DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Docket 2012–0076; Sequence 45; OMB Control No. 9000–0082]

Federal Acquisition Regulation; Submission for OMB Review; Economic Purchase Quantity—Supplies

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of request for public comments regarding an extension to an existing OMB clearance.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act, the Regulatory Secretariat will be submitting to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension of a previously approved information collection requirement concerning Economic Purchase Quantity—Supplies.

A notice was published in the Federal Register at 77 FR 43077, on July 23, 2012. One respondent submitted comments.

Public comments are particularly invited on: Whether this collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), and whether it will have practical utility; whether our estimate of the public burden of this collection of information is accurate, and based on valid assumptions and methodology; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways in which we can minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Submit comments on or before February 25, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments identified by Information Collection 9000–0082, Economic Purchase Quantity—Supplies, by any of the following methods:


Submit comments via the Federal eRulemaking portal by searching the OMB control number. Select the link “Submit a Comment” that corresponds with “Information Collection 9000–0082 Economic Purchase Quantity—Supplies”. Follow the instructions provided at the “Submit a Comment” screen. Please include your name, company name (if any), and “Information Collection 9000–0082 Economic Purchase Quantity—Supplies” on your attached document.


In addition, please provide a statement at the end of your comments that provides the name of your organization, if any, and your organization’s address. Please include your name, personal and/or business confidential contact information, and an explanation explaining why you are commenting on this collection of information. This information will bewatermarked on your screen. Please include your name, personal and/or business confidential contact information, and an explanation explaining why you are commenting on this collection of information. This information will be watermarked on your screen.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Michael O. Jackson, Procurement Analyst, Office of Governmentwide Acquisition Policy, (202) 208–4949 or email michaelo.jackson@gsa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Purpose

The provision at 52.207–4, Economic Purchase Quantity—Supplies, invites offerors to state an opinion on whether the quantity of supplies on which bids, proposals, or quotes are requested in solicitations is economically advantageous to the Government. Each offeror who believes that acquisitions in different quantities would be more advantageous is invited to (1) recommend an economic purchase quantity, showing a recommended unit and total price, and (2) identify the different quantity points where significant price breaks occur. This information is required by Public Law 98–577 and Public Law 98–525. Not granting this extension would consequently eliminate FAR clauses that provide a benefit to the public and the agency collecting the information.

Comment: The respondent commented that the agency did not accurately estimate the public burden challenging that the agency’s methodology for calculating it is insufficient and inadequate and does not reflect the total burden. For this reason, the respondent provided that the agency should reassess the estimated total burden hours and revise the estimate upwards to be more accurate, as was done in FAR Case 2007–006. The same respondent also provided that the burden of compliance with the information collection requirement greatly exceeds the agency’s estimate and outweighs any potential utility of the extension.

Response: Serious consideration is given, during the open comment period, to all comments received and adjustments are made to the paperwork burden estimate based on reasonable considerations provided by the public. This is evidenced, as the respondent notes, in FAR Case 2007–006 where an adjustment was made from the total preparation hours from three to 60. This change was made considering particularly the hours that would be required for review within the company, prior to release to the Government.

The burden is prepared taking into consideration the necessary criteria in OMB guidance for estimating the paperwork burden put on the entity submitting the information. For example, a consideration is given to an entity reviewing instructions; using technology to collect, process, and
disclose information; adjusting existing practices to comply with requirements; searching data sources; completing and reviewing the response; and transmitting or disclosing information. The estimated burden hours for a collection are based on an average between the hours that a simple disclosure by a very small business might require and the much higher numbers that might be required for a very complex disclosure by a major corporation. Also, the estimated burden hours should only include projected hours for those actions which a company would not undertake in the normal course of business.

Careful consideration went into assessing the burden for this collection. There is no centralized database for the collection of the information associated with this requirement. The solicitation provision of this information collection is not required to be inserted in contracts for the General Services Administration multiple award schedule contract program where numerous agencies place orders for supplies. In addition, a contracting officer can determine not to include the provision in a solicitation for supplies under certain circumstances. Further, the FAR requirements to conduct market research significantly reduced the applicability of the provision because Government quantities are more in line with industry practices. However, based on the information submitted by the respondent an adjustment is made to the estimated burden. At any point, members of the public may submit comments for further consideration, and are encouraged to provide data to support their request for an adjustment.

C. Annual Reporting Burden

Respondents: 3,000.

Responses Per Respondent: 25.

Annual Responses: 75,000.

Hours per Response: 1.

Total Burden Hours: 75,000.

Obtaining Copies of Proposals:
Requesters may obtain a copy of the information collection documents from the General Services Administration, Regulatory Secretariat (MVCB), 1275 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20417, telephone (202) 501–4755. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000–0082, Economic Purchase Quantity—Supplies, in all correspondence.