relationship, explore other trust models, review reports and various documents and identify recommendations from previous studies, and consider the nature and scope of necessary audits of the Department’s trust administration systems. The Secretarial Commission’s charter requires the Commission to provide well-reasoned and factually based recommendations for potential improvements to the existing management and administration of the trust administration system. The Commission is committed to early public engagement and welcomes your participation in these important meetings.

DATES: The Commission’s Webinar meeting will begin at 2 p.m. and end at 4 p.m. Eastern Time on August 13, 2012. Attendance is open to the public, but limited space is available. Members of the public who wish to attend must RSVP by August 10, 2012, by registering at https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/876785297. Instructions for joining the Webinar will be emailed after registration occurs.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Designated Federal Official, Lizzie Marsters, Chief of Staff to the Deputy Secretary, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW., Room 6119, Washington, DC 20240; or email to Lizzie_Marsters@ios.doi.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As part of President Obama’s commitment to fulfilling this nation’s trust responsibilities to Native Americans, the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) appointed five members to serve on the Secretarial Commission on Indian Trust Administration and Reform, established under Secretarial Order No. 3292, dated December 8, 2009. The Commission will play a key role in the Department’s ongoing efforts to empower Indian nations and strengthen nation-to-nation relationships.

The Commission will complete a comprehensive evaluation of the Department’s management and administration of the trust assets within a two-year period and offer recommendations to the Secretary on how to improve in the future. The Commission will:

(1) Conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the Department’s management and administration of the trust administration system;

(2) Review the Department’s provision of services to trust beneficiaries;

(3) Review input from the public, interested parties, and trust beneficiaries, which should involve conducting a number of regional listening sessions;

(4) Consider the nature and scope of necessary audits of the Department’s trust administration system;

(5) Recommend options to the Secretary for improving the Department’s management and administration of the trust administration system based on information obtained from the Commission’s activities, including whether any legislative or regulatory changes are necessary to permanently implement any suggested improvements; and

(6) Consider the provisions of the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 providing for the termination of the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians, and make recommendations to the Secretary regarding termination.

The following items will be on the agenda:

- Trust Commission Operations:
  - Review, discussion, and approval of June 2012 meeting minutes;
  - Updates on action items from June 2012 meeting;
  - Report on Commission outreach since June;
  - Discussion of preliminary draft Commission recommendations;
  - Discussion of Commission Subcommittee progress and products;
  - Review of and discussion of September meeting agenda topics and related outreach activities;
  - Review action items resulting from Webinar call; and
  - Public comments.

Written comments may be sent to the Designated Federal Official listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section above. To review all related material on the Commission’s work, please refer to http://www.doi.gov/cobell/commission/index.cfm. All meetings are open to the public.


David J. Hayes,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2012–18248 Filed 7–25–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–W7–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Geological Survey
[GX12GB009PAMR00]
Agency Information Collection Activities: Submitted for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Interior.


SUMMARY: To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), we are notifying the public that we have submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) an information collection request (ICR) for renewal of the currently approved paperwork requirements for the Mineral Resources Program’s (MRP) Mineral Resource External Research Program (MRERP). This notice provides the public and other Federal agencies an opportunity to comment on the paperwork burden of these project narrative and report requirements. This collection is scheduled to expire on August 31, 2012.

DATES: You must submit comments on or before August 27, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Please submit comments on this information collection directly to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of Interior via email [OIRA_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov]; or fax (202) 395–5806; and identify your submission as 1028–0089.

Please also submit a copy of your comments to the USGS Information Collection Clearance Officer, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Mail Stop 807, Reston, VA 20192 (mail); 703–648–7199 (fax); or snbaloch@usgs.gov (email); and reference Information Collection 1028–0089 in the subject line.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request additional information about this ICR, contact Jeff L. Doebrich by mail at U.S. Geological Survey, 913 National Center, Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, VA 20192 or by telephone at 703–648–6103.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Mineral Resource External Research Program (MRERP)

OMB Control Number: 1028–0089.

Form Number: None.

Abstract: Through the MRERP, the MRP of the USGS offers an annual competitive grant and/or cooperative agreement opportunity to universities, State agencies, Tribal governments or organizations, and industry or other private sector organizations. Applicants must have the ability to conduct research in topics related to nonfuel mineral resources and that meet the goals of the MRP. The MRERP will consider all research and proposals that address one of the long-term goals of the Mineral Resources Program, as
defined in the current USGS Energy and Minerals Science Strategy (http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2012/1072/of2012-1072.pdf). These are: (1) Understand fundamental Earth processes forming mineral resources, (2) understand the environmental behavior of mineral resources and their waste products, (3) provide inventories and assessments of mineral resources, (4) understand the effects of mineral development on natural resources, and (5) understand the availability and reliability of mineral resource supplies. Furthermore, annual research priorities are provided as guidance for applicants to consider when submitting proposals. Annual research priorities are determined by USGS MRP management. Since its initiation in 2004, the MRER has awarded more than $2.8 million to 48 different research projects across the country.

We will protect information from respondents considered proprietary under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and implementing regulations (43 CFR Part 2), and under regulations at 30 CFR 250.197, “Data and information to be made available to the public or for limited inspection.” Responses are voluntary. No questions of a “sensitive” nature are asked. We intend to release the project abstracts and primary investigators for awarded-funded projects only.

Frequency: Annually.

Estimated Annual Number and Description of Respondents:
Approximately 35 research scientists from universities, Tribal governments or organizations, and industry or other private sector organizations.

Estimated Total Number of Annual Responses: 40.

Estimated Annual Burden Hours: 1580.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping “Hour” Burden: We expect to receive approximately 35 applications, each taking the applicant approximately 40 hours to complete. This includes the time for project conception and development, proposal writing and reviewing, and submitting proposal narrative through Grants.gov (totaling 1,400 burden hours). We anticipate awarding an average of 5 grants per year. The award recipients must submit a final technical report. We estimate that it will take approximately 36 hours to complete and submit each report (totaling 180 hours).

Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping “Non-Hour Cost” Burden: There are no “non-hour cost” burdens associated with this collection of information.

Public Disclosure Statement: The PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501, et seq.) provides that an agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Until OMB approves a collection of information, you are not obligated to respond.

Comments: To comply with the public consultation process, on April 27, 2012 we published a Federal Register notice (77 FR 25193) announcing our intent to submit this information collection to OMB for approval. In that notice we solicited public comments for 60 days, ending on June 26, 2012. We did not receive any public comments in response to the notice.

We again invite comments concerning this information collection on: (1) Whether or not the collection of information is necessary, including whether or not the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of our estimate of the burden for this collection of information; (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.

Please note that the comments submitted in response to this notice are a matter of public record. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask OMB in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that it will be done.

Dated: July 16, 2012.

Ione Taylor.

Associate Director, Energy and Minerals, and Environmental Health.

[FR Doc. 2012–18264 Filed 7–25–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4311–AM–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 731–TA–1202–03 (Preliminary)]

Xanthan Gum From Austria and China

Determinations

On the basis of the record developed in the subject investigations, the United States International Trade Commission (Commission) determines, pursuant to section 733(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1673b(a)) (the Act), that there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured by reason of imports from Austria and China of xanthan gum, provided for in subheading 3913.90.20 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, that are alleged to be sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV).2

Pursuant to section 207.18 of the Commission’s rules, the Commission also gives notice of the commencement of the final phase of its investigations. The Commission will issue a final phase notice of scheduling, which will be published in the Federal Register provided in section 207.21 of the Commission’s rules, upon notice from the Department of Commerce (Commerce) of affirmative preliminary determinations in the investigations under section 733(b) of the Act, or, if the preliminary determinations are negative, upon notice of affirmative final determinations in the investigations under section 735(a) of the Act. Parties that filed entries of appearance in the preliminary phase of the investigations need not enter a separate appearance for the final phase of the investigations. Industrial users, and, if the merchandise under investigation is sold at the retail level, representative consumer organizations have the right to appear as parties in Commerce antidumping and countervailing duty investigations. The Secretary will prepare a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to the investigations.

Background

On June 5, 2012, a petition was filed with the Commission and Commerce by CP Kelco U.S., Atlanta, GA, alleging that an industry in the United States is materially injured or threatened with material injury by reason of LTFV

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1 The record is defined in sec. 207.2(f) of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 207.2(f)).

2 Commissioner Deanna Tanner Okun did not participate in these investigations.