

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed changes in the NRCS National Handbook of Conservation Practices, Section IV of the Maine State NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) located at <http://www.me.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/draftStandards.html> for review and comment.

SUMMARY: It is the intention of NRCS in Maine to issue revised conservation practice standards in its National Handbook of Conservation Practices. The revised standard is: 370 Atmospheric Resource Quality Management.

DATES: Comments will be received on or before May 6, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Inquire in writing to Christopher R. Jones, State Resource Conservationist, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), 967 Illinois Avenue, Suite #3; Bangor, Maine 04401. Copies of the standard will be made available upon written request.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 343 of the Federal Agricultural Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 states that revisions made after enactment of the law to NRCS State Technical Guides used to carry out highly erodible land and wetland provisions of the law shall be made available for public review and comment. For the next 30 days the NRCS in Maine will receive comments relative to the proposed changes. Following that period, a determination will be made by the NRCS in Maine regarding disposition of those comments and a final determination of change will be made.

Dated: March 16, 2004.

Christopher R. Jones,
State Resource Conservationist.

[FR Doc. 04-7680 Filed 4-5-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Housing Service's (RHS) intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the

Section 502 Rural Housing Demonstration Program.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by June 7, 2004, to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Gloria L. Denson, Loan Specialist, Single Family Housing Direct Loan Division, RHS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 0783, South Building, Washington, DC 20250, Telephone 202-720-1474. (This is not a toll free number.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Section 502 Rural Housing Demonstration Program.

OMB Number: 0575-0114.

Expiration Date of Approval: October 31, 2004.

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

Abstract: Under section 506 (b), RHS may provide loans for innovative housing units and systems which do not meet existing published standards, rules, regulations or policies. The intended effect is to increase the availability of affordable rural housing for low-income families through innovative designs and systems.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 80 hours to complete the application, Proposal Content and Criteria, including additional material, specifications and blueprints.

Respondents: Business or other for profit.

Estimate Number of Respondents: 25.

Estimated Number of Responses Per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 2,000 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Brigitte Sumter, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, at (202) 692-0042.

Comments: Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of RHS, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of RHS's estimates 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 the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments may be sent to Brigitte Sumter, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Stop 0742, Washington, DC 20250. 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: March 19, 2004.

Arthur A. Garcia,

Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

[FR Doc. 04-7698 Filed 4-5-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Farm Service Agency Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCIES: Rural Housing Service (RHS) and Farm Service Agency (FSA), USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Agencies intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the programs for Form RD 1940-59, "Settlement Statement."

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by June 7, 2004 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gale Richardson, Loan Specialist, Single Family Housing Direct Loan Division, Rural Housing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Mail STOP 0783, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-0783, Telephone 202-720-1459. (This is not a toll free number.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Form RD 1940-59, "Settlement Statement."

OMB Number: 0575-0088.

Expiration Date of Approval: October 31, 2004.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection

Abstract: The Agencies are requesting an extension of the OMB clearance for Form RD 1940-59, "Settlement Statement." The Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (RESPA), as amended, required the disclosure of real estate settlement costs to home buyers and sellers. The Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) was instructed by the RESPA to develop a standard form for the