

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 336,463.5 hours. (This is an estimation based on a three year usage rate as tracked by SUDS multiplied by Burden Hours per Form. This estimated annual burden on respondents also includes data from the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers.)

*Department of the Interior-BLM, FWS, NPS and BuRec*

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 25 burden hours per response.

*Type of Respondents:* Individuals, Businesses, Non-profit Organizations, and State and Local and Federal Government.

*Estimated Annual Number of Respondents:* 5,254.

*Estimated Annual Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 131,051 hours.

*U.S. Army Corp of Engineers*

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 25 burden hours per response.

*Type of Respondents:* Individuals, Businesses, Non-profit Organizations, and State and Local and Federal Government.

*Estimated Annual Number of Respondents:* 32.

*Estimated Annual Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 800 hours.

#### **Comment is Invited**

Comment is invited on: (1) Whether this collection of information is necessary for the stated purposes and the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical or scientific utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses when provided, will be a matter of public record. Comments will be summarized and included in the submission request toward Office of Management and Budget approval.

Dated: May 18, 2012.

**Faye L. Krueger,**

*Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System.*

[FR Doc. 2012-12759 Filed 5-24-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-11-P**

## **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

### **National Agricultural Statistics Service**

#### **Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics**

**AGENCY:** National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of Renewal of the Charter for the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is seeking renewal of the 2-year charter for its discretionary committee, the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics.

**Authority:** The Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics was originally established by the Secretary of Commerce on July 16, 1962. The Committee is also established in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. App. 2.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Hubert H. Hamer, Chairperson, Agricultural Statistics Board, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, (202) 690-8141, or email [hqdapp@nass.usda.gov](mailto:hqdapp@nass.usda.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Committee is to advise the Secretary on the conduct of the periodic censuses and surveys of agriculture, other related surveys, and the types of agricultural information to obtain from respondents. The committee also prepares recommendations regarding the content of agriculture reports, and presents the views and needs for data of major suppliers and users of agriculture statistics. The committee draws on the experience and expertise of its members to form a collective judgment concerning agriculture data collected and the statistics issued by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). The duties of the Committee are solely advisory in nature.

**Committee Membership:** The Secretary of Agriculture will appoint the Committee's members for 2-year terms. Furthermore, members will serve for two-year terms, and can serve no more than three consecutive terms. The Committee is composed of 20 individuals with diverse capabilities distinguished by their broad range of knowledge and interest in, though not

limited to, agricultural economics, rural sociology, farm policy analysis, and agricultural education. Members will also be drawn from representatives of state and local governments; agriculture-related industry and trade or marketing associations; major national farm organizations; and producer organizations. A representative from the Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, and a representative from the Economic Research Service, USDA, shall serve as ex officio members of the Committee. This Committee will be fairly balanced in its membership in terms of the points of view represented and the functions to be performed. Steps will be taken to encourage fresh points of view, such as establishing staggered membership terms and limiting the number of renewed memberships.

Equal opportunity practices in accordance with USDA policies will be followed in all appointments to the Committee. To ensure that the recommendations of the Committee have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by USDA, membership will include to the extent possible, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women and persons with disabilities.

The USDA prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program.

More information can be found about the Committee's recent activities at: [http://www.nass.usda.gov/About\\_NASS/Advisory\\_Committee\\_on\\_Agriculture\\_Statistics/index.asp](http://www.nass.usda.gov/About_NASS/Advisory_Committee_on_Agriculture_Statistics/index.asp).

Signed at Washington, DC, May 8, 2012.

**Joseph T. Reilly,**

*Associate Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 2012-12769 Filed 5-24-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-20-P**

## **OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL COORDINATOR FOR ALASKA NATURAL GAS TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS**

### **Review of Federal Permit Conditions**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects.

**ACTION:** Notice of Adoption of Final Policy.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of the Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas

Transportation Projects is adopting a final policy in order to implement its statutory responsibilities under the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act (15 U.S.C. 720) with respect to federal permit conditions imposed on the gas pipeline project. This policy statement will establish the agency's procedures for determining whether certain conditions included in a certificate, right-of-way, permit, lease or other authorization for an Alaska natural gas transportation project by federal agencies are prohibited under the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act.

**DATES: Effective Date:** This policy will be effective immediately upon publication.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Debra Dickson, Director of Administration, Office of the Federal Coordinator, Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects, [ddickson@arcticgas.gov](mailto:ddickson@arcticgas.gov), 202-756-4972.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

Congress enacted the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act in 2004 (15 U.S.C. 720) to encourage construction of a pipeline to deliver natural gas from Alaska's North Slope to the Lower 48 states. The Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act establishes a new process for approval and construction of the pipeline, either a project that completes the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System that President Carter approved in 1977 pursuant to the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Act of 1976 (15 U.S.C. 719), or a different pipeline project under the Natural Gas Act. The Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act of 2004 created the Office of the Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects and charged the Federal Coordinator, the agency head, with four primary responsibilities: (1) Coordinate the expeditious discharge of all activities by all federal agencies with respect to an Alaska natural gas pipeline; (2) Ensure that all federal agencies comply with the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act; (3) Prohibit federal agencies from imposing permit conditions that would prevent or impair in any significant respect the expeditious construction and operation of the project unless the conditions are required by law; further, the act directs the Federal Coordinator to determine whether a term or condition would prevent or impair in any significant respect the expeditious construction and operation of the project; and (4) Participate with the state of Alaska in a joint construction surveillance and monitoring agreement.

In addition, Congress transferred to the Federal Coordinator all of the responsibilities and authorities of the Federal Inspector under the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Act of 1976. These responsibilities will be applicable if the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System gas line is completed or if the 1980s' prebuilt sections of that project are expanded or modified within the United States to handle Alaska gas.

This policy addresses the third of the four statutory requirements listed above by explaining how the Federal Coordinator will determine whether conditions that federal agencies intend to impose on permits, rights-of-way or other authorizations for an Alaska natural gas transportation project will prevent or impair in any significant respect the expeditious construction and operation of the project.

Several sections of the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act require the Federal Coordinator to consider permit conditions imposed by federal agencies with respect to the pipeline. Section 106(d)(2), Public Law 108-324, 118 Stat. 1255 prohibits agencies from including certain conditions in permits and other approvals, it states:

(2) PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS—No Federal agency may include in any certificate, right-of-way, permit, lease, or other authorization issued to an Alaska natural gas transportation project any term or condition that may be permitted, but is not required, by any applicable law if the Federal Coordinator determines that the term or condition would prevent or impair in any significant respect the expeditious construction and operation, or an expansion, of the Alaska natural gas transportation project.

Thus, the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act of 2004 prohibits conditions that may be included but are not required by any applicable law if the Federal Coordinator determines that the condition would prevent or impair in any significant respect the expeditious construction and operation, or an expansion, of the Alaska natural gas transportation project. The Federal Coordinator's function with regard to some conditions is limited. The Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act, Division C, Section 106(d)(4), Public Law 108-324 denies the Federal Coordinator any authority to override the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's implementation of open seasons for the project or the Commission's orders for expansion of the project under Section 105 of the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act, or to add or impose any terms or conditions to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission certificate or any agency's permit or other

authorization for the project. Division C, Section 106(d)(4), Public Law 108-324 states:

(4) LIMITATION—The Federal Coordinator shall not have authority to—

- (A) override—
  - (i) the implementation or enforcement of regulations issued by the Commission under section 103; or
  - (ii) an order by the Commission to expand the project under section 105; or
- (B) impose any terms, conditions, or requirements in addition to those imposed by the Commission or any agency with respect to construction and operation, or an expansion of, the project.

The Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act also prohibits federal agencies from amending any previously issued permit or authorization to add conditions determined by the Federal Coordinator to prevent or impair in any significant respect the expeditious construction and operation of the pipeline.

