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Dated: June 21, 2013.

**William Clark,**

*Acting Director, Federal Acquisition Policy Division, Office of Governmentwide Acquisition Policy, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Governmentwide Policy.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

### NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[OMB Control No. 9000-0011; Docket 2010-0083; Sequence 22]

#### Federal Acquisition Regulation; Information Collection; Preaward Survey Forms (Standard Forms 1403, 1404, 1405, 1406, 1407, and 1408)

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

**ACTION:** Notice of request for 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 preaward survey forms (Standard Forms 1403, 1404, 1405, 1406, 1407, and 1408).

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before August 26, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments identified by Information Collection 9000-0011, Preaward Survey Forms, (Standard Forms 1403, 1404, 1405, 1406, 1407, and 1408) by any of the following methods:

- *Regulations.gov:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Submit comments via the Federal eRulemaking portal by searching the OMB control number. Follow the instructions provided at the "Submit a Comment" screen. Please include your name, company name (if any), and "Information Collection 9000-0011, Preaward Survey Forms, (Standard Forms 1403, 1404, 1405, 1406, 1407, and 1408)" on your attached document.

- *Fax:* 202-501-4067.

- *Mail:* General Services Administration, Regulatory Secretariat

(MVCB), 1800 F Street NW., Washington, DC 20405. ATTN: Hada Flowers/IC 9000-0011.

**Instructions:** Please submit comments only and cite Information Collection 9000-0011, Preaward Survey Forms, (Standard Forms 1403, 1404, 1405, 1406, 1407, and 1408), in all correspondence related to this collection. All comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal and/or business confidential information provided.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Cecelia L. Davis, Procurement Analyst, Office of Governmentwide Acquisition Policy, GSA, 202-219-0202 or email [Cecelia.davis@gsa.gov](mailto:Cecelia.davis@gsa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### A. Purpose

To protect the Government's interest and to ensure timely delivery of items of the requisite quality, contracting officers, prior to award, must make an affirmative determination that the prospective contractor is responsible, *i.e.*, capable of performing the contract. Before making such a determination, the contracting officer must have in his possession or must obtain information sufficient to satisfy himself that the prospective contractor: (i) Has adequate financial resources, or the ability to obtain such resources; (ii) is able to comply with required delivery schedule; (iii) has a satisfactory record of performance; (iv) has a satisfactory record of integrity; and (v) is otherwise qualified and eligible to receive an award under appropriate laws and regulations. If such information is not in the contracting officer's possession, it is obtained through a preaward survey conducted by the contract administration office responsible for the plant and/or the geographic area in which the plant is located. The necessary data is collected by contract administration personnel from available data or through plant visits, phone calls, and correspondence. This data is entered on Standard Forms 1403, 1404, 1405, 1406, 1407, and 1408 in detail commensurate with the dollar value and complexity of the procurement. These standard forms are not cumulative. The surveying activity completes only the applicable standard form(s) necessary to determine contractor responsibility in each case.

##### B. Annual Reporting Burden

There are no Governmentwide systems for collecting the number of preaward surveys completed in a fiscal year as preaward surveys are only

required in limited circumstances where information for the prospective contractor cannot be obtained by the contracting officer to make an affirmative statement of responsibility. Further, if the contemplated contract will have a fixed price at or below the \$150,000 simplified acquisition threshold (SAT) or will involve the acquisition of commercial items (see *Part 12*); the contracting officer should not request a preaward survey unless circumstances justify its cost.

Using parameters identified above a Federal Procurement Data System (FPDS) ad hoc report was completed identifying that in Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 an estimated total of 11,805 contracts were awarded Governmentwide that were over the SAT, and for which commercial acquisition procedures were not used. Of that number, it is estimated that preaward surveys were completed for 30 percent, or 3,540 of the 11,805 contracts that were awarded. Of the six Standard Forms (1403, 1404, 1405, 1406, 1407, and 1408), we estimated that Standard Form 1403 is used most frequently because it is a general form and accounts for 30 percent or 1,062 times, Standard Forms 1404 and 1407 account for 15 percent or 531 times, Standard Form 1408 accounts for 20 percent or 708 times, and Standard Forms 1405 and 1406 account 10 percent or 354 times.

Additionally, there is no Governmentwide data collection process or system which identifies the actual number of hours necessary to prepare and complete Standard Forms. To date, no public comments or questions have been received regarding the estimated burden hours per response included in prior approved clearances. After consultation with subject matter experts, it was determined that the time required to prepare and complete the Standard Forms is estimated at 24 hours per response. Because preaward survey data is generally used for multiple contracts awarded within a 12 month period, it is estimated that only one (1) response would be reported annually per respondent per form.

#### *Standard Form 1403—Preaward Survey of Prospective Contractor (General)*

*Respondents:* 1,062.

*Responses annually:* 1.

*Total Responses:* 1,062.

*Hours per Response:* 24.

*Total Burden Hours:* 25,488.

#### *Standard Form 1404—Preaward Survey of Prospective Contractor Technical*

*Respondents:* 531.

*Responses annually:* 1.

Total Responses: 531.  
Hours per Response: 24.  
Total Burden Hours: 12,744.

**Standard Form 1405—Preaward Survey of Prospective Contractor Production**

Respondents: 354.  
Responses annually: 1.  
Total Responses: 354.  
Hours per Response: 24.  
Total Burden Hours: 8,496.

**Standard Form 1406—Preaward Survey of Prospective Contractor Quality Assurance**

Respondents: 354.  
Responses annually: 1.  
Total Responses: 354.  
Hours per Response: 24.  
Total Burden Hours: 8,496.

**Standard Form 1407—Preaward Survey of Prospective Contractor Financial Capability**

Respondents: 531.  
Responses annually: 1.  
Total Responses: 531.  
Hours per Response: 24.  
Total Burden Hours: 12,744.

**Standard Form 1408—Preaward Survey of Prospective Contractor Accounting System**

Respondents: 708.  
Responses annually: 1.  
Total Responses: 708.  
Hours per Response: 24.  
Total Burden Hours: 16,992.

**C. Public Comments**

Public comments are particularly invited on: Whether this collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the Federal Acquisition Regulations (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.

**Obtaining Copies of Proposals:**

Requesters may obtain a copy of the information collection documents from the General Services Administration, Regulatory Secretariat (MVCB), 1800 F Street NW., Washington, DC 20405, telephone 202-501-4755. Please cite OMB Control Number 9000-0011, Preaward Survey Forms (Standard Forms 1403, 1404, 1405, 1406, 1407, and 1408), in all correspondence.

Dated: June 20, 2013.

**Karlos Morgan,**

Acting Director, Federal Acquisition Policy Division, Office of Governmentwide Acquisition Policy, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Governmentwide Policy.

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**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION**

**NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION**

[OMB Control No. 9000-0115; Docket 2012-0076; Sequence 70]

**Submission for OMB Review; Notification of Ownership Changes**

**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 notification of ownership changes. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** at 77 FR 74663, on December 17, 2012. One respondent submitted comments.

**DATES:** Comments may be submitted on or before July 26, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments identified by Information Collection 9000-0115, Notification of Ownership Changes by any of the following methods:

- *Regulations.gov:* <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Submit comments via the Federal eRulemaking portal by searching the OMB control number. Select the link "Submit a Comment" that corresponds with "Information Collection 9000-0115, Notification of Ownership Changes". Follow the instructions provided at the "Submit a Comment" screen. Please include your name, company name (if any), and "Information Collection 9000-0115, Notification of Ownership Changes" on your attached document.

- *Fax:* 202-501-4067.
- *Mail:* General Services Administration, Regulatory Secretariat

(MVCB), 1800 F Street NW., Washington, DC 20405-0001. ATTN: Hada Flowers/IC 9000-0115, Notification of Ownership Changes.

**Instructions:** Please submit comments only and cite Information Collection 9000-0115, Notification of Ownership Changes, in all correspondence related to this collection. Submit comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to: FAR Desk Officer, OMB, Room 10102, NEOB, Washington, DC 20503. All comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal and/or business confidential information provided.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Edward Chambers, Procurement Analyst, Office of Acquisition Policy, GSA, (202) 501-3221 or email [edward.chambers@gsa.gov](mailto:edward.chambers@gsa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**A. Purpose**

Allowable costs of assets are limited in the event of change in ownership of a contractor. Contractors are required to provide the Government adequate and timely notice of this event per the FAR clause at 52.215-19, Notification of Ownership Changes.

**B. Discussion and Analysis**

One respondent submitted comments on the extension of the previously approved information collection. The analysis of the public comments is summarized as follows:

*Comment:* The respondent commented that the extension of the information collection would violate the fundamental purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act because of the burden it puts on the entity submitting the information and the agency collecting the information.

*Response:* In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), agencies can request OMB approval of an existing information collection. The PRA requires that agencies use the **Federal Register** notice and comment process, to extend OMB's approval, at least every three years. This extension, to a previously approved information collection, pertains to FAR clause 52.215-19. This clause requires a contractor, when becoming aware that a change in its ownership has occurred, or is certain to occur, that could result in changes in the valuation of its capitalized assets in the accounting records, to notify the Administrative Contracting Officer (ACO) within 30 days. Further, the contractor has