[FR Doc. 2021–24408 Filed 11–8–21; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 9110–12–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[OMB Control Number 1615–0015]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Extension, Without Change, of a Currently Approved Collection: Immigrant Petition for Alien Workers

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

ACTION: 30-Day notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 days for public comments.

DATES: Comments are encouraged and will be accepted until December 9, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time, must be submitted via the Federal eRulemaking Portal website at *http://www.regulations.gov* under e-Docket ID number USCIS–2007–0018. All submissions received must include the OMB Control Number 1615–0015 in the body of the letter, the agency name and Docket ID USCIS–2007–0018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: USCIS, Office of Policy and Strategy, Regulatory Coordination Division, Samantha Deshommes, Chief, Telephone number (240) 721–3000 (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 website at *http://www.uscis.gov,* or call the USCIS Contact Center at (800) 375–5283; TTY (800) 767–1833.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments

The information collection notice was previously published in the **Federal Register** on July 30, 2021, at 86 FR 41078, allowing for a 60-day public comment period. USCIS did not receive any comments in connection with the 60-day notice.

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–2007–0018 in the search box. The comments submitted to USCIS via this method are visible to the Office of Management and Budget and comply with the requirements of 5 CFR 1320.12(c). 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 Request:* Extension, Without Change, of a Currently Approved Collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Immigrant Petition for Alien Workers.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the DHS sponsoring the collection:* I–140; USCIS.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract: Primary:* Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions. The information collected on this form will be used by USCIS to determine eligibility for the requested immigration benefits under section 203(b)(1), 203(b)(2), or 203(b)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

(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–140 is 148,000 and the estimated hour burden per response is 1.08 hour.

(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 159,840 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 $20,596,559.

Dated: November 4, 2021.

Samantha L. Deshommes,

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

[FR Doc. 2021–24482 Filed 11–8–21; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 9111–97–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Geological Survey

[GX22GS00EMMA900]

2021 Draft List of Critical Minerals

AGENCY: U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of opportunity for public comment.

SUMMARY: The United States remains heavily dependent on imports of certain mineral commodities that are vital to the Nation's economic and national security interests. This dependency has the potential to create strategic vulnerabilities arising from adverse foreign actions, pandemics, natural disasters, or other events that can disrupt the supply of critical minerals. The Department of the Interior (DOI)

published a list of 35 critical minerals [1] or mineral groups on May 18, 2018, in response to Executive Order 13817—A Federal Strategy to Ensure Secure and Reliable Supplies of Critical Minerals.

DATES: To ensure consideration, written comments must be submitted before December 9, 2021.

ADDRESSES: You may submit written comments online at *http://www.regulations.gov* by entering ''DOI–2021–xxxx'' in the Search bar and clicking ''Search,'' or by mail to Draft List of Critical Minerals, MS–102, U.S. Geological Survey, 12201 Sunrise Valley Dr., Reston, VA 20192.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James Mosley, (703) 648–6312, *jmosley@usgs.gov.* Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1–800–877–8339 to contact Mr. Mosley during normal business hours. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with this individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours. Normal business hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Section 7002 (''Mineral Security'') of Title VII (''Critical Minerals'') of the Energy Act of 2020 (The Energy Act) (Pub. L. 116–260, December 27, 2020, 116th Cong.),[2] the Secretary of the Interior (The Secretary), acting through the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey, and in consultation with the Secretaries of Defense, Commerce, Agriculture, and Energy and the United States Trade Representative, is to ''publish in the **Federal Register** for public comment—(A) a description of the draft methodology used to identify a draft list of critical minerals; (B) a draft list of minerals, elements, substances, and materials that qualify as critical minerals; and (C) a draft list of critical minerals recovered as byproducts and their host minerals.'' Under the Energy Act, Sec. 7002 (c)(5)(A) the methodology and list shall be reviewed at least every 3 years.

On behalf of the Secretary, the Associate Director for Natural Hazards exercising the authority of the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey presents here a draft list of 50 mineral commodities proposed for inclusion on the 2021 list of critical minerals: Aluminum, antimony, arsenic, barite, beryllium, bismuth, cerium, cesium, chromium, cobalt, dysprosium, erbium, europium, fluorspar, gadolinium, gallium, germanium, graphite, hafnium, holmium, indium, iridium, lanthanum, lithium, lutetium, magnesium, manganese, neodymium, nickel, niobium, palladium, platinum, praseodymium, rhodium, rubidium, ruthenium, samarium, scandium, tantalum, tellurium, terbium, thulium, tin, titanium, tungsten, vanadium, ytterbium, yttrium, zinc, and zirconium.

Much of the increase in the number of mineral commodities, from 35 commodities and groups on the final 2018 list to 50 commodities on the 2021 draft list, is the result of splitting the rare earth elements and platinum group elements into individual entries rather than including them as mineral groups. In addition, the 2021 draft list adds nickel and zinc and removes helium, potash, rhenium, and strontium. The Energy Act of 2020 explicitly excluded fuel minerals from the definition of a critical mineral and the Mining and Mineral Policy Act of 1970 [3] formally defined uranium as a mineral fuel, so uranium was not evaluated for inclusion on the 2021 draft list of critical minerals.

Minerals were included on the 2021 draft list of critical minerals based on three evaluations: (1) A quantitative evaluation wherever sufficient data were available, (2) a semi-quantitative evaluation of whether the supply chain had a single point of failure, and (3) a qualitative evaluation when other evaluations were not possible. The report [4] describing the methodology and the technical input from the U.S. Geological Survey may be found at the following link: *https://doi.org/10.3133/ofr20211045* and further details are summarized in the supplementary information section below. The U.S. Geological Survey seeks comments on the make-up of the draft list and the rationale associated with potential additions or subtractions to the draft list as described in the methodology report.

The Energy Act of 2020, Section 7002(c)(4)(A), defined critical minerals as those which:

(i) ''are essential to the economic or national security of the United States;

(ii) the supply chain of which is vulnerable to disruption (including restrictions associated with foreign political risk, abrupt demand growth, military conflict, violent unrest, anti-competitive or protectionist behaviors, and other risks through-out the supply chain); and

(iii) serve an essential function in the manufacturing of a product (including energy technology-, defense-, currency-, agriculture-, consumer electronics-, and healthcare-related applications), the absence of which would have significant consequences for the economic or national security of the United States.''

Section 7002(a)(3)(B) further defined the term by stating that ''The term ''critical mineral'' does not include—

(i) fuel minerals;

(ii) water, ice, or snow;

(iii) common varieties of sand, gravel, stone, pumice, cinders, and clay.''

The Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970, 30 U.S.C. 21(a), defined ''mineral fuels'' as ''including oil, gas, coal, oil shale and uranium''. Based on these definitions, uranium was not evaluated for inclusion on the 2021 draft list of critical minerals.

The U.S. Government and other organizations may also use other definitions and rely on other criteria to identify a material or mineral as ''critical'' or otherwise important. This list is not intended to replace related terms and definitions of materials that are deemed strategic, critical or otherwise important (such as definitions related to the National Defense Stockpile, Specialty Materials, and Militarily Critical Materials). In addition, there are many minerals not listed on the critical minerals list that are important to the U.S. economy. These materials are not considered critical as defined by the Energy Act because the U.S. largely meets its needs for these through domestic mining and processing and thus a supply disruption is considered unlikely.

The 2021 draft list of critical minerals is based on a methodology developed over several years with leadership by the U.S. Geological Survey and interagency input coordinated by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy's National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) Critical Minerals Subcommittee. The 2021 update to the methodology was published by the U.S. Geological Survey in 2021 (*https://doi.org/10.3133/ofr20211045*) and includes three evaluations: (1) A quantitative evaluation wherever sufficient data were available, (2) a semi-quantitative evaluation of whether the supply chain

[1] Final Critical Minerals List 2018 *https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2018/05/18/2018-10667/final-list-of-critical-minerals-2018.*

[2] Energy Act of 2020 (Division Z of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021): *https://rules.house.gov/sites/democrats.rules.house.gov/files/BILLS-116HR133SA-RCP-116-68.pdf.*

[3] Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970 *https://openei.org/wiki/Mining_and_Minerals_Policy_Act_of_1970.*

[4] Nassar, N.T., and Fortier, S.M., 2021, Methodology and technical input for the 2021 review and revision of the U.S. Critical Minerals List: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 2021–1045, 31 p., *https://doi.org/10.3133/ofr20211045.*

had a single point of failure, and (3) a qualitative evaluation when other evaluations were not possible. The quantitative evaluation is an enhancement of the NSTC methodology published in 2018 (*https://doi.org/10.3133/ofr20181021*) and used to develop the 2018 list of critical minerals. The 2021 quantitative evaluation uses (A) a net import reliance indicator of the dependence of the U.S. manufacturing sector on foreign supplies, (B) an enhanced production concentration indicator which focuses on production concentration outside of the United States, (C) weights for each producing country's production contribution by its ability or willingness to continue to supply the United States, and converts the 2018 methodology's qualitative evaluation of economic importance into a quantitative evaluation of economic vulnerability for the U.S. manufacturing sector. Further details on the underlying rationale and the specific approach, data sources, and assumptions used to calculate each component of the supply risk metrics are described in the references cited in this notice.

Table 1 shows the result of the review of the list of critical minerals for 2021, ranked in order of decreasing supply chain risk when a quantitative evaluation was possible. The table columns indicate whether each mineral commodity recommended for inclusion on the 2021 draft list of critical minerals, the basis for the recommendation (quantitative evaluation, single point of failure, or qualitative evaluation), whether the commodity was included in on the 2018 final list of critical minerals, and whether it is produced primarily as a byproduct of another mineral commodity. Of the sixty-six mineral commodities listed in Table 1, fifty-four (82% of the minerals considered) could be evaluated using the quantitative NSTC methodology. This includes mineral commodities that are recommended for inclusion on the list based on a single point of supply chain failure, as applicable, even if the commodity did not meet the quantitative threshold cutoff. See methodology references for further details.

TABLE 1—SUMMARY OF EVALUATION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES FOR THE 2021 LIST OF CRITICAL MINERALS

Highest to lowest supply chain risk, based on quantitative evaluation [5]	Mineral commodity	Included on draft 2021 list of critical minerals?	Basis for recommended inclusion	On 2018 list of critical minerals?	Predominantly recovered as byproduct? [6]
1	Gallium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
2	Niobium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	No.
3	Cobalt	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
4	Neodymium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
5	Ruthenium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
6	Rhodium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
7	Dysprosium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
8	Aluminum	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	No.
9	Fluorspar	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	No.
10	Platinum	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	No.
11	Iridium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
12	Praseodymium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
13	Cerium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
14	Lanthanum	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
15	Bismuth	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
16	Yttrium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
17	Antimony	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
18	Tantalum	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	No.
19	Hafnium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
20	Tungsten	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	No.
21	Vanadium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
22	Tin	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	No.
23	Magnesium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	No.
24	Germanium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
25	Palladium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
26	Titanium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	No.
27	Zinc	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	No	No.
28	Graphite	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	No.
29	Chromium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	No.
30	Arsenic	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
31	Barite	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	No.
32	Indium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
33	Samarium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
34	Manganese	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	No.
35	Lithium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	No.
36	Tellurium	Yes	Quantitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
37	Lead	No	Not applicable	No	No.
38	Potash	No	Not applicable	Yes	No.
39	Strontium	No	Not applicable	Yes	No.
40	Rhenium	No	Not applicable	Yes	Yes.
41	Nickel	Yes	Single point of failure	No	No.
42	Copper	No	Not applicable	No	No.
43	Beryllium	Yes	Single point of failure	Yes	No.
44	Feldspar	No	Not applicable	No	No.
45	Phosphate	No	Not applicable	No	No.
46	Silver	No	Not applicable	No	Yes.

TABLE 1—SUMMARY OF EVALUATION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES FOR THE 2021 LIST OF CRITICAL MINERALS—Continued

Highest to lowest supply chain risk, based on quantitative evaluation [5]	Mineral commodity	Included on draft 2021 list of critical minerals?	Basis for recommended inclusion	On 2018 list of critical minerals?	Predominantly recovered as byproduct? [6]
47	Mica	No	Not applicable	No	No.
48	Selenium	No	Not applicable	No	Yes.
49	Cadmium	No	Not applicable	No	Yes.
50	Zirconium	Yes	Single point of failure	Yes	Yes.
51	Molybdenum	No	Not applicable	No	No.
52	Gold	No	Not applicable	No	No.
53	Helium	No	Not applicable	Yes	Yes.
54	Iron ore	No	Not applicable	No	No.
(7)	Cesium	Yes	Qualitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
(8)	Erbium	Yes	Qualitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
(8)	Europium	Yes	Qualitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
(8)	Gadolinium	Yes	Qualitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
(8)	Holmium	Yes	Qualitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
(8)	Lutetium	Yes	Qualitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
(8)	Rubidium	Yes	Qualitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
(8)	Scandium	Yes	Qualitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
(8)	Terbium	Yes	Qualitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
(8)	Thulium	Yes	Qualitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.
(8)	Uranium	Not evaluated	Not applicable	Yes	No.
(8)	Ytterbium	Yes	Qualitative evaluation	Yes	Yes.

Table 1 includes 11 mineral commodities that are not recommended for inclusion on the 2021 list of critical minerals. These mineral commodities did not meet the NSTC quantitative evaluation criteria, were determined not to have a single point of failure and were not included on the 2018 list of critical minerals. These eleven commodities (17% of the minerals evaluated) are: Lead, copper, feldspar, phosphate, silver, mica, selenium, cadmium, molybdenum, gold, and iron ore, ranked in order of their overall supply chain risk. While several of these are essential mineral commodities, their supply chain vulnerability is mitigated by domestic production, lack of import dependence, and diverse, secure sources of supply.

Mineral commodities that did not meet the criteria for the NSTC quantitative evaluation, but that have an identified single point of supply chain failure and an essential economic function, are recommended for inclusion on the 2021 list of critical minerals regardless of whether the commodities in question were on the 2018 list. Examples are beryllium and zirconium, which were on the 2018 list, and nickel, which was not. Increasing demand for nickel as a component for producing cathodes for lithium-ion batteries, and the limited mining, smelting, and refinery capacity in the United States make a compelling case for inclusion.

Zinc, which was not on the 2018 list of critical minerals, was above the quantitative threshold for inclusion on the 2021 draft list of critical minerals due to the increasing concentration of mine and smelter capacities globally and the continued refinement and development of the quantitative evaluation criteria.

Potash, rhenium, and strontium were on the 2018 list of critical minerals but do not meet the quantitative threshold and do not have a single point of failure. Potash, strontium, and rhenium have supply risk scores just below the quantitative threshold. This highlights the fact that the metrics developed with this methodology are best viewed as a continuum of supply risk rather than an as indication that supply risk does not exist for commodities below the quantitative cutoff. These three commodities all had very high trade exposure but low disruption potential. This reflects the fact that, while the United States was highly net import reliant for all three commodities, the production of these minerals was either not highly concentrated or was concentrated in countries considered to be reliable trade partners. Any changes in the supply chain dynamics of these commodities will be closely monitored, but none of the three is recommended for inclusion on the 2021 draft list of critical minerals.

Helium (like potash, rhenium, and strontium) was on the 2018 list of critical minerals but does not meet the quantitative threshold nor have a single point of failure. The United States is the world's leading producer and a net exporter of helium. Helium's trade exposure score was thus 0 and, in turn, its supply risk score was 0. Crude helium was produced in more than a dozen plants across several U.S. States, and several other plants produced grade-A Helium. Therefore, helium does not qualify for inclusion on the list based on the single point of failure criterion. Helium production outside the United States was concentrated in Qatar and Algeria. Both countries, as well as Canada, Russia, and Tanzania, are poised to increase their production as additional capacity becomes available in the near term. The Helium Stewardship Act of 2013-directed closure of the Federally managed helium reserve by the Bureau of Land Management has the potential to

[5] Ranked in order from highest to lowest risk based on a recency-weighted mean of the commodities' overall supply risk scores. See the published methodology (*https://doi.org/10.3133/ofr20211045*) for further details.

[6] Most mineral commodities are recovered as byproducts to some degree, but the share of primary production as a byproduct for the mineral commodities that are not identified as byproducts in the table is typically small. Rare earth elements (REEs) are mined both as byproducts of other mineral commodities (for example, iron ore or heavy-mineral sands) and as the main product. Where REEs are mined as the main product, the individual REEs are either byproducts or coproducts of each other. For simplicity, all REEs are labeled in the table as having been produced mostly as byproducts. Byproduct status can and does change, although notable changes over short periods of time are rare.

[7] Commodities that were not evaluated using the quantitative evaluation are not given a rank and are ordered alphabetically.

[8] USGS Mineral Commodity Summaries 2021 *https://pubs.usgs.gov/periodicals/mcs2021/mcs2021.pdf.*

increase uncertainty in the market. The global shift from conventional natural gas toward shale gas, which lacks recoverable quantities of helium, also has the potential to reduce the supply of helium, especially for the United States. While these factors make helium a commodity that bears watching, it is not recommended for inclusion on the 2021 draft list of critical minerals.

There were insufficient data to quantitatively evaluate several commodities that were on the 2018 list of critical minerals: Cesium, rubidium, scandium, and several REEs (europium, gadolinium, terbium, holmium, erbium, thulium, ytterbium, and lutetium). The United States has been completely net import reliant for all these commodities for many years.[8] No specific global production data were available for these commodities; however, general information suggests that production for each of these commodities is highly concentrated in a few countries. Scandium was produced mainly as a byproduct in China, Kazakhstan, the Philippines, Russia, and Ukraine. Cesium and rubidium had been produced in Australia, Canada, China, Namibia, and Zimbabwe; however, it is thought that all cesium and rubidium mine production outside of China has either ceased in recent years or come under control of Chinese companies. The REEs that were not analyzed because of the lack of data (namely europium, gadolinium, terbium, holmium, erbium, thulium, ytterbium, and lutetium) were all heavy REEs that were produced only or predominantly in China. Based on this qualitative evaluation, none of these commodities are recommended for removal from the list of critical minerals.

Mineral criticality is not static, but changes over time. This analysis represents the most recent available data for non-fuel mineral commodities and the current state of the methodology for evaluation of criticality.

Please submit written comments on this draft list by December 9, 2021 to facilitate consideration. In particular, the U.S. Geological Survey is interested in comments addressing the following topics: The make-up of the draft list and the rationale associated with potential additions or subtractions to the draft list. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personally identifiable information (PII) in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your PII, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your PII from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Authority: E.O. 13817, 82 FR 60835 (December 26, 2017) and The Energy Act of 2020, Section 7002 of Title VII (December 27, 2020).

Dated: November 4, 2021.

James D. Applegate,

Associate Director for Natural Hazards, Exercising the Delegated Authority of the Director, U.S. Geological Survey.

[FR Doc. 2021–24488 Filed 11–8–21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4334–63–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[NPS–WASO–CR–NAGPRA–NPS0031736; PPWOCRADN0–PCU00RP14.R50000 (211); OMB Control Number 1024–0144]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Regulations

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we, the National Park Service (NPS) are proposing to renew an information collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before January 10, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Send your comments on this information collection request (ICR) to Phadrea Ponds, NPS Information Collection Clearance Officer by email to *phadrea_ponds@nps.gov.* Please reference OMB Control Number 1024–0144 in the subject line of your comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request additional information about this ICR, contact Melanie O'Brien, Manager, National NAGPRA Program by email at *melanie_o'brien@nps.gov,* or by telephone at (202) 354–2204. Individuals who are hearing or speech impaired may call the Federal Relay Service at 1–800–877–8339 for TTY assistance.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.)* and 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), all information collections require approval under the PRA. We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

As part of our continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burdens, we invite the public and other Federal agencies to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following:

(1) Whether or not the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether or not the information will have practical utility.

(2) The accuracy of our estimate of the burden for this collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.

(3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

(4) How might the agency 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 response.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Abstract: Authorized by the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), U.S.C. 3001–3013, all public and private museums receiving Federal funds compile information regarding Native American cultural items in their possession or control. This information must be provided to lineal descendants, likely interested Indian tribes, Native Hawaiian organizations, and the NPS National NAGPRA Program. Under NAGPRA and its implementing regulations, we are mandated to collect any information that is pertinent in determining the cultural affiliation and geographical origin of Native American human remains and cultural items. This