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Dated: October 4, 2017.

**Greg Ruocco,**

*Manager, Executive Resources Policy, Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 9110-9B-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation Program

**AGENCY:** Office of the Chief Readiness Support Officer, Office of Management, Department of Homeland Security.

**ACTION:** Notice of administrative corrections to directive and instruction.

**SUMMARY:** The purpose of this notice is to provide information on administrative revisions to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS or Department) Categorical Exclusions found in DHS Instruction 023-01-001-01, Rev. 01, Implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act (herein after referred to as Instruction). The Instruction was finalized October 31, 2014 and became effective on March 26, 2015; however, unintended administrative errors have since been identified. These errors are limited to Categorical Exclusions found in Appendix A, Table 1 of the Instruction. The administrative revisions covered under this notice either resolve ambiguity to ensure application which is consistent with the administrative record or resolve typographical errors that had the potential to result in inappropriate application. These revisions are effective upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

**DATES:** The list of Categorical Exclusions, found in Appendix A, Table 1, of the Instruction is revised as of October 13, 2017.

**ADDRESSES:** Relevant documents are posted at [www.dhs.gov/nepa](http://www.dhs.gov/nepa). These

documents include: This notice, the Instruction with the revised list of Categorical Exclusions, the Administrative Record supporting the establishment of the Categorical Exclusions, a summary of revisions, the U.S. Coast Guard's (USCG's) Commandant Instruction M16475.1D, and the **Federal Register** notice entitled National Environmental Policy Act: Coast Guard Procedures for Categorical Exclusions which appeared on July 23, 2002 (67 FR 48243).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Jennifer Hass, Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation Program Manager, DHS, [SEP-EPHP@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:SEP-EPHP@hq.dhs.gov) or at 202-834-4346.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** DHS Directive 023-01 Rev. 01 (hereinafter Directive) and the Instruction establish the Department's policy and procedures for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500-1508). Together, the Directive and Instruction apply to all of the Components of DHS and help ensure the integration of environmental stewardship into DHS decision making as required by NEPA. The Instruction serves as the DHS implementing procedures for NEPA (as required by 40 CFR 1505.1 and 1507.3) and includes the Department's list of Categorical Exclusions, found in Appendix A, Table 1. Notice of the Directive and Instruction were published in the **Federal Register** on November 26, 2014 (79 FR 70538) and became effective on March 26, 2015.

During a recent review of the Instruction, a number of administrative errors were identified which have the potential to substantively alter the correct and intended application of several Categorical Exclusions. Based on our internal review, we have determined these errors occurred during the transcription process as Categorical Exclusions unique to the USCG and the Federal Emergency Management Agency were merged with the other DHS Component Categorical Exclusions to create a single, unified list of Categorical Exclusions for application within the Department. There was no intent to substantively alter the language or application of these Categorical Exclusions.

For the Categorical Exclusions unique to the USCG, the impacted Categorical Exclusions appear correctly in the USCG's Commandant Instruction M16475.1D which has been in effect since November 29, 2000 and the

**Federal Register** notice entitled National Environmental Policy Act: Coast Guard Procedures for Categorical Exclusions which was published on July 23, 2002 (67 FR 48243).

In general, the administrative revisions include omission of an asterisk (\*) designating the requirement to prepare a Record of Environmental Consideration (REC); inclusion of an asterisk (\*) designating the requirement to prepare a REC where that was not intended; administrative revision to more clearly delineate when a REC is required; clarification to resolve ambiguity to ensure application which consistent with the administrative record, and resolution of a typographical error. A copy of this **Federal Register** publication, DHS Instruction 023-01-001-01 Rev. 01 with the revised list of Categorical Exclusions, the Administrative Record supporting the establishment of the Categorical Exclusions, a summary of revisions, the USCG's Commandant Instruction M16475.1D, and the **Federal Register** notice entitled National Environmental Policy Act: Coast Guard Procedures for Categorical Exclusions which appeared on July 23, 2002 (67 FR 48243) are available on the internet at [www.dhs.gov/nepa](http://www.dhs.gov/nepa).

Dated: October 5, 2017.

**Teresa R. Pohlman,**

*Executive Director Sustainability and Environmental Programs.*

[FR Doc. 2017-22077 Filed 10-12-17; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[OMB Control Number 1615-0040]

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Revision of a Currently Approved Collection; Application for Employment Authorization

**AGENCY:** U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

**ACTION:** 60-Day notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Citizenship and Immigration (USCIS) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment upon this proposed revision of a currently approved collection of information. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the information collection notice is published in the **Federal Register** to obtain comments regarding the nature of

the information collection, the categories of respondents, the estimated burden (*i.e.* the time, effort, and resources used by the respondents to respond), the estimated cost to the respondent, and the actual information collection instruments.

**DATES:** Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for 60 days until December 12, 2017.

**ADDRESSES:** All submissions received must include the OMB Control Number 1615-0040 in the body of the letter, the agency name and Docket ID USCIS-2005-0035. To avoid duplicate submissions, please use only *one* of the following methods to submit comments:

(1) *Online.* Submit comments via the Federal eRulemaking Portal Web site at <http://www.regulations.gov> under e-Docket ID number USCIS-2005-0035;

(2) *Mail.* Submit written comments to DHS, USCIS, Office of Policy and Strategy, Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division, 20 Massachusetts Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20529-2140.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** USCIS, Office of Policy and Strategy, Regulatory Coordination Division, Samantha Deshommes, Chief, 20 Massachusetts Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20529-2140, telephone number 202-272-8377 (This is not a toll-free number. Comments are not accepted via telephone message). Please note contact information provided here is solely for questions regarding this notice. It is not for individual case status inquiries. Applicants seeking information about the status of their individual cases can check Case Status Online, available at the USCIS Web site at <http://www.uscis.gov>, or call the USCIS National Customer Service Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Comments**

You may access the information collection instrument with instructions, or additional information by visiting the Federal eRulemaking Portal site at <http://www.regulations.gov> and enter USCIS-2005-0035 in the search box. Regardless of the method used for submitting comments or material, all submissions will be posted, without change, to the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>, and will include any personal information you provide. Therefore, submitting this information makes it public. You may wish to consider limiting the amount of personal information that you provide in any voluntary submission you make to DHS. DHS may withhold information

provided in comments from public viewing that it determines may impact the privacy of an individual or is offensive. For additional information, please read the Privacy Act notice that is available via the link in the footer of <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

**Overview of This Information Collection**

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* Revision of a Currently Approved Collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Application for Employment Authorization.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the DHS sponsoring the collection:* I-765; USCIS.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* *Primary:* Individuals or households. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) uses Form I-765 to collect the information that is necessary to determine if an alien is eligible for an initial EAD, a new replacement EAD, or a subsequent EAD upon the expiration of a previous EAD under the same eligibility category. Aliens in many immigration statuses are required to possess an EAD as evidence of work authorization. To be authorized for employment, an alien must be lawfully admitted for permanent residence or authorized to be so employed by the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) or under regulations issued by DHS. Pursuant to statutory or regulatory authorization, certain classes of aliens are authorized to be employed in the United States

without restrictions as to location or type of employment as a condition of their admission or subsequent change to one of the indicated classes. USCIS may determine the validity period assigned to any document issued evidencing an alien's authorization to work in the United States. These classes are listed in 8 CFR 274a.12.

USCIS also collects biometric information from certain EAD applicants, from whom USCIS has not previously collected biometrics in connection with an underlying application or petition, to verify the applicant's identity, check or update their background information, and produce the EAD card.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* The estimated total number of respondents for the information collection I-765 is 2,135,224 and the estimated hour burden per response is 4.5 hours; the estimated total number of respondents for the information collection Biometric Processing is 405,067 and the estimated hour burden per response is 1.17 hours; the estimated total number of respondents for the information collection Form I-765WS is 266,148 and the estimated hour burden per response is .50 hours; the estimated total number of respondents for the information collection Passport-Style Photographs is 2,135,224 and the estimated hour burden per response is .50 hours;

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* The total estimated annual hour burden associated with this collection is 11,283,122 hours.

(7) *An estimate of the total public burden (in cost) associated with the collection:* The estimated total annual cost burden associated with this collection of information is \$649,107,900.

Dated: October 6, 2017.

**Samantha Deshommes,**

*Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division, Office of Policy and Strategy, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.*

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