

Office, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Room 1224, Washington, DC 20220. Attn: Eric Berger. Comments sent via facsimile and email will not be accepted.

*Additional Instructions.* All comments received, including attachments and other supporting materials, will be made available to the public. Do not include any personally identifiable information (such as Social Security number, name, address, or other contact information) or any other information in your comment or supporting materials that you do not want publicly disclosed. Treasury will make comments available for public inspection and copying on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) or upon request. Comments posted on the Internet can be retrieved by most Internet search engines.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information regarding the application from the SWORCC Pension Plan, please contact Treasury at (202) 622-1534 (not a toll-free number).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Multiemployer Pension Reform Act of 2014 (MPRA) amended the Internal Revenue Code to permit a multiemployer plan that is projected to have insufficient funds to reduce pension benefits payable to participants and beneficiaries if certain conditions are satisfied. In order to reduce benefits, the plan sponsor is required to submit an application to the Secretary of the Treasury, which Treasury, in consultation with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) and the Department of Labor, is required to approve or deny.

On March 30, 2017, the Board of Trustees of the SWORCC Pension Plan submitted an application for approval to reduce benefits under the plan. As required by MPRA, that application has been published on Treasury's Web site at <https://auth.treasury.gov/services/Pages/Plan-Applications.aspx>. Treasury is publishing this notice in the **Federal Register**, in consultation with the PBGC and the Department of Labor, to solicit public comments on all aspects of the SWORCC Pension Plan application.

Comments are requested from interested parties, including participants and beneficiaries, employee organizations, and contributing employers of the SWORCC Pension Plan. Consideration will be given to any comments that are timely received by Treasury.

Dated: April 26, 2017.

**Robert J. Neis,**

*Benefits Tax Counsel, Office of Tax Policy.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0770]

### Agency Information Collection Activity: Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery

**AGENCY:** The Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before July 3, 2017.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information through Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov) or to Cynthia Harvey-Pryor (005R1B), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420 or email to [Cynthia.Harvey-Pryor@va.gov](mailto:Cynthia.Harvey-Pryor@va.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0770" in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cynthia Harvey-Pryor at (202) 461-5870.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995, Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, VA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VA's functions, including whether the

information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

*Authority:* Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501-3501.

*Title:* Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0770.

*Type of Review:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* The proposed information collection activity provides a means to garner qualitative customer and stakeholder feedback in an efficient, timely manner, in accordance with the Administration's commitment to improving service delivery. By qualitative feedback we mean information that provides useful insights on perceptions and opinions, but are not statistical surveys that yield quantitative results that can be generalized to the population of study. This feedback will provide insights into customer or stakeholder perceptions, experiences and expectations, provide an early warning of issues with service, or focus attention on areas where communication, training or changes in operations might improve delivery of products or services. These collections will allow for ongoing, collaborative and actionable communications between the Agency and its customers and stakeholders. It will also allow feedback to contribute directly to the improvement of program management.

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. Responses will be assessed 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 Agency's services will be unavailable.

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

- The collections are 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 noncontroversial 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 program or may have experience with the program in the near future;

- Personally identifiable information (PII) is collected only to the extent necessary and is not retained;

- Information gathered will be used only internally for general service improvement and program management purposes and is not intended for release outside of the agency;

- Information gathered will not be used for the purpose of substantially informing influential policy decisions; and

- Information gathered will yield qualitative information; the collections will not be designed or expected to yield statistically reliable results or used as though the results are generalizable to the population of study.

Feedback collected under this generic clearance provides useful information, but it does not yield data that can be generalized to the overall population. This type of generic clearance for qualitative information will not be used for quantitative information collections that are designed to yield reliably actionable results, such as monitoring trends over time or documenting program performance. Such data uses

require more rigorous designs that address: The target population to which generalizations will be made, the sampling frame, the sample design (including stratification and clustering), the precision requirements or power calculations that justify the proposed sample size, the expected response rate, methods for assessing potential nonresponse bias, the protocols for data collection, and any testing procedures that were or will be undertaken prior to fielding the study. Depending on the degree of influence the results are likely to have, such collections may still be eligible for submission for other generic mechanisms that are designed to yield quantitative results.

As a general matter, information collections will not result in any new system of records containing privacy information and will not ask questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private.

*Affected Public:* Individuals and Households, Businesses and Organizations, State, Local or Tribal Government.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 214,167 hours.

*Customer Satisfaction Surveys:* 66,667.

*Focus Groups:* 30,000.

*Customer Comment Cards:* 5,000.

*Small Discussion Groups:* 2,500.

*Cognitive Laboratory Studies:* 30,000.

*Qualitative Customer Satisfaction Surveys:* 37,500.

*In-Person Observation Testing:* 5,000.

*Patient Surveys:* 37,500.

*Estimated Average Burden per Respondent:*

*Customer Satisfaction Surveys:* 40 minutes.

*Focus Groups:* 60 minutes.

*Customer Comment Cards:* 30 minutes.

*Small Discussion Groups:* 30 minutes.

*Cognitive Laboratory Studies:* 60 minutes.

*Qualitative Customer Satisfaction Surveys:* 30 minutes.

*In-Person Observation Testing:* 30 minutes.

*Patient Surveys:* 30 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* Once.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 335,000.

*Customer Satisfaction Surveys:* 100,000.

*Focus Groups:* 30,000.

*Customer Comment Cards:* 10,000.

*Small Discussion Groups:* 5,000.

*Cognitive Laboratory Studies:* 30,000.

*Qualitative Customer Satisfaction Surveys:* 75,000.

*In-Person Observation Testing:* 10,000.

*Patient Surveys:* 75,000.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Cynthia Harvey-Pryor,**

*Department Clearance Officer, Enterprise Records Service, Office of Quality and Compliance, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

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