

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Public Consultation on Personnel Reliability Issues

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of public consultation meeting on personnel reliability of individuals with access to Select Agents.

SUMMARY: The National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity (NSABB), an advisory committee of the Federal Government, is hosting a public consultation to engage the scientific community and general public in a discussion of personnel reliability, with a focus on optimal characteristics of individuals with access to Select Agents. This public consultation is an opportunity for members of the scientific community and general public to provide input on these important issues.

DATE AND TIME: The one day public consultation will be held on April 3, 2009 from 8 a.m.—5:15 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held at the Bethesda Marriott, 5151 Pooks Hill Rd., Bethesda, MD.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Ronna Hill, NIH Office of Biotechnology Activities, by e-mail at hillro@od.nih.gov or by telephone at 301-435-2137. Faxes may be sent to the NIH Office of Biotechnology Activities at 301-496-9839.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Given heightened concerns about insider threats at organizations that work with highly pathogenic agents, the Federal government has charged the National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity (NSABB) with recommending a personnel reliability program for individuals with access to Select Agents. A portion of their recommendations will address the measures that institutions should undertake to assess whether individuals are trustworthy and reliable to work with these agents.

The Board appreciates the potential impact that any future requirements for personnel reliability programs would have on institutions and investigators, and thus is hosting a public consultation meeting to engage the scientific community, research organizations, and other stakeholders, including the general public, in a discussion of the personnel reliability

attributes being considered by the NSABB.

The meeting will be structured around several discussion panels. The first panel will be background presentations on extant personnel reliability programs and aspects of the current Select Agent Programs that address personnel reliability. Two subsequent panels will explore personnel reliability characteristics under consideration by the NSABB and approaches for assessing them. The personnel characteristics include scientific and professional integrity, compliance with biosafety and biosecurity standards, emotional stability, sound judgment, and freedom from vulnerability to coercion. Each panel will include ample time for in-depth plenary discussion of the issues surrounding each topic. Specific discussion questions will be posted ahead of time on the NSABB Web site at: <http://www.biosecurityboard.gov>.

The Board is interested in hearing perspectives from such individuals as investigators who work with Select Agents, senior research officials at institutions registered for Select Agent work, security think tank analysts, responsible officials under the Select Agent program, and individuals who promote the responsible conduct of research and have studied issues of research integrity. Others are equally welcomed and encouraged to participate.

The meeting is open to the public and free of charge. Due to limited space, pre-registration is encouraged. To register, please connect to <http://www.biosecurityboard.gov>. Notice of this meeting will also be published in the **Federal Register**. Any groups or individuals who cannot attend the meeting are encouraged to submit in advance of the meeting written comments to: nsabb@od.nih.gov. Please note that this meeting will not be Web cast. More information about the NSABB is available at <http://www.biosecurityboard.gov>.

Dated: March 9, 2009.

Amy P. Patterson,

Director, Office of Biotechnology Activities, National Institutes of Health.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

[Docket ID: FEMA-2009-0001]

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

ACTION: Notice; 60-day notice and request for comments; revision of a currently approved information collection; OMB No. 1660-0001; FEMA Form 646-0-1 (new number assignment replacing FEMA Form 85-3), National Defense Executive Reserve Personal Qualifications Statement.

SUMMARY: The Federal Emergency Management Agency, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on a proposed extension, without change, of a currently approved information collection. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this Notice seeks comments concerning the application process by which FEMA uses to fill positions within the National Defense Executive Reserve Program.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before May 12, 2009.

ADDRESSES: To avoid duplicate submissions to the docket, please use only one of the following means to submit comments:

(1) *Online.* Submit comments at <http://www.regulations.gov> under docket ID FEMA-2009-0001. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

(2) *Mail.* Submit written comments to Office of Chief Counsel, Regulation and Policy Team, DHS/FEMA, 500 C Street, SW., Room 835, WASH, DC 20472-3100.

(3) *Facsimile.* Submit comments to (703) 483-2999.

(4) *E-mail.* Submit comments to FEMA-POLICY@dhs.gov. Include docket ID FEMA-2009-0001 in the subject line.

All submissions received must include the agency name and docket ID. Regardless of the method used for submitting comments or material, 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 read the Privacy Act notice that is available on

the Privacy and Use Notice link on the Administration Navigation Bar of <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Carol L. Johnson NDER Program Manager, FEMA, (202) 646-3328, e-mail Carol.Johnson1@DHS.GOV for additional information. You may contact the Records Management Branch for copies of the proposed collection of information at facsimile number (202) 646-3347 or e-mail address: FEMA-Information-Collections@dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Defense Executive Reserve (NDER) program was established by Section 710(e) of the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended. Under Executive Order 12919, National Defense Industrial Resources Preparedness, June 3, 1994, Part VI, Section 601, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency

(FEMA) coordinates the NDER program activities of departments and agencies with NDER units. The Homeland Security Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 107-296) transfers to the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) the authorities and responsibilities of the Administrator of FEMA. Under the provisions of DHS Delegation Number 9000, the Secretary has delegated authority to perform functions relating to the NDER program to the Administrator of FEMA.

Collection of Information

Title: National Defense Executive Reserve Personal Qualifications Statement.

Type of Information Collection: Revision of a currently approved information collection.

OMB Number: 1660-0001.

Form Titles and Numbers: FEMA Form 646-0-1 (new number assignment

replacing FEMA Form 85-3), National Defense Executive Reserve Personal Qualifications Statement.

Abstract: FEMA Form 646-0-1, National Defense Executive Reserve Personal Qualifications Statement, is an application form that is used by Federal departments and agencies to fill NDER vacancies. To become a Reservist, individuals with the requisite qualifications must complete the application form. FEMA serves as the NDER coordinator for all Federal departments and agencies, ensuring that applicants are not already serving in a Federal department or agency sponsored unit and determines the Federal department or agency best suited for the applicant.

Affected Public: "Individuals or households".

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 5 Hours.

TABLE A.12—ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS AND COSTS

Type of respondent	Form name/form no.	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Avg. burden per response (in hours)	Total annual burden (in hours)	Avg. hourly wage rate	Total annual respondent cost
Individuals or households	National Defense Executive Reserve Personal Qualifications Statement / FEMA Form 646-0-1.	10	1	.5 Hours	5 Hours	72.77	\$363.86
Total		10			5 Hours		\$363.86

Estimated Cost: The estimated annualized cost to respondents based on wage rate categories is \$363.86.

Comments

Comments may be submitted as indicated in the **ADDRESSES** caption above. Comments are solicited to (a) evaluate whether the proposed data collection is necessary for the proper performance of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) 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; (c) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) 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.

Larry Gray,

Director, Records Management Division, Office of Management, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Docket ID: FEMA-2009-0001]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

ACTION: Notice; 30-day notice and request for comments; revision of a currently approved information

collection; OMB No. 1660-0045; No Forms.

SUMMARY: The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has submitted the information collection abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget for review and clearance in accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The submission describes the nature of the information collection, the categories of respondents, the estimated burden (*i.e.*, the time, effort and resources used by respondents to respond) and cost, and includes the actual data collection instruments FEMA will use.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before April 13, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the proposed information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget. Comments should be addressed to the Desk Officer for the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency