

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

Forest Service

Forest Resource Coordinating Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of call for nominations.

SUMMARY: The Forest Resource Coordinating Committee (FRCC) is filling eight vacant positions. Candidates who wish to be considered for membership on the Forest Resource Coordinating Committee should submit an AD-755 application form, cover letter, and resume to the Secretary of Agriculture. The application form and additional information can be found at usda.gov/advisory_committee.xml.

DATES: Nomination applications are to be post marked by March 2, 2012

ADDRESSES: Nomination applications should be sent to Tom Vilsack, Secretary, Department of Agriculture (USDA), 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC, 20250, Attn: Forest Resource Coordinating Committee.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Maya Solomon, FRCC Coordinator, by phone at (202) 205-1376 or by email at mayasolomon@fs.fed.us or Ted Beauvais, FRCC Designated Federal Officer, by phone (202) 205-1190 or by email at tbeauvais@fs.fed.us.

Individuals who use telecommunications devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1 (800) 877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Positions are to be filled for:

- Two State foresters or equivalent State officials from geographically diverse regions of the United States.
- A representative of a State fish and wildlife agency.
- An owner of nonindustrial private forest land.

- Two conservation organization representatives.
- A representative from an Indian Tribe.
- A representative from a State Technical Committee established under section 1261 of the Food Security Act of 1985.

The 20-member committee was established by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to advise the Secretary of Agriculture on priorities and issues related to non-industrial private forest land. Members are charged with helping to clarify individual agency responsibilities; provide advice on the allocation of funds; and give direction and coordination of actions within USDA and the broader forestry sector, with specific focus on owners of non-industrial private forestland.

Members will serve staggered terms of up to three years. The committee meets at least once a year, travel expenses for non-federal members will be reimbursed. Individuals currently serving on other USDA advisory councils or commissions are ineligible to serve on this committee.

Individuals and organizations who wish to nominate experts for this or any other USDA advisory committee should submit a letter to the Secretary listing these individuals' names and business addresses, phone numbers, and email contact information. These individuals may be contacted now or in the future to determine their interest in serving as a committee member.

The Forest Service has special interest in assuring that women, minority groups, and persons with disabilities are adequately represented on these advisory committees. We encourage and welcome nominations for qualified female, minority, or persons with disabilities.

Dated: December 27, 2011.

Robin L. Thompson,

Associate Deputy Chief, State and Private Forestry.

[FR Doc. 2011-33729 Filed 1-3-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Business-Cooperative Service's intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the Feasibility Study program administered under the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP).

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by March 5, 2012 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Amy Cavanaugh, Management and Program Analyst, Rural Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 3252, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250-3201, Telephone (202) 260-1506.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Feasibility Study Program.

OMB Number: 0570-0061.

Expiration Date of Approval:

September 30, 2012.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The Agency anticipates publishing a proposed rule for REAP in calendar year 2012. This proposed rule will include changes to the Feasibility Study program as well as combine all associated burden for REAP into one paperwork burden package. Since the current Feasibility Study paperwork burden package expires September 30, 2012, the period of time between expiration and the publication of a REAP final rule would have to allow for continued operation of the Feasibility Study program. Thus, approval for extension is needed.

This grant program, authorized under the 2008 Farm Bill, makes grants to eligible entities to conduct feasibility studies for renewable energy systems that are eligible for financial assistance under the REAP. Entities eligible to receive grants under this program are agricultural producers and rural small

businesses. Grant funds under this program may be used only to conduct feasibility studies for renewable energy systems that would qualify for funding under the REAP. Agricultural producers and rural small businesses would be required to pay at least 75 percent of the cost of the feasibility study.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.4 hours per response.

Respondents: Agricultural producers and rural small businesses.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 354.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 10.

Estimated Number of Responses: 3,395.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 4,811.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Jeanne Jacobs, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Support Services Division at (202) 692-0040.

Comments: Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of USDA, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of USDA's estimate of the burden of the proposed 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 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 may be sent to Jeanne Jacobs, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Support Services Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, STOP 0742, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250-0742. 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: December 22, 2011.

Chadwick O. Parker,

Acting Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

[FR Doc. 2011-33685 Filed 1-3-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XY-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Business-Cooperative Service's intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance (EA/REDA) program administered under the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP).

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by March 5, 2012 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Amy Cavanaugh, Management and Program Analyst, Rural Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 3252, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250-3201, Telephone (202) 260-1506.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance Program.

OMB Number: 0570-0059.

Expiration Date of Approval: July 31, 2012.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The Agency anticipates publishing a proposed rule for REAP in calendar year 2012. This proposed rule will include changes to the EA/REDA program as well as combine all associated burden for REAP into one paperwork burden package. Since the current EA/REDA paperwork burden package expires July 31, 2012, the period of time between expiration and the publication of a REAP final rule would have to allow for continued operation of the program. Thus, approval for extension is needed.

This grant program, authorized under the 2008 Farm Bill, makes grants to eligible entities to provide energy audits and renewable energy development assistance to enable agricultural producers and rural small businesses to become more energy efficient and to use renewable energy technologies and resources. Entities eligible to receive grants under this program are State, tribal and local governments; land-grant

colleges and universities or other institutions of higher learning; rural electric cooperatives; public power entities and instrumentalities of a State, tribal, or local government. Grant funds under this program may be used to conduct and promote energy audits; provide recommendations and information on how to improve the energy efficiency of the operations of the agricultural producers and rural small businesses; and provide recommendations and information on how to use renewable energy technologies and resources in the operations. No more than five percent of the grant can be used for administrative purposes. Agricultural producers and rural small businesses for which a grantee is conducting an energy audit must pay at least 25 percent of the cost of the energy audit.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.3 hours per response.

Respondents: State, tribal and local governments; land-grant colleges and universities or other institutions of higher learning; rural electric cooperatives; public power entities; and instrumentalities of a State, tribal, or local government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 53.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 16.

Estimated Number of Responses: 865.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 1,161.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Jeanne Jacobs, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Support Services Division at (202) 692-0040.

Comments: Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of USDA, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of USDA's estimate of the burden of the proposed 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 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 may be sent to Jeanne Jacobs, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Support Services Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural