

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Comments are required regarding; whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to 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.

Comments regarding this information collection received by January 17, 2024 will be considered. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it

displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Farm Service Agency

Title: Certified Mediation Program (7 CFR part 785).

OMB Control Number: 0560–0165.

Summary of Collection: The Farm Service (FSA) is administering the Certified Mediation Program as mandated by Subtitle A and B of Title V of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987 (Pub. L. 100–233), as amended, under the USDA Agricultural Mediation Program. USDA authorized FSA to administer the program. FSA makes grants to state-designated entities that provide mediation to agricultural producers, their lenders and others that are directly affected by the action of certain USDA agencies. In mediation, a trained impartial mediator helps participants review and discuss their conflicts, identify options to resolve disputes and agree on solutions.

Need and Use of the Information: FSA will collect information to determine whether the participants meet the eligibility requirements to be recipients of grant funds, and secondly, to determine if the grant is being administered as provided by the Agricultural Credit Act. Lack of adequate information to make these determinations could result in the improper administration and appropriation of Federal grant funds.

Description of Respondents: State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 42.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 2,772.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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BILLING CODE 3410–05–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

[Docket ID: FSA–2023–0017]

Request for Information on Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) FSA–153 Form Modernization and Information Collection Request

ACTION: Notice; and request for comment.

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency and Farm Production and Conservation Business Center, Department of Agriculture (USDA).

SUMMARY: The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is requesting information on proposed revisions to the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act Report (FSA–153 form). The FSA–153 requires updating. Specifically, the FSA–153 form needs clarification and updating to ensure that foreign owners (or long-term lessees) who are required to file the FSA–153 form have clear instructions and that USDA is collecting the most precise and meaningful data, so that the report to Congress is as accurate and insightful as possible. Foreign owners are investors who buy, sell, or hold a direct or indirect interest in U.S. agricultural land (or who hold long-term leases on agricultural land) and must report their holdings and transactions to USDA on the FSA–153 form. USDA uses the information on the submitted forms to generate the report that it submits to Congress. FSA is moving towards modernizing the collection of information process, clarifying and modernizing the FSA–153 form, and if funding becomes available, creating an electronic submission system that will allow foreign owners to report by filing electronically. In addition, this document requests public input for our plan to revise not only the information request, but ultimately, the regulation (which will likely result in further modifications at a later date to the FSA–153 form).

DATES: We will consider comments or information that we receive by February 16, 2024.

ADDRESSES: We invite you to send comments in response to this notice. You may submit comments, identified by Docket ID: FSA–2023–0017 in the