(3) PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN ACTIONS—Unless required by law, no Federal agency shall add to, amend, or abrogate any certificate, right-of-way, permit, lease, or other authorization issued to an Alaska natural gas transportation project if the Federal Coordinator determines that the action would prevent or impair in any significant respect the expeditious construction and operation, or an expansion, of the Alaska natural gas transportation project. ANGPA § 106(d)(3).

The prohibition of permit conditions that would prevent or impair expeditious construction and operation does not apply to conditions adopted by state agencies, even those issued pursuant to programs encouraged or funded by the federal government. However, if a state-issued permit includes a condition which is incorporated into a federal permit by a federal agency, the Federal Coordinator may review the condition that the federal agency adopted. Any determination the Federal Coordinator makes would not affect the state condition, just the applicability of the federal permit condition.

**II. Discussion of the Final Policy**

The Office of the Federal Coordinator is implementing these provisions of the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act of 2004 by policy, establishing the process by which the Federal Coordinator will exercise its responsibility to determine whether permit conditions would prevent or impair expeditious construction of the project. This policy will apply to the agency's review of conditions initially included in an authorization for an Alaska natural gas transportation project, as well as any renewal or reissuance of authorizations.

One commenter suggested that the policy include a statement of the legal authority on which it is based. We have expanded the introduction to the policy to include this information.

#### *A. Intention To Work With Other Agencies*

It is the Federal Coordinator's intention to work closely with other federal agencies before, during and after the National Environmental Policy Act process and during the permit application review process of each agency in order to identify the likely need for permit conditions early and to determine as soon as possible whether a particular permit condition would be consistent with the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act's statutory prohibition. The Office of the Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects expects that through coordination with other federal agencies and the permit applicant, it should be able to resolve concerns about most terms and conditions early and either avoid a formal review process or conclude it expeditiously.

#### *B. Definitions*

(1) *Condition*: The agency proposes to define term or condition of the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act, Section 106(d) (2), Pub. L. 108–324, 118 Stat. 1255—referred to in this policy as condition—to mean any obligation not proposed by the applicant but proposed to be added to the permit or authorization by a federal agency. That includes all terms, stipulations or conditions required by the agency and any other requirement imposed by a federal agency. It excludes any obligation included by the applicant in its application, even if the obligation is suggested by an agency.

One commenter suggested that Federal Coordinator should not exclude from its review terms or conditions suggested by or agreed to by the project applicant, stating that the project applicant may not have the same interest as the United States in expeditious completion of the gas pipeline. The Office of the Federal Coordinator believes it is highly unlikely that an applicant will not want expeditious construction of the project. Besides, if the applicant and an agency mutually agree on a particular term or condition, and that term or condition is part of the application, it could not be considered as imposed by an agency on a project authorization. The Office of the Federal Coordinator's review only relates to permit conditions imposed by federal agencies.

(2) *Authorization*: The Federal Coordinator is defining the term

authorization to mean any certificate, right-of-way, permit, lease, approval or other authorization required in order to construct or operate an Alaska natural gas transportation project, but excludes permissions for useful, but not required authorizations. Accordingly, federal loan guarantees, licenses for communications equipment not necessary for the project and other such permissions would not be subject to Federal Coordinator review.

One commenter believed the proposed policy was too narrow because it used the term "permit" to include any permit, right-of-way or other authorization. It was the Office of the Federal Coordinator's intention to include any kind of authorization in its review, not only permits. To clarify this, we are changing the policy to define the term "authorization" and defining that term to encompass any permit, right-of-way, lease or other authorization required for an Alaska natural gas transportation project.

One commenter suggested that authorizations which would assist but are not essential for an Alaska natural gas transportation project should nonetheless be subject to review. The Federal Coordinator disagrees. Congress granted the Federal Coordinator limited authority to review permit conditions that might prevent or delay expeditious construction and operation of the project. If an authorization is not required for the project, any condition imposed on that authorization is unlikely to prevent or delay expeditious construction or operation of the project.

(3) *Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Project*: The agency does not intend to propose a definition of Alaska natural gas transportation project, as that term is defined in the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act, Section 102 of Pub. L. 108–324, 118 Stat. 1255. It is important to note that the definition includes the entire system, not simply the pipeline. Therefore, this permit review policy will cover conditions addressing support facilities, compressor stations, the gas treatment plant and other parts of the project.

(4) *Prevent or Impair in Any Significant Respect the Expeditious Construction and Operation of the Project*: As discussed in the proposal, the agency did not define "prevent or impair in any significant respect the expeditious construction and operation of the project" because the agency believes this should be interpreted based on the circumstances of the project at the time of an agency's action, the agency's intention and justification in crafting the proposed condition, and

the condition's effect on the project. Prevent or impair in any significant respect cannot be well defined in the absence of specific circumstances. As an example, a condition that causes a significant delay in the first in-service date contractually agreed to between the pipeline owner and/or operator and a shipper could, if extreme, be deemed to impair expeditious construction and operation of the project. However, such a determination could only be made if the contractual in-service date were reasonable in light of the complexity of the project and other circumstances.

#### *C. Process for Review of Permit Conditions*

The Federal Coordinator does not intend to review every condition on every permit. Rather, the agency will generally review permit conditions at the request of the applicant or permittee. In addition, the Office of the Federal Coordinator reserves the right to select conditions for review on its own initiative. When the permitting agency's practice or regulations allow that agency or the Office of the Federal Coordinator to share a draft permit condition with an applicant, the Office of the Federal Coordinator will work with the applicant and the agency as early as possible to identify problematic permit conditions. An applicant may request review of a permit condition by the Office of the Federal Coordinator prior to issuance if the applicant believes it may prevent or impair in any significant respect the expeditious construction and operation of the project. If the practice of the permitting agency does not allow draft permit conditions to be shared with an applicant, the permittee will have to wait to request review of a permit condition until after the permit is issued.

One commenter suggested that the policy include a procedure for federal agencies other than the Federal Coordinator to request a review of proposed conditions before issuing a project authorization. The Federal Coordinator has not adopted this suggestion. The Office of the Federal Coordinator will work with other agencies during the permitting process. If an agency chooses to share possible permit conditions with the Office of the Federal Coordinator in advance of issuing its permit, the office will provide guidance on how to avoid problems. It is not the Federal Coordinator's intention to provide a formal review before issuance. However, if an early formal determination is sought, the Federal Coordinator will make every effort to provide effective guidance to an agency.

Requests from the applicant or the permittee for review of permit conditions should specify what specific condition will prevent or impair expeditious construction and operation of the project and should explain why the condition will have a detrimental impact on the project.

#### *D. Information Required for Review*

The Office of the Federal Coordinator will need background information from the agency in order to conduct its review, including:

- (1) The language of the specific condition.
- (2) A citation to the legal requirement for the condition.
- (3) Any analysis the agency has prepared of the cost of implementing the condition.
- (4) Any other information that explains the agency's reasons to include the condition, especially the circumstances that require its inclusion. This should include any discussion of the benefits of the conditions, or a cost-benefit analysis if one has been prepared.
- (5) If the permit has not been issued, a statement addressing whether it is permissible under the agency's practice to share the draft condition with the applicant.

The Office of the Federal Coordinator expects this information should be readily available from the agency and will not impose a burden on the agency, as the agency should have already documented the need for the condition as part of the administrative record. Accordingly, the Office of the Federal Coordinator anticipates that the agency will be able to provide this information within ten (10) calendar days of Office of the Federal Coordinator's notification of a review and request for additional information.

One commenter suggested that the Federal Coordinator reserve the right to deny an application for review due to a lack of adequate information, if it is frivolous, or for any other cause. If the request for review is incomplete, does not demonstrate merit or otherwise does not provide a basis for relief, the Federal Coordinator does not need supplemental reasons for denying relief.

Based on Office of the Federal Coordinator's review of the proposed condition, the Federal Coordinator will determine whether the condition would prevent or impair in any significant respect the expeditious construction and operation of the project. In most cases, the Office of the Federal Coordinator's review should be completed in less than thirty (30) days after a project applicant requests a

review. The Federal Coordinator will provide notice of its decision and reasoning to the applicant and the agency. If the Federal Coordinator determines that the condition or proposed condition would prevent or impair in any significant respect the expeditious construction and operation of the project, the Office of the Federal Coordinator will facilitate a meeting between the permittee or applicant and the issuing agency and, if appropriate, other experts, in order to help resolve the issue.

A commenter suggested including a statement to the effect that the permit condition review policy was intended to reduce litigation and that it did not create any legal rights. The Office of the Federal Coordinator disagrees with such an addition to this policy. If the Federal Coordinator determines that a permit condition will prevent or impair expeditious construction of the project, that determination creates the right for the applicant to seek a judicial ruling that the condition is unenforceable if it is not required by law. Accordingly, the Federal Coordinator will not adopt this suggestion.

### **III. Final Policy for Review of Federal Permit Conditions for an Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Project**

The purpose of this policy is to explain how the Office of the Federal Coordinator will exercise its responsibilities with respect to review of permit conditions under Section 106(d) of the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act (15 U.S.C. 720(d)(d)). Section 106(a) of the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act (15 U.S.C. 720(d)(a)) established the Office of the Federal Coordinator as an independent office in the executive branch. The Federal Coordinator also exercises authorities under the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Act (15 U.S.C. 719), and this policy is adopted in order to implement those responsibilities as well. This policy applies to the issuance of initial permits, as well as the renewal or reissuance of permits for an Alaska natural gas transportation project.

It is the Federal Coordinator's intention to work closely with other federal agencies before, during and after the National Environmental Policy Act process for an Alaska natural gas pipeline project and also during the permit application review process of each agency in order to identify early the likely need for permit conditions and to determine as soon as possible whether a particular permit condition would be precluded by the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act's statutory prohibition. The Federal Coordinator

expects that through coordination with other federal agencies and the permit applicant, it should be able to resolve concerns about most terms and conditions early on and either avoid a formal review process or conclude it expeditiously.

#### *1. Definitions*

(a) Term or condition in Section 106(d)(2) of the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act—referred to in this policy as condition—means any obligation not proposed by the applicant but proposed to be added to the permit or authorization by a federal agency. This includes all terms, stipulations, conditions or additions to the application and any other requirement imposed by an agency. It excludes any obligation included by the applicant in its application, even if the obligation is suggested by an agency.

(b) Authorization means certificate, right-of-way, permit, lease or any other authorization required in order to construct or operate an Alaska natural gas transportation project.

#### *2. Review of Proposed Terms or Conditions*

(a) Review of Permit Conditions by Request of Applicant

(1) An applicant for any authorization or a permittee for any authorization for an Alaska natural gas transportation project may request the Federal Coordinator to review any condition included in or proposed for inclusion in the authorization.

(2) Such requests must be made to the Federal Coordinator no later than 30 days after issuance.

(3) The request shall include a specific identification of each condition which the applicant or permittee believes is inconsistent with the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act and an explanation of the basis of that belief, including information that supports the contention that the permit condition would prevent or impair in any significant respect the expeditious construction and operation of the project.

(4) The Federal Coordinator may review a permit condition even if the permittee has not requested review.

(b) Materials Necessary for Review

If the Federal Coordinator receives a request for review of any condition, the Federal Coordinator will notify the issuing agency of the request. The Federal Coordinator will need the following information from the agency:

- (1) The language of the specific condition.

(2) A citation to the legal requirement for the condition.

(3) Any analysis the agency has prepared of the cost of implementing the condition.

(4) Any other information that explains the agency's reasons to include the condition, especially the circumstances that require its inclusion. This should include any discussion of the benefits of the conditions, or a cost-benefit analysis if one has been prepared.

(5) If the permit has not yet been issued, a statement addressing whether agency practice or regulations would allow the Office of the Federal Coordinator to discuss the proposed condition with the applicant.

#### (c) Permit Condition Review

In determining whether a proposed permit condition would prevent or impair expeditious construction and operation of the project, the Federal Coordinator will consider:

(1) Any delays in project construction and operation caused by the condition.

(2) All other available information, including, if available, the project's cost of meeting the condition.

(3) The statutory and regulatory basis for the condition, as provided by the issuing agency.

(4) The views of the applicant.

(d) The Federal Coordinator Will Endeavor To Complete Its Review Within 30 Days After a Request From an Applicant or Permittee

#### (e) The Federal Coordinator's Decision

(1) The Federal Coordinator will determine whether the proposed condition would prevent or impair in any significant respect the expeditious construction and operation of an Alaska natural gas transportation project or expansion of that project. The Federal Coordinator's decision will be sent to the agency and the applicant or permittee.

(2) If the Federal Coordinator determines that the condition or proposed condition would prevent or impair in any significant respect the expeditious construction and operation of the project, the Federal Coordinator will facilitate a meeting between the permittee or applicant and the issuing agency and, if appropriate, other experts, in order to help resolve the issue.

Dated: May 18, 2012.

**Larry Persily,**

*Federal Coordinator.*

[FR Doc. 2012-12737 Filed 5-24-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6820-TP-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce 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:* U.S. Census Bureau.

*Title:* Census Field Staff Exit

Questionnaires.

*OMB Control Number:* 0607-0404.

*Form Number(s):* BC-1294, BC-1294D.

*Type of Request:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

*Burden Hours:* 84.

*Number of Respondents:* 650.

*Average Hours per Response:* BC-1294 = 7 minutes, BC-1294D = 10 minutes.

*Needs and Uses:* Retention of trained field interviewing staff is a major concern for the Census Bureau because of both the monetary costs associated with employee turnover, as well as the potential impact on data quality. Therefore, in a continuous effort to devise policies and practices aimed at reducing turnover among interviewers, the Census Bureau collects data on the reasons interviewers leave their Census Bureau jobs.

The exit questionnaires are the instruments we use to collect turnover data from a sample of former current survey interviewers (field representatives) and decennial census interviewers (enumerators and listers). The goal or purpose of the exit questionnaires is to determine the reasons for interviewer turnover and what the Census Bureau might have done, or can do, to influence interviewers not to leave. Thus the exit questionnaires seek reasons interviewers quit, inquire about motivational factors that would have kept interviewers from leaving, attempt to identify training program strengths and weaknesses and their impacts on turnover, and explore the impact of pay, working conditions and supervisory styles on employees' reasons for quitting.

As the environment in which surveys take place, the demographics of our labor force and the way surveys are conducted continues to change, it is important that we continue to examine the interviewers' concerns about their job. Information provided by respondents to the exit questionnaire provides insight on the measures the Census Bureau might take to decrease

turnover, and is useful in helping us determine if the reasons for interviewer turnover appear to be systemic or localized. The exit questionnaires have shown to be useful and, therefore, we believe it is important to continue to use them to affect program planning and management.

Forms BC-1294 and the BC-1294(D) are the instruments we currently use to collect turnover data from a sample of former current survey interviewers, and decennial census listers/enumerators, respectively.

This submission includes changes to the BC-1294, which reflect Census Bureau policy and procedural changes to current surveys since the last request for clearance. This submission does not include changes to the BC-1294(D). We are dropping the BC-1294(CM), Coverage Measurement Exit Questionnaire, from this clearance.

*Affected Public:* Individuals.

*Frequency:* One time.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary.

*Legal Authority:* Title 5 U.S.C., Sections 301, 2301 and 3101.

*OMB Desk Officer:* Brian Harris-Kojetin, (202) 395-7314.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0336, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at [jjessup@doc.gov](mailto:jjessup@doc.gov)).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Brian Harris-Kojetin,

OMB Desk Officer either by fax (202-395-7245) or email ([bharrisk@omb.eop.gov](mailto:bharrisk@omb.eop.gov)).

Dated: May 21, 2012.

**Glenna Mickelson,**

*Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2012-12697 Filed 5-24-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-07-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce 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:* U.S. Census Bureau.

*Title:* Service Annual Survey.