DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

August 13, 2010.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Comments regarding (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 assumptions used; (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 those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395–5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250–7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720–8681.

Any agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Title: Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program.

OMB Control Number: 0570–0035.

Summary of Collection: The information collected is necessary to implement Section 313 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 940(c)) that established a loan and grant program. Rural Business Service (RBS) mission is to improve the quality of life in rural America by financing community facilities and businesses, providing technical assistance and creating effective strategies for rural development. Under this program, zero interest loans and grants are provided to electric and telecommunications utilities that have borrowed funds from RUS. The purpose of the program is to encourage these electric and telecommunications utilities to promote rural economic development and job creation projects such as business start-up costs, business expansion, community development, and business incubator projects.

Need and Use of the Information: RBS needs this collected information to select the projects it believes will provide the most long-term economic benefit to rural areas. The selection process is competitive and RBS has generally received more applications than it could fund. RBS also needs to make sure the funds are used for the intended purpose, and in the case of the loan, the funds will be repaid. RBS must determine that loans made from revolving loan funds established with grants are used for eligible purposes.

Description of Respondents: Not-for-profit Institutions; business or other for-profit;

Number of Respondents: 120.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion, annually.

Total Burden Hours: 4,968.

Charlene Parker,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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BILLING CODE 3410–XT–P
Centers in Grand Forks, Beltsville, and San Francisco, USDA/ARS is being revised. The purpose of this revision to the system of records is to change the system designation from USDA/ARS–2 to USDA/ARS–1; identify changes in the system name, system location, and categories of individuals covered by the system; update the purpose, safeguards, retention and disposal, system manager and address, and record access procedures; modify the routine uses by adding three relating to security breaches, disclosure to National Archives and Records Administration, and disclosure to contractors; and to add the following sections: security classification, agency official responsible for system of records, disclosure to consumer reporting agencies, and exemptions claimed for the system.

II. Two systems are being deleted as follows:

1. USDA/ARS–1, Solicitation of Bids or Proposals for Procurement Contracts, is being deleted as the records no longer meet the requirements for a Privacy Act system of records. USDA/ARS–5, ARS Health and Fitness Center, is being deleted as the records are no longer relevant and necessary to accomplish the purpose of the Agency. The records no longer exist.

A Privacy Act Systems Report relating to the proposed changes was sent to the Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget; Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, United States Senate; and Chairman, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, U.S. House of Representatives on June 9, 2010.

Signed at Washington, DC, on August 11, 2010.

Thomas J. Vilsack,
Secretary of Agriculture.

USDA/ARS–1

SYSTEM NAME:
Agricultural Research Service—1 Research Medical Records System on Patients and Human Volunteers Participating in Research

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION:
None.

SYSTEM LOCATION:
Records are located at the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) research centers and locations. A current list of centers and locations is available by writing to the National Program Leader, Human Nutrition, National Program Staff, ARS, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), 5601 Sunnyside Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20705.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:
Individuals participating in human research carried out by staff at ARS research centers and locations.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:
Medical and nutritional histories, medical and nutritional examinations, diagnostic and treatment data, social and economic data, clinical laboratory data, statistical summaries, and correspondence.

AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:

PURPOSE(S):
The purpose of this Privacy Act system of records is to conduct research related to human dietary requirements at all stages of life. The results of this research are published in the scientific literature. Typically, research results are pooled from many individuals and individual information is not released or published.

ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:
Records in this system may be disclosed to:

1. The Department of Justice when (a) the agency or any component thereof; or (b) any employee of the agency in his or her official capacity where the Department of Justice has agreed to represent the employee; or (c) any employee of the agency in his or her individual capacity where the agency has agreed to represent the employee; or (d) the United States Government is a party to litigation or has an interest in such litigation and, by careful review, the agency determines that the records are both relevant and necessary to the purpose for which the agency collected the records.

2. A court or adjudicative body in a proceeding when (a) the agency or any component thereof; or (b) any employee of the agency in his or her official capacity; or (c) any employee of the agency in his or her individual capacity where the agency has agreed to represent the employee; or (d) the United States Government is a party to litigation or has an interest in such litigation and, by careful review, the agency determines that the records are both relevant and necessary to the litigation and the use of such records is therefore deemed by the agency to be for the purpose for which the agency collected the records.

3. When a record on its face, or in conjunction with other records, indicates a violation or potential violation of law, whether civil, criminal, or regulatory in nature, and whether arising by general statute or particular program statute, or by regulation, rule, or order issued pursuant thereto, disclosure may be made to the appropriate agency, whether Federal, foreign, State, local, or tribal, or other public authority responsible for enforcing, investigating, or prosecuting such violation or charged with enforcing or implementing the statute, rule, regulation, or order issued pursuant thereto, if the information disclosed is relevant to any enforcement, regulatory, investigatory, or executive responsibility of the receiving entity.

4. Appropriate agencies, entities, and persons when (a) ARS suspects or has confirmed that the security or confidentiality of information in the system of records has been compromised, (b) the USDA has determined that as a result of the suspected or confirmed compromise there is a risk of harm to economic or property interests, identity theft or fraud, or harm to the security or integrity of this system or other systems or programs (whether maintained by USDA or another agency or entity) that rely upon the compromised information, and (c) the disclosure made to such agencies, entities, and persons is reasonably necessary to assist in connection with USDA’s efforts to respond to the suspected or confirmed compromise and prevent, minimize, or remedy such harm.

5. Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the National Archives and Records Administration or to the General Services Administration for records management inspections conducted under 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906.

6. To agency contractors, grantees, experts, consultants, or volunteers who have been engaged by the agency to assist in the performance of a service related to this system of records and who need to have access to the records in order to perform the activity. Recipients shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).

7. To a Member of Congress or to a Congressional staff member in response to an inquiry of the Congressional staff office made at the written request of the
constituent about whom the record is maintained.

DISCLOSURE TO CONSUMER REPORTING AGENCIES:
None.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

STORAGE:
Records are kept in file folders or maintained electronically.

RETRIEVABILITY:
Records are retrievable by the name of the volunteer and a number assigned to the volunteer.

SAFEGUARDS:
Paper records are stored in locked rooms or locked file cabinets and electronic records are stored in secured databases. Access is restricted to authorized personnel only. The identity of the participant is kept in a separate file from the information and the information is associated with a blinded coded number.

RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:
Clinical and scientific records are retained and disposed of in conformance with the ARS Records Schedule, NCI–310–80–2, Item 200, as appropriate.

SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:
National Program Leader, Human Nutrition, National Program Staff, ARS, USDA, 5601 Sunnyside Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20705.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:
Individuals seeking notification of and access to any record contained in this system of records, or seeking to contest its content, may submit a request in writing to the Headquarters or component's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Officer, whose contact information can be found at http://www.ars.usda.gov/foia.htm under “contacts.” If an individual believes more than one component maintains Privacy Act records concerning him or her, the individual may submit the request to the Chief FOIA Officer, Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250. When seeking records about yourself from this system of records or any other Departmental system of records your request must conform with the Privacy Act regulations set forth in 6 CFR part 5. You must first verify your identity, meaning that you must provide your full name, current address and date and place of birth. You must sign your request, and your signature must either be notarized or submitted under 28 U.S.C. 1746, a law that permits statements to be made under penalty of perjury as a substitute for notarization. While no specific form is required, you may obtain forms for this purpose from the Chief FOIA Officer, Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250. In addition you should provide the following:
• An explanation of why you believe the Department would have information on you;
• Identify the component(s) of the Department you believe may have the information about you;
• Specify when you believe the records would have been created;
• Any additional information that will help the FOIA staff determine which USDA component agency may have responsive records;
• If your request is seeking records pertaining to another living individual, you must include a statement from that individual certifying his/her agreement for you to access his/her records.
Without this bulleted information the component(s) may not be able to conduct an effective search, and your request may be denied due to lack of specificity or lack of compliance with applicable regulations.

RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:
See "Notification procedure" above.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:
See "Notification procedure" above.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:
Records in this system come primarily from the volunteers, health care personnel, other hospitals and physicians, employers, and social agencies.

EXEMPTIONS CLAIMED FOR THE SYSTEM:
None.

USDA/ARS–1, Solicitation of Bids or Proposals for Procurement Contracts, is being deleted as the records no longer meet the requirements for a Privacy Act system of records.

USDA/ARS–5, ARS Health and Fitness Center, is being deleted as the records are no longer relevant and necessary to accomplish a purpose of the Agency. The records no longer exist.

BILLING CODE 3410–03–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Business-Cooperative Service’s intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the program for 7 CFR part 4284, subpart J.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by October 18, 2010 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Title: Value-Added Producer Grants.
OMB Number: 0570–0039.
Expiration Date of Approval: January 31, 2011.
Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The purpose of this information collection is to obtain information necessary to evaluate grant applications to determine the eligibility of the applicant and the project for the program and to qualitatively assess the project to determine which projects should be funded.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 39 hours per grant application.

Respondents: Independent producers, agriculture producer groups, farmer- or rancher-cooperatives, and majority-controlled producer-based business ventures.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 535.
Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 3.
Estimated Number of Responses: 1,477.
Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 57,616 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Cheryl Thompson, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Support Services Division at (202) 692–0043.

Comments: Comments are invited on:
(a) Whether the proposed collection of