The Banks use most of the information collected under part 1263 to determine whether an applicant satisfies the statutory and regulatory requirements for Bank membership and should be approved as a Bank member. The Banks may use some of the information collected under part 1263 as a means of learning that a member wishes to withdraw or to transfer its membership to a different Bank so that the Bank can begin to process those requests. In rare cases, FHFA may use the collected information to determine whether an institution that has been denied membership by a Bank should be permitted to become a member of that Bank.

The OMB control number for this information collection is 2590–0003, which is due to expire on December 31, 2016. The likely respondents are financial institutions that are, or are applying to become, Bank members.

B. Burden Estimate

FHFA has analyzed the time burden imposed on respondents by the four collections under this control number and estimates that the average annual burden imposed on all respondents by those collections over the next three years will be 2,351 hours. This estimate is derived from the following calculations:

I. Membership Applications

FHFA estimates that the average number of applications for Bank membership submitted annually will be 151 and that the average time to prepare and submit an application and supporting materials will be 15 hours. Accordingly, the estimate for the annual hour burden associated with preparation and submission of applications for Bank membership is (151 applications × 15 hours per application) = 2,265 hours.

II. Appeals of Membership Denials

FHFA estimates that the average number of applicants that have been denied membership by a Bank that will appeal such a denial to FHFA will be 1 and that the average time to prepare and submit an application for appeal will be 10 hours. Accordingly, the estimate for the annual hour burden associated with the preparation and submission of membership appeals is (1 appellants × 10 hours per application) = 10 hours.

III. Notices of Intent To Withdraw From Membership

FHFA estimates that the average number of Bank members submitting a notice of intent to withdraw from membership annually will be 4 and that the average time to prepare and submit a notice will be 1.5 hours. Accordingly, the estimate for the annual hour burden associated with preparation and submission of notices of intent to withdraw is (4 withdrawing members × 1.5 hours per application) = 6 hours.

IV. Requests for Transfer of Membership to Another Bank District

FHFA estimates that the average number of Bank members submitting a request for transfer to another Bank will be 35 and that the average time to prepare and submit a request will be 2 hours. Accordingly, the estimate for the annual hour burden associated with preparation and submission of requests for automatic transfer is (35 transferring members × 2 hours per request) = 70 hours.

C. Comment Request

In accordance with the requirements of 5 CFR 1320.8(d), FHFA published an initial notice requesting comments regarding this information collection in the Federal Register on October 7, 2016. The 60-day comment period closed on December 6, 2016. No comments were received. However, during the pendency of the comment period, FHFA consulted with several of the Banks regarding the burden estimates for this information collection. As a result of the Banks’ input, FHFA has made some revisions to the burden estimates, so that those appearing above are somewhat different than those that appeared in the 60-day notice.

In accordance with the requirements of 5 CFR 1320.10(a), FHFA is publishing this second notice to request comments regarding the following: (1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of FHFA functions, including whether the information has practical utility; (2) the accuracy of FHFA’s estimates of the burdens of the collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on members and project sponsors, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments should be submitted in writing to both OMB and FHFA as instructed above in the COMMENTS section.

II. Introduction

This notice satisfies the Privacy Act requirement that an agency publish a system of records notice in the Federal Register when there is an addition or change to an agency’s system of records. Congress has recognized that application of all requirements of the Privacy Act to certain categories of records may have an undesirable and often unacceptable effect upon agencies in the conduct of necessary public business. Consequently, Congress established general exemptions and specific exemptions that could be used to exempt records from provisions of the Privacy Act. Congress also required that exempting records from provisions of the Privacy Act would require the head of an agency to publish a determination to exempt a record from the Privacy Act as a rule in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. The Director of FHFA has determined that records and information in this system of records are not exempt from the requirements of the Privacy Act.

As required by the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. 552a(r), and pursuant to paragraph 4c of Appendix I to OMB Circular No. A–130, “Federal Agency Responsibilities for Maintaining Records About Individuals,” dated November 28, 2000, FHFA has submitted a report describing the system of records covered by this notice to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, and the Office of Management and Budget.

III. Revised System of Records

The “National Mortgage Database Project” (FHFA–21) system of records is being revised to add data fields related to language, specifically information related to Limited English Proficiency (LEP) or a Preferred Language. The information is being collected to identify obstacles for borrowers with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) or a Preferred Language (PL) in accessing mortgage credit, analyze potential solutions, and develop measures to improve access to credit. This information will assist FHFA in ensuring that its regulated entities appropriately support meaningful access to the mortgage market for mortgage ready LEP/PL borrowers, as well as support the overall goal of assuring that borrowers are able to understand and participate fully in the mortgage life cycle, including origination, servicing, and loss mitigation, regardless of the language spoken.

Information about LEP or PL will be collected as part of the National Survey of Mortgage Originations and the American Survey of Mortgage Borrowers. Responses to the survey will be maintained in anonymized form as part of the National Mortgage Database Project. A separate opt-out list from the Surveys will be maintained which will contain name, address, and Zip Code of those individuals who have opted out of receiving communications about the Surveys. FHFA employees will not have access to this list. This list is maintained in order to ensure that these individuals do not receive any future communications about the Surveys after opting out.

The revision to the system of records notice is described in detail below. All other aspects of the system of records notice, other than the changes described below, remain unchanged.

FHFA–21

SYSTEM NAME:
National Mortgage Database Project.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

Records include information related to an individual’s language preference, including, but not limited to, information about the borrower’s or co-borrower’s Limited English Proficiency and/or Preferred Language.

Dated: December 21, 2016.
Melvin L. Watt,
Director, Federal Housing Finance Agency.

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FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

[No. 2016–N–16]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Housing Finance Agency.

ACTION: 30-Day Notice of submission of information collection for approval from Office of Management and Budget.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA or the Agency) is seeking public comments concerning the information collection known as the “National Survey of Mortgage Originations” (NSMO), which has been assigned control number 2590–0012 by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) (the collection was previously known as the “National Survey of Mortgage Borrowers”). FHFA