals With Disabilities

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance at the meeting, please write or call the individual listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section above as soon as possible.

Authority: 44 CFR 351.10(a) and 351.11(a).

Timothy W. Manning,
Deputy Administrator, Protection and National Preparedness, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

[FR Doc. 2010–13673 Filed 5–14–10; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 9110–21–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR–5323–N–03]

Final Notice on Ending the “Hold-Harmless” Policy in Calculating Section 8 Income Limits Under the United States Housing Act of 1937

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, HUD.

ACTION: Final notice.

SUMMARY: Today’s notice announces that HUD will allow Section 8 income limits to decrease beginning with the Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 income limits, but will limit all annual decreases to no more than 5 percent and limit all annual increases to 5 percent or twice the change in national median family income, whichever is greater. This notice follows notices of September 14, 2009, and October 7, 2009, that solicited public comment on HUD’s proposal to discontinue its “hold-harmless” policy. HUD’s hold-harmless policy maintained Section 8 income limits for certain areas at previously published levels when reductions would otherwise have resulted from changes in median family income estimates, housing cost adjustment data, median family income update methodology, income limit methodology, or metropolitan area definitions. HUD has also decided that rents used in its HOME Investment Partnerships program (HOME) will continue to be held harmless and that income limits for rural housing programs will continue their current hold-harmless policy, based on different area definitions.

DATES: Effective Date: May 17, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For technical information on the methodology used to develop income limits and median family income estimates, please call the HUD USER information line at 800–245–2691 or access the information on the HUD Web site, http://www.huduser.org/portal/datasets/il.html. That Web site lists current and historical income limits. Furthermore, HUD maintains an interactive on-line documentation system for income limits and median family income estimates. The documentation system provides interested users with their income limits prior to the application of the hold-harmless policy in areas currently being held harmless. The FY 2009 documentation system may be accessed at http://www.huduser.org/portal/datasets/il/index_il2009.html. Questions may be addressed to Mark Stanton or Marie Lihn, Economic and Market Analysis Division, Office of Economic Affairs, Office of Policy Development and Research, telephone number 202–708–0590. Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number through TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at 800–877–8339.

Electronic Data Availability: This Federal Register notice is available electronically from the HUD news page: http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/hudclips/index.cfm. Federal Register notices also are available electronically from the U.S. Government Printing Office Web site: http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html. This Federal Register notice also will be posted on the following HUD Web site: http://www.huduser.org/portal/datasets/il.html.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background: The September 14, 2009, Notice

On September 14, 2009, HUD published a notice in the Federal Register (74 FR 47016) seeking public comment on the impact of eliminating the hold-harmless policy for Section 8 income limits while continuing this policy for rents in the HOME program.1

Section 3(b)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(2)) (1937 Act) provides for assisted housing for “low-income families” and “very low-income families,” and defines these terms as families whose incomes are below 80 percent and 50 percent, respectively, of the median family income for the area with adjustments for family size. These income limits are referred to as “Section 8 income limits” because of the historical and statutory links with that program, although the same income limits are used as eligibility criteria by several other Federal programs. The 1937 Act specifies conditions under which Section 8 income limits are to be adjusted either on a project or housing-cost-to-income relationships. Section 8 income limits are calculated using Section 8 Fair Market Rent (FMR) area definitions, which in turn are based on Office

In the September 14, 2009, notice, HUD stated that through FY 2009, it would continue its policy of maintaining Section 8 income limits for HUD rental subsidy programs at the previously published level in cases where HUD’s estimate of area median family income or housing cost adjustment data, or changes in calculation methodology, would lead to a lower income limit than was previously published. This hold-harmless policy was implemented to avoid jeopardizing the financial feasibility of existing housing projects in instances where program rents were tied to Section 8 income limits. Under the hold-harmless policy, Section 8 income limits would be maintained until such a time as income limit calculations produced increases.

The primary Federal housing programs that rely on Section 8 income limits other than the Section 8 Voucher program are multifamily tax subsidy programs (MTSPs) financed with low-income housing tax credits (LIHTCs) under section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (IRC) and tax-exempt private activity bonds under section 142 of the IRC. Under these programs, maximum rents for units in MTSPs are generally 30 percent of the HUD–published Section 8 income limit for a four-person household, adjusted by the number of bedrooms in a unit. MTSPs are a multifamily tax subsidy programs that private owners can charge low-income tenants in the MTSPs falls, which may place a financial strain on existing MTSPs. MTSP rents, however, are now protected from falling under the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110–289, approved July 30, 2008) (HERA).

HERA eliminates the need for HUD to continue its hold-harmless policy for the benefit of MTSPs. Specifically, Section 3009 of HERA amended IRC section 142(d) (26 U.S.C. 142 (note)) by implementing a statutory project-level hold-harmless provision for existing MTSPs. The provision applies to all MTSP projects and is not limited to projects benefiting from the HUD hold-harmless policy. As a result of this provision, determinations of area median gross income with respect to the project may not be less than the determination with respect to the project made for the preceding year. Section 3009 also provides additional

of Management and Budget metropolitan statistical area definitions.