DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[OMB Control No. 9000–0134; Docket 2017–0053; Sequence 4]

Submission for OMB Review: Environmentally Sound Products

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 Division 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 environmentally sound products. A notice published in the Federal Register at 82 FR 20339 on June 30, 2017. No comments were received.

DATES: Submit comments on or before August 28, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for GSA, Room 10236, NEOB, Washington, DC 20503. Additionally, submit a copy to GSA 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 9000–0134. Select the link “Comment Now” that corresponds with “Information Collection 9000–0134, Environmentally Sound Products”. Follow the instructions provided on the screen. Please include your name, company name (if any), and “Information Collection 9000–0134, Environmentally Sound Products” on your attached document.

Instructions: Please submit comments only and cite Information Collection 9000–0134, Environmentally Sound Products, in all correspondence related to this collection. Comments received generally will be posted without change to http://www.regulations.gov, including any personal and/or business confidential information provided. To confirm receipt of your comments, please check www.regulations.gov, approximately two to three days after submission to verify posting (except allow 30 days for posting of comments submitted by mail).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Charles Gray, Procurement Analyst, Governmentwide Acquisition Policy, GSA, 703–795–6328 or charles.gray@gsa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Purpose

OMB clearance 9000–0134 supports the information collection requirement contained in 52.223–9, Estimate of Percentage of Recovered Material Content for EPA-designated Items. Section 6002 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), Public Law 94–580, (42 U.S.C. 6962), requires Federal agencies to develop affirmative procurement programs to ensure that items composed of recovered materials will be purchased to the maximum extent practicable. An agency’s affirmative procurement program must include: (1) A recovered materials preference program and an agency promotion program for the preference program; (2) a program for requiring estimates of the total percentage of recovered materials used in the performance of a contract, certification of minimum recovered material content used, and where appropriate and reasonable, verification procedures for estimates and certifications; and (3) annual review and monitoring of the effectiveness of an agency’s affirmative procurement program.

For items the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has designated as produced or that can be produced from recovered material, agencies are required to track the percentage of recovered material content used during contract performance. This requirement applies whenever an acquisition sets forth minimum percentages of recovered materials; when the price of the item exceeds $10,000; or when the aggregate amount paid for the item or functionally equivalent items in the preceding fiscal year was $10,000 or more.

Pursuant to FAR clause 52.223–9, when the contract requires the delivery of or use of an EPA-designated item, contractors shall report the estimated percentage of total recovered material content delivered or used at contract completion. The clause is included in solicitations and contracts exceeding $150,000, except for acquisitions of commercially-available, off-the-shelf (COTS) items.

B. Annual Reporting Burden

Respondents: 1.047.
Responses per Respondent: 1.5.
Annual Responses: 1,571.
Hours per Response: .50.
Total Burden Hours: 785.

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 Regulation (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 Division (MVCB), 1800 F Street NW., Washington, DC 20405, telephone 202–501–4755.

Please cite OMB control No. 9000–0134, Environmentally Sound Products, in all correspondence.

Lorin S. Curit,
Director, Federal Acquisition Policy Division,
Office of Governmentwide Acquisition Policy,
Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Governmentwide Policy.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the intention of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to request that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approve the proposed information collection project: “Generic Clearance for Questionnaire and Data Collection Testing, Evaluation, and Research for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.”

This proposed information collection was previously published in the Federal Register on April 28, 2017, and allowed 60 days for public comment. No substantive comments were received. The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 days for public comment. Dates: Comments on this notice must be received by August 28, 2017.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by August 28, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be submitted to: AHRQ’s OMB Desk Officer by fax at (202) 395–6974 (attention: AHRQ’s desk officer) or by email at OIRA_submission@omb.eop.gov (attention: AHRQ’s desk officer).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Doris Lefkowitz, AHRQ Reports Clearance Officer, (301) 427–1477, or by email at doris.lefkowitz@ahrq.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Proposed Project

Generic Clearance for Questionnaire and Data Collection Testing, Evaluation, and Research for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520, AHRQ invites the public to comment on this proposed information collection. The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) requests that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) reapprove generic pre-testing Clearance 0935–0124 for three years to facilitate AHRQ’s efforts to (1) employ evaluation-type methods and techniques to improve AHRQ’s current data collection and estimation procedures, (2) develop new collections and procedures, including toolkits, and (3) revise existing collections and procedures. AHRQ believes that developing, testing, and evaluating data collection and estimation procedures using survey methods and other techniques in anticipation of Agency-sponsored studies can improve its information collection efforts, and the products it develops and allow AHRQ to be more responsive to fast-changing developments in the health care research. AHRQ uses techniques to simplify data collection and estimation procedures, reduce respondent burden, and improve efficiencies to meet the needs of individuals and small business respondents who may have reduced budgets and staff.

This clearance request is limited to research on data collection, toolkit development, and estimation procedures and reports and does not extend to the collection of data for public release or policy formation. The current Clearance (0935–0124) was granted on November 12, 2014, and expires on November 30, 2017.

This generic clearance will allow AHRQ to draft and test toolkits, survey instruments and other data collection and estimation procedures more quickly and with greater lead time, thereby managing project time more efficiently and improving the quality of the data AHRQ collects. In some instances, the ability to test and evaluate toolkits, data collection and estimation procedures in anticipation of work or early in a project may result in the decision not to proceed with additional activities, which could save both public and private resources and eliminate respondent burden.

This generic clearance will facilitate AHRQ’s response to a changing environment. Many of the tools AHRQ develops are made available to the private sector to assist in improving health care quality. The health and health care environment changes rapidly and requires a quick response from AHRQ to provide refined tools.

These preliminary research activities will not be used by AHRQ to regulate or sanction its customers. They will be entirely voluntary and the confidentiality of respondents and their responses will be preserved. Proposed information collections submitted under this generic clearance will be submitted for review by OMB with a response expected in 14 days.

Method of Collection

The information collected through preliminary research activities under this generic clearance will be used by AHRQ to employ techniques to (1) improve AHRQ’s current data collection and estimation procedures, (2) develop new collections and procedures, including toolkits, and (3) revise existing collections and procedures in anticipation or in response to changes in the health or health care. The end result will be improvement in AHRQ’s data collection and procedures and the quality of data collected, a reduction or minimization of respondent burden, increased agency efficiency, and improved responsiveness to the public.

Estimated Annual Respondent Burden

Exhibit 1 shows the estimated burden hours, over the full 3 years of this clearance, for the respondents’ time to participate in the research activities that may be conducted under this generic clearance. Mail surveys will be conducted with about 6,000 persons (2,000 per year for 3 years) and are estimated to average 20 minutes. Mail surveys may also be sent to respondents via email, and may include a telephone non-response follow-up. Telephone non-response follow-up for mailed surveys is not counted as a telephone survey in Exhibit 1. Not more than 600 persons, over 3 years, will participate in telephone surveys that will take about 40 minutes. Web-based surveys will be conducted with no more than 3,000 persons and will require no more than 10 minutes to complete. About 1,500 persons will participate in focus groups which may last up to two hours, while in-person interviews will be conducted with 600 persons and will take about 50 minutes. Automated data collection will be conducted for about 1,500 persons and could take up to 1 hour. Cognitive testing will be conducted with about 600 persons and is estimated to take 1½ hours to complete. The total burden over 3 years is estimated to be 8,900 hours (about 2,967 hours per year).

Exhibit 2 shows the estimated cost burden over 3 years, based on the respondent’s time to participate in these research activities. The total cost burden is estimated to be $338,734.