

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

October 16, 2012.

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 regarding (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (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 should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8681.

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.

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyard Administration

Title: Survey of Customers of the Official Grain Inspection and Weighing System.

OMB Control Number: 0580-0018.

Summary of Collection: The United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71-87) (USGSA), and the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1621-1627) (AMA), authorizes the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture to establish official inspection, grading, and weighing programs for grains and other agricultural commodities. Under the USGSA and AMA, Grain Inspection, the Packers and Stockyard Administration's (GIPSA) Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) offers inspecting, weighing, grading, quality assurance, and certification services for a user-fee to facilitate the efficient marketing of grain, oilseeds, rice, lentils, dry peas, edible beans, and related agricultural commodities in the global marketplace. The goal of FGIS and the official inspection, grading, and weighing system is to provide timely, high-quality, accurate, consistent, and professional services that facilitates the orderly marketing of grain and related commodities. FGIS will collect information using a survey.

Need and Use of the Information: FGIS is seeking feedback from customers to evaluate the services provided by the official inspection, grading, and weighing programs. FGIS will collect information to determine where and to what extent services are satisfactory, and where and to what extent they can be improved. The information will be shared with other managers and program leaders who will be responsible for making any necessary improvements at the office/agency, program, and project level.

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

Number of Respondents: 1,100.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 113.

Charlene Parker,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2012-25967 Filed 10-19-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-KD-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Conference on International Trade Issues Facing U.S. Machinery Manufacturing Industries

AGENCY: Manufacturing and Services, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On December 4, 2012 the Office of Transportation and Machinery will hold a one-day conference on bilateral and multi-lateral international trade issues impacting the U.S. machinery manufacturing industries, with emphasis on tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade and global market access.

DATES: Tuesday, December 4, 2012.

ADDRESSES: International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Forrest Nielsen, Machinery Team, Manufacturing and Services, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone (202) 482-5784, Email Forrest.Nielsen@trade.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Machinery manufacturing is one of the largest and most competitive sectors of the American manufacturing economy. The United States is the world's third-largest supplier of capital equipment, exporting more than \$160 billion in 2011.

The economic impact of machinery manufacturing extends throughout the American economy. Machinery industries provide essential and highly sophisticated technology for many other manufacturing and service industries. Process control and other automation technologies enable end-users to maximize the productivity of their equipment. Sales of many types of machinery are accompanied by a variety of high-value services, as well,

including specialized architecture, engineering, and logistics. Machinery manufacturing industries employ more than one million American workers in well-compensated trades and professions.

The Office of Transportation and Machinery (OTM) has been working for several months to identify significant trade barriers facing U.S. machinery manufacturer exporters in foreign market destinations. OTM strives to provide senior U.S. Government policy-makers with well-informed policy analysis for use in expanding international markets across the broