

L. 104–13) requires that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)). This notice identifies an information collection that RUS is submitting to OMB for revision.

*Comments are invited on:* (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to: Thomas P. Dickson, Acting Director, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 1522, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250–1522. Telephone: (202) 690–1078, Fax: (202) 720–8435 or email: [Thomas.Dickson@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:Thomas.Dickson@wdc.usda.gov).

*Title:* Water and Waste Loan and Grant Program.

*OMB Control Number:* 0572–0121.

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

*Abstract:* USDA Rural Development, through the Rural Utilities Service, is authorized by Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926) to make loans to public agencies, nonprofit corporations, and Indian Tribes to fund water and waste disposal projects serving the most financially needy rural communities through the Water and Waste Disposal loan and grant program. Financial assistance should result in reasonable user costs for rural residents, rural businesses, and other rural users. The program is limited to rural areas and small towns with a population of 10,000 or less. The Water and Waste Loan and Grant Program is administered through 7 CFR part 1780. The items covered by this collection include forms and related documentation to support a loan application.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2.5 hours per response.

*Respondents:* Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local or Tribal Government.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 789.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 44,323 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from MaryPat Daskal, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, at (202) 720–7853, Fax: (202) 720–8435 or email: [MaryPat.Daskal@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:MaryPat.Daskal@wdc.usda.gov). All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: October 18, 2017.

**Christopher A. McLean,**

*Acting Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.*

[FR Doc. 2017–23359 Filed 10–26–17; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Complaint of Employment Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation Against the Department of Commerce

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, Office of Civil Rights, Commerce.

*Title:* Complaint of Employment Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation against the Department of Commerce.

*OMB Control Number:* 0690–0024.

*Form Number(s):* CD–545.

*Type of Request:* Regular submission (extension of a currently approved information collection).

*Burden Hours:* 10.

*Number of Respondents:* 20.

*Average Hours per Response:* 30 minutes.

*Needs and Use:* Pursuant to Executive Order 11478 and Department of Commerce Administrative Order (DAO) 215–11, an employee or applicant for employment with the Department of Commerce who alleges that he or she has been subjected to discriminatory treatment based on sexual orientation by the Department of Commerce or one of its sub-agencies, must submit a signed statement that is sufficiently precise to identify the actions or practices that

form the basis of the complaint. Through use of this standardized form, the Office of Civil Rights proposes to collect the information required by the Executive Order and DAO in a uniform manner that will increase the efficiency of complaint processing and trend analyses of complaint activity.

The DOC received no comments in response to the 60-day notice published in the **Federal Register** on April 14, 2017 (82 FR 17968).

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary.

This information collection request may be viewed at [www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov). Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [OIRA\\_Submission@omb.emp.gov](mailto:OIRA_Submission@omb.emp.gov) or faxed to (202) 395–5806.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

*Departmental PRA Lead, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Office of the Secretary

### Office of Civil Rights; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Complaint of Employment Discrimination Against the Department of Commerce

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

*Agency:* Office of the Secretary, Office of Civil Rights, Commerce.

*Title:* Complaint of Employment Discrimination against the Department of Commerce.

*OMB Control Number:* 0690–0015.

*Form Number(s):* CD–498, 498–A.

*Type of Request:* Regular (extension of a currently approved information collection).

*Number of Respondents:* 700.

*Average Hours per Response:* 350.

*Burden Hours:* 30 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$0.

*Needs and Uses:* This request is for an extension of a currently approved

information collection. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) regulations at 29 CFR 1614.106 require that a person alleging discriminatory treatment by a federal agency must submit a signed statement that is sufficiently precise to identify the general actions or practices that form the bases of the complaint. Although complainants are not required to use the proposed form to file their complaints, the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) strongly encourages its use to ensure complete and accurate case processing and data collection.

The DOC received no comments in response to the 60-day notice published in the **Federal Register** on April 14, 2017 (82 FR 17968).

**Affected Public:** Individuals and households.

**Frequency:** On occasion.

**Respondent's Obligation:** Voluntary.

This information collection request may be viewed at [reginfo.gov](http://reginfo.gov). Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [OIRA\\_Submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov) or fax to (202) 395-5806.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

*Departmental PRA Lead, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2017-23435 Filed 10-26-17; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Telecommunications and Information Administration

#### First Responder Network Authority

[Docket Number: 160429380-6380-02]

RIN 0660-XC025

#### Notice of Availability of a Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the East Region of the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network

**AGENCY:** First Responder Network Authority, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of a final programmatic environmental impact statement.

**SUMMARY:** The First Responder Network Authority (“FirstNet”) announces the availability of the Final Programmatic

Environmental Impact Statement for the East Region (“Final PEIS”). The Final PEIS evaluates the potential environmental impacts of the proposed nationwide public safety broadband network in the East Region (Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia).

**ADDRESSES:** The Final PEIS is available for download from [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) FIRSTNET-2017-0007. See Chapter 22 of the Final PEIS for the complete distribution list.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For more information on the Final PEIS, contact Amanda Goebel Pereira, NEPA Coordinator, First Responder Network Authority, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, M/S 243, Reston, VA 20192, (571) 665-6072.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (Pub. L. 112-96, Title VI, 126 Stat. 256 (codified at 47 U.S.C. 1401 *et seq.*)) (the “Act”) created and authorized FirstNet to take all actions necessary to ensure the building, deployment, and operation of an interoperable, nationwide public safety broadband network (“NPSBN”) based on a single, national network architecture. The Act meets a longstanding and critical national infrastructure need, to create a single, nationwide network that will, for the first time, allow police officers, fire fighters, emergency medical service professionals, and other public safety entities to effectively communicate with each other across agencies and jurisdictions. The NPSBN is intended to enhance the ability of the public safety community to perform more reliably, effectively, and safely; increase situational awareness during an emergency; and improve the ability of the public safety community to effectively engage in those critical activities.

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321-4347) (“NEPA”) requires federal agencies to undertake an assessment of environmental effects of their proposed actions prior to making a final decision and implementing the action. NEPA requirements apply to any federal project, decision, or action that may have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. NEPA also establishes the Council on

Environmental Quality (“CEQ”), which issued regulations implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (see 40 CFR parts 1500-1508). Among other considerations, CEQ regulations at 40 CFR 1508.28 recommend the use of *tiering* from a “broader environmental impact statement (such as a national program or policy statements) with subsequent narrower statements or environmental analysis (such as regional or basin wide statements or ultimately site-specific statements) incorporating by reference the general discussions and concentrating solely on the issues specific to the statement subsequently prepared.”

Due to the geographic scope of FirstNet (all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and five territories) and the diversity of ecosystems potentially traversed by the project, FirstNet elected to prepare five regional PEISs. The five PEISs are divided into the East, Central, West, South, and Non-Contiguous Regions. The East Region consists of Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia. The Final PEIS analyzes potential impacts of the deployment and operation of the NPSBN on the natural and human environment in the East Region, in accordance with FirstNet’s responsibilities under NEPA. Now that this PEIS has been completed and once a Record of Decision (ROD) has been signed, the proposed FirstNet projects can begin to submit the site-specific environmental documentation to determine if the proposed project has been adequately evaluated in the PEIS or whether it instead warrants a Categorical Exclusion, an Environmental Assessment, or an Environmental Impact Statement.

Dated: October 24, 2017.

**Amanda Goebel Pereira,**

*NEPA Coordinator, First Responder Network Authority.*

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