

Type of Request: Extension without change of a previously approved collection.

Abstract: This collection of information is necessary to enable the FRA to garner customer and stakeholder feedback in an efficient, timely manner, consistent with our commitment to improving service delivery. The information collected from our customers and stakeholders will help ensure users have an effective, efficient, and satisfying experience with FRA's programs. This feedback will provide insights into customer or stakeholder perceptions, experiences and expectations, provide an early warning of issues with service, and focus attention on areas where communication, training or changes in operations might improve delivery of products or services. These collections will allow ongoing, collaborative, and actionable communications between FRA and its customers and stakeholders. It also allows feedback to contribute directly to the improvement of program management.

Improving FRA's programs requires ongoing assessment of service delivery, meaning a systematic review of the operation of a program compared to a set of explicit or implicit standards as a means of contributing to the continuous improvement of the program. FRA will collect, analyze, and interpret information gathered through this generic clearance to identify strengths and weaknesses of current services and make improvements in service delivery based on feedback. The solicitation of feedback will target areas such as: Timeliness, appropriateness, accuracy of information, courtesy, efficiency of service delivery, and resolution of issues with service delivery. FRA will assess responses to plan and inform efforts to improve or maintain the quality of service offered to the public. If this information is not collected, vital feedback from customers and stakeholders on the FRA's services will be unavailable.

FRA will only submit a collection for approval under this generic clearance if it meets the following conditions:

- FRA will only use the information gathered internally for general service improvement and program management purposes and does not intend to release it outside FRA;
- FRA will not use information gathered to substantially inform influential policy decisions;
- Information gathered will yield qualitative information; FRA will not design the collections or expect them to yield statistically reliable results or use

them as though the results are generalizable to the population of study;

- Participation in the collections is voluntary;
- The collections are low-burden for respondents (based on considerations of total burden hours, total number of respondents, or burden-hours per respondent) and are low-cost for both the respondents and the Federal Government;
- The collections are non-controversial and do not raise issues of concern to other Federal agencies;
- Any collection is targeted to the solicitation of opinions from respondents who have experience with the OMB program or may have experience with the OMB program in the near future; and
- With the exception of information needed to provide remuneration for participants of focus groups and cognitive laboratory studies, FRA will collect personally identifiable information (PII) only to the extent necessary and will not retain it.

Affected Public: Individuals and Households, Business and Organizations, State, Local or Tribal Governments.

Frequency of Submission: Once per request.

Total Annual Number of Respondents: 2,100.

Total Estimated Responses: 2,100.

Average Minutes per Response: 10 minutes.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 354 hours.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520.

Issued in Washington, DC, on November 30, 2016.

Patrick Warren,

Acting Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 2016–29237 Filed 12–5–16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–06–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury will submit the following information collection requests to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13, on or after the date of publication of this notice.

DATES: Comments should be received on or before January 5, 2017 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Send comments regarding the burden estimates, or any other aspect of the information collections, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to (1) Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for Treasury, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, or email at OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.gov and (2) Treasury PRA Clearance Officer, 1750 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Suite 8142, Washington, DC 20220, or email at PRA@treasury.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Copies of the submissions may be obtained by emailing PRA@treasury.gov, calling (202) 622–0934, or viewing the entire information collection request at www.reginfo.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

OMB Control Number: 1545–0732.

Type of Review: Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

Title: Credit for Increasing Research Activity (TD 8251).

Abstract: This regulation provides rules for the credit for increasing research activities. Internal Revenue Code section 41(f) provides that commonly controlled groups of taxpayers shall compute the credit as if they are single taxpayer. The credit allowed to a member of the group is a portion of the group's credit. Section 1.41–8(d) of the regulation permits a corporation that is a member of more than one group to designate which controlled group they will be aggregated with the purposes of Code section 41(f). *Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profits.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 63.

OMB Control Number: 1545–0232.

Type of Review: Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

Title: Information Return of Nontaxable Energy Grants or Subsidized Energy Financing.

Form: 6497.

Abstract: Section 6050D of the Internal Revenue Code requires an information return to be made by any person who administers a Federal, state, or local program providing nontaxable grants or subsidized energy financing. Form 6497 is used for making the information return. The IRS uses the information from the form to ensure that recipients have not claimed tax credits or other benefits with respect to the grants or subsidized financing.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profits.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 810.

OMB Control Number: 1545–1070.

Type of Review: Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

Title: Effectively connected income and the branch profits tax.

Abstract: The regulations explain how to comply with section 884, which imposes a tax on the earnings of a foreign corporation's branch that are removed from the branch and which subjects interest paid by the branch, and certain interest deducted by the foreign corporation to tax.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profits.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 12,694.

OMB Control Number: 1545–0685.

Type of Review: Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

Title: Export Exemption Certificate.

Form: 1363.

Abstract: IRC section 4272(b)(2) exempts exported property from the excise tax on transportation of property. Regulation section 49.4271–1(d)(2) authorizes the filing of Form 1363 by the shipper to request exemption for a shipment, or a series of shipments. The form is filed with the carrier. It is used by IRS as proof of tax exempt status of each shipment.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profits.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 425,000.

Dated: December 1, 2016.

Bob Faber,

Acting Treasury PRA Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2016–29198 Filed 12–5–16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of the Assistant Secretary for International Affairs; Survey of U.S. Ownership of Foreign Securities as of December 31, 2016

AGENCY: Departmental Offices, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of reporting requirements.

SUMMARY: By this Notice and in accordance with 31 CFR 129, the Department of the Treasury is informing the public that it is conducting a mandatory survey of ownership of foreign securities by U.S. residents as of December 31, 2016. This Notice

constitutes legal notification to all United States persons (defined below) who meet the reporting requirements set forth in this Notice that they must respond to, and comply with, this survey. The reporting form SHC (2016) and instructions may be printed from the Internet at: <https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/data-chart-center/tic/Pages/forms-sh.aspx#shc>.

Definition: Pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 3102 a United States person is any individual, branch, partnership, associated group, association, estate, trust, corporation, or other organization (whether or not organized under the laws of any State), and any government (including a foreign government, the United States Government, a State or local government, and any agency, corporation, financial institution, or other entity or instrumentality thereof, including a government-sponsored agency), who resides in the United States or is subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

Who Must Report: The following U.S. persons must report on this survey:

- U.S. persons who manage, as custodians, the safekeeping of foreign securities for themselves and other U.S. persons. These U.S. persons, who include the affiliates in the United States of foreign entities, must report on this survey if the total fair value of the foreign securities whose safekeeping they manage on behalf of U.S. persons—aggregated over all accounts and for all U.S. branches and affiliates of their firm—is \$200 million or more as of the close of business on December 31, 2016.
- U.S. persons who own foreign securities for their own portfolios and/or who invest in foreign securities on behalf of others, such as investment managers/fund sponsors. These U.S. persons (referred to as “end-investors”), who include the affiliates in the United States of foreign entities, must report on this survey if the total fair value of these foreign securities—aggregated over all accounts and for all U.S. branches and affiliates of their firm—is \$200 million or more as of the close of business on December 31, 2016.
- U.S. persons who are notified by letter from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. These U.S. persons must file Schedule 1, even if the recipient of the letter is under the reporting threshold of \$200 million and need only report “exempt” on Schedule 1. These U.S. persons who meet the reporting threshold must also file Schedule 2 and/or Schedule 3.

What To Report: This report will collect information on holdings by U.S. residents of foreign securities, including equities, long-term debt securities, and

short-term debt securities (including selected money market instruments).

How To Report: Copies of the survey forms and instructions, which contain complete information on reporting procedures and definitions, may be obtained at the Web site address given above in the Summary. Completed reports can be submitted electronically or mailed to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Statistics Function, 4th Floor, 33 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10045–0001. Inquiries can be made to the survey staff of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York at (212) 720–6300 or email: SHC.help@ny.frb.org. Inquiries can also be made to Dwight Wolkow at (202) 622–1276, email: comments2TIC@do.treas.gov.

When To Report: Data must be submitted to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, acting as fiscal agent for the Department of the Treasury, by March 3, 2017.

Paperwork Reduction Act Notice: This data collection has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act and assigned control number 1505–0146. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid control number assigned by OMB. The estimated average annual burden associated with this collection of information is 17 hours per respondent for exempt respondents, 41 hours per respondent for end-investors and custodians that file Schedule 3 reports covering their securities entrusted to U.S. resident custodians, 121 hours per respondent for large end-investors filing Schedule 2 reports, and 361 hours per respondent for large custodians of securities filing Schedule 2 reports. Comments concerning the accuracy of this burden estimate and suggestions for reducing this burden should be directed to the Department of the Treasury, Attention Administrator, International Portfolio Investment Data Reporting Systems, Room 5422, Washington, DC 20220, and to OMB, Attention Desk Officer for the Department of the Treasury, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Washington, DC 20503

Dwight Wolkow,

Administrator, International Portfolio Investment Data Reporting Systems.

[FR Doc. 2016–29180 Filed 12–5–16; 8:45 am]

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