

Number of Respondents: 2,100.
Frequency of Responses: Reporting:
 On occasion.
Total Burden Hours: 67,200.

Office of Procurement and Property Management

Title: Procurement: Brand Name or Equal Provision and Clause.

OMB Control Number: 0505-0014.

Summary of Collection: In order to obtain goods or services, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), like other Federal agencies, has established agency contracting offices to enter into Federal contracts. The Agriculture Acquisition Regulation (AGAR) (48 CFR ch. 4) and the (48 CFR 411.171), provision (48 CFR 452.211-70), and a clause (48 452.211-71) permits the use of "brand name or equal" purchase descriptions to procure commercial products. Such descriptions require the offeror on a supply procurement to identify the "equal" item being offered and to indicate how that item meets the salient characteristics stated in the purchase description. The use of brand name or equal descriptions eliminates the need for bidders or offerors to read and interpret detailed specifications or purchase descriptions.

Need and Use of the Information: The Office of Procurement and Property Management (OPPM) will collect information to determine from the descriptive information furnished whether the offered "equal" item meet the salient characteristics of the Government's requirements. If information were not collected, OPPM would spend more time developing purchase descriptions and offerors would spend more time reading and interpreting the purchase descriptions.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 26,678.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting:
 On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 2,668.

Office of Procurement and Property Management

Title: Procurement: Key Personnel Clause.

OMB Control Number: 0505-0015.

Summary of Collection: In order to obtain goods or services, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), like other Federal agencies, has established agency contracting offices to enter into Federal contracts. These offices employ contracting officers, who issue solicitations to request offers (proposals) for required products or services from businesses in the private sector. When USDA wishes to acquire

research and development services (R&D), information technology (IT) design or support services, or advisory and assistance services, it must consider the capabilities of the personnel who the contractor assigns to the job. The contributions of certain contractor employees may be critical to the success of the work. Such employees are designated as "Key Personnel." The Agriculture Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR ch.4) (48 CFR 437.110) and 48 CFR 452.237-74) prescribes the Key Personnel clause to collect information about key contractor personnel. The contracting officer uses the Key Personnel clause to require the contractor to inform USDA, if a key person will no longer be available to perform work on the contract. Contractors whose contracts include the key personnel clause are required to notify the contracting officer about proposed substitutions for key personnel identified in the contract.

Need and Use of the Information: The Office of Procurement and Property Management (OPPM) will collect information to determine whether the departure of a key person from the contractor's staff could jeopardize contract performance, and to determine what accommodations or remedies may be taken. If the OPPM could not obtain information about departing key personnel, it could not ensure that qualified personnel continue to perform contract work.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; Non-for-profit institutions; State, Local, or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 300.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting:
 On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 300.

Office of Procurement and Property Management

Title: Procurement: Progress Reporting Clause.

OMB Control Number: 0505-0016.

Summary of Collection: In order to obtain goods or services, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), like other Federal agencies, has established agency contracting offices to enter into Federal contracts. These offices employ contracting officers, who request bids or offers for work from businesses in the private sector using solicitations. In order to administer contracts for research and development services (R&D), or for advisory and assistance services (AAS), contracting officers need information about contractor progress in performing the contracts. The Agriculture Acquisition Regulation (AGAR) (48 CFR ch.4) (48

CFR 437.270(a)) and (48 CFR 452.237-76) prescribe the Progress Reporting Clause to collect information about contractor progress. Contracting officers include the Progress Reporting Clause in R&D and AAS contracts to obtain information from the contractors about their performance.

Need and Use of the Information: The Office of Procurement and Property Management (OPPM) will collect information to compare actual progress and expenditures to anticipated performance and contractor representations on which the award was based. The information alerts the agency of technical problems; the need for additional staff resources or finding; and the probability of timely completion within the contract cost or price. If the contracting officers could not obtain progress report information, they would have to physically monitor the contractor's operation on a day to day basis throughout the performance period.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; Non-for-profit institutions; State, Local, or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 300.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting:
 Quarterly; Monthly.

Total Burden Hours: 5,400.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E6-14367 Filed 8-29-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-96-P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Connecticut State Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Connecticut State Advisory Committee will convene at 12 p.m. and adjourn at 2 p.m. on Friday, September 8, 2006 in Room 203 of the Commons Building, located on The Learning Corridor campus located at 43 Vernon St. in Hartford, Connecticut. The purpose of the meeting is for the committee to have orientation for new advisory committee members and to plan for the committee's September briefing on school choice.

Persons desiring additional information should contact Barbara de La Viez of the Eastern Regional Office, 202-376-7533 (TTY 202-376-8116). Hearing impaired persons who will

attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Eastern Regional Office at least 5 (five) working days before the scheduled date of the planning meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, August 24, 2006.

Ivy L. Davis,

*Acting Chief, Regional Programs
Coordination Unit.*

[FR Doc. E6-14417 Filed 8-29-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

DOC 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: U.S. Census Bureau.

Title: Service Annual Survey.

Form Number(s): Too numerous to list here (77 unique forms).

Agency Approval Number: 0607-0422.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Burden: 208,941 hours.

Number of Respondents: 57,652.

Avg. Hours per Response: 3 hours and 37 minutes.

Needs and Uses: Today, over 50 percent of all economic activity is accounted for by services that are narrowly defined to exclude retail and wholesale trade. The U.S. Census Bureau currently measures the total output of most of these service industries annually in its Service Annual Survey (SAS). This survey covers all or some of the following nine sectors: Transportation and Warehousing; Information; Finance and Insurance; Real Estate and Rental and Leasing; Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services; Administration and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services; Health Care and Social Assistance; Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation; and Other Services.

Data from the SAS are essential to a better understanding and higher quality estimates of economic growth, real output, prices, and productivity for our nation's economy. A broad spectrum of government and private stakeholders use these data in analyzing business and economic sectors; developing statistics on services; forecasting economic

growth; and compiling data on productivity, prices and gross domestic product (GDP). In addition, trade and professional organizations use these data to analyze industry trends, benchmark their own statistical programs and develop forecasts. Private businesses use these data to measure market share, analyze business potential and plan investments. Comprehensive, comparative annual data on the services sector are not available from any other source.

In addition to the general expense detail items that the SAS collects annually, the SAS will expand to collect additional detailed expense items in the 2007 survey year to replace the Business Expenses Survey (BES) for the industries that are currently covered by the SAS. In the 2008 survey year, the SAS will collect the same expense detail items as were collected in the 2006 survey year.

As is done every year before the Economic Census, the SAS will collect sales tax data in the 2006 survey year.

In order to reduce the number of the SAS forms, the SAS will combine generic forms at the sector level and will no longer have different forms for company level reporting units and Employer Identification Number (EIN) reporting units or taxable and tax-exempt firms. These changes will decrease the number of SAS forms from 272 to 77 unique forms.

The availability of these data will greatly improve the quality of the intermediate-inputs and value-added estimates in BEA's annual input-output and GDP by industry accounts.

The data produced in the SAS are critical to the accurate measurement of total economic activity.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), the primary Federal user, uses the information to develop the national income and product accounts, compile benchmark and annual input-output tables, and compute GDP by industry. Agencies of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) use the data for policy development and program management and evaluation. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) uses these data as inputs to its Producer Price Indexes and in developing productivity measurements. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) use the data for program planning and development of the National Health Expenditure Accounts. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) uses these data to assess the impact of regulatory policies. International agencies use the data to compare total domestic output to changing international activity. Private industry

also uses these data as a tool for marketing analysis.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit, Not-for-profit institutions.

Frequency: Annually.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Title 13 U.S.C., Sections 182, 224, and 225.

OMB Desk Officer: Susan Schechter, (202) 395-5103.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0266, Department of Commerce, room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dhynek@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Susan Schechter, OMB Desk Officer either by fax (202-395-7245) or e-mail (susan_schechter@omb.eop.gov).

Dated: August 24, 2006.

Madeleine Clayton,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E6-14355 Filed 8-29-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce (DOC) 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: Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), Commerce.

Title: Annual Survey of Foreign Direct Investment in the United States.

Form Numbers(s): BE-15(LF), BE-15(SF), BE-15(EZ), and BE-15 Supplement C.

Agency Approval Number: 0608-0034.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Burden: 107,900 hours.

Number of Respondents: 4,950.

Average Hours per Response: 21.8 hours.

Needs and Uses: The Annual Survey of Foreign Direct Investment in the United States (Form BE-15) obtains sample data on the financial structure and operations of nonbank U.S. affiliates of foreign investors. The data are needed to provide reliable, useful, and timely measures of foreign direct