

RUS has prepared a DEIS and intends to issue a Final EIS to analyze the impacts of its respective federal actions and the proposed Project in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended, Council on Environmental Quality Regulation for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508) and RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR part 1794).

Because the proposed Project may involve action in floodplains or wetlands, this Notice also serves as a notice of proposed floodplain or wetland action. The DEIS will include a floodplain/wetland assessment and, if required, a floodplain/wetland statement of findings will be issued with the Final EIS.

RUS has determined that its action regarding the proposed Project would be an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470 and its implementing regulations, “Protection of Historic Properties” (36 CFR Part 800). As part of its broad environmental review process, RUS must take into account the effect of the proposed Project on historic properties in accordance with Section 106. Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.2(d)(3), RUS is using its procedures for public involvement under NEPA to meet its responsibilities to solicit and consider the views of the public during Section 106 review. Accordingly, comments submitted in response to this Notice will inform RUS decision-making in its Section 106 review process. Any party wishing to participate more directly with RUS as a “consulting party” in Section 106 review may submit a written request to the RUS contact provided in this Notice.

Agency Responsibilities: RUS is serving as the lead Federal agency, as defined at 40 CFR 1501.5, for preparation of the DEIS. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Forest Service are participating as cooperating agencies and will be issuing decisions relevant to the project under separate authorities. RUS is also serving as the lead Federal agency for the Section 106 and Section 7 review processes.

Public Participation: Public participation and full disclosure are planned for the entire EIS process. The EIS process has included a scoping comment period to solicit comments from interested parties; consultation and involvement with appropriate Federal, State, local, and tribal governments. In addition, a 45-day review/comment period of the DEIS, with an open house public hearing is scheduled on June 3, 2014. The time and location of the meeting will be well-advertised in local

media outlets a minimum of 15 days prior to the time of the meeting. Attendees will be welcome to come and go at their convenience and provide written or oral comments on the Project. In addition, attendees may provide written comments by letter, fax, or email. The process will be followed by publication of a Final EIS and publication of a Record of Decision. The expected environmental project review completion date is expected to be spring 2015.

Dated: May 6, 2014.

James F. Elliot,

Acting Assistant Administrator—Electric Programs, Rural Utilities Service.

[FR Doc. 2014–12454 Filed 5–28–14; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. Census Bureau

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Annual Wholesale Trade Survey

AGENCY: U.S. Census Bureau, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: To ensure consideration, written comments must be submitted on or before July 28, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at jjessup@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Bill Abriatis, U.S. Census Bureau, Room 8K081, Washington, DC 20233–6500, (301) 763–3686, (or via the Internet at william.m.abriatis@census.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Annual Wholesale Trade Survey (AWTS) covers employer firms with

establishments located in the United States and classified in the wholesale trade and/or Manufacturers’ Sales Branches and Offices and Agents, Brokers, Representatives, and Electronic Markets sectors as defined by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

Firms are selected for this survey using a stratified random sample where strata are defined by industry and annual sales size. The sample, consisting of wholesale businesses classified in the Wholesale Trade and/or Manufacturers Sales Branches and Offices and Agents, Brokers, Representatives and Markets sector as defined by the 2007 North American Industry Classification Systems (NAICS), is drawn from the Business Register (BR). The BR is the Census Bureau’s master business list and contains basic economic information for over 7.4 million employers businesses and over 22.5 million nonemployer businesses. The BR obtains information through direct data collections and administrative record information from federal agencies. The sample is updated quarterly to reflect employer business “births” and “deaths” by adding new employer businesses identified in the Business and Professional Classification Survey and deleting firms and EINs when it is determined they are no longer active.

The survey request firms to provide annual sales, annual e-commerce sales, year-end inventories held inside and outside the United States, total operating expenses, purchases, and, for selected industries, commissions, and sales on their own account. These data are used to satisfy a variety of public and business needs such as economic market analysis, company performance, and forecasting future demands. Results will be available, at the United States summary level, for selected wholesale trade, and/or manufacturers’ sales branches and offices and agents, brokers, representatives and electronic markets, industries approximately fifteen months after the end of the reference year.

Every 5 years, AWTS requests data on detailed operating expenses. During the next three years, detailed operating expenses will not be collected. The last time AWTS collected detailed operating expenses was in 2013 for the 2012 survey year. The plan is to reinstate these questions in 2018 as part of the 2017 AWTS data collection.

II. Method of Collection

We collect this information by Internet, fax, mail, and telephone.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0607-0195.

Form Number(s): SA-42, SA-42A, SA-42(MSBO), SA-42A(MSBO), SA-42(AGBR), SA-42A(AGBR).

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Wholesale firms located in the United States.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 7,200.

Estimated Time per Response: Varies by form. Average of 30 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden

Hours: 3,600.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to

Respondents: The total cost to respondents is estimated to be \$114,609.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Title 13, United States Code, Sections 182, 224, and 225.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: May 22, 2014.

Glenna Mickelson,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2014-12372 Filed 5-28-14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**Census Bureau****Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Annual Retail Trade Survey**

AGENCY: U.S. Census Bureau, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general

public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: To ensure consideration, written comments must be submitted on or before July 28, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at jjessup@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Aneta Erdie, U.S. Census Bureau, Service Sector Statistics Division, Room 8K041, 4600 Silver Hill Road, Washington, DC 20233-6500, (301) 763-4841, (or via the Internet at aneta.erdie@census.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Abstract**

The Annual Retail Trade Survey (ARTS) covers employer firms with establishments located in the United States and classified in the Retail Trade and/or Accommodation and Food Services sectors as defined by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

Firms are selected for this survey using a stratified random sample where strata are defined by industry and annual sales size. The sample consisting of businesses classified in the Retail Trade and/or Accommodation and Food Services sector as defined by the 2007 NAICS, is drawn from the Business Register (BR). The BR is the Census Bureau's master business list and contains basic economic information for approximately 7.4 million employer businesses and 22.5 million nonemployer businesses. The BR obtains information through direct data collections and administrative record information from other federal agencies. The sample is updated quarterly to reflect employer business "births" and "deaths"; adding new employer businesses identified in the Business and Professional Classification Survey and deleting firms and Employer Identification Numbers (EINs) when it is determined they are no longer active.

The survey requests firms to provide annual sales, annual e-commerce sales, year-end inventories held inside and outside the United States, total operating expenses, purchases, accounts

receivables, and, for selected industries, sales by merchandise line. These data are used to satisfy a variety of public and business needs such as economic market analysis, company performance, and forecasting future demands. Results will be available, at the United States summary level, for selected retail trade, and accommodation and food services, industries approximately fifteen months after the end of the reference year.

Every five years, ARTS requests data on detailed operating expenses. During the next three years, detailed operating expenses will not be collected. The last time ARTS collected detailed operating expenses was in 2013 for the 2012 survey year. The plan is to reinstate these questions in 2018 as part of the 2017 ARTS data collection.

II. Method of Collection

We collect this information by mail, fax, telephone, and Internet.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0607-0013.
Form Number(s): SA-44, SA-44A, SA-44C, SA-44E, SA-44N, SA-44S, SA-45, SA-45C, SA-721A, SA-721B, SA-721E, SA-721F, SA-722A, and SA-722E.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Retail and/or accommodation and food services firms located in the United States.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 20,560.

Estimated Time per Response: 34 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 11,533 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Respondents: \$360,868.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Title 13, United States Code, Sections 182, 224, and 225.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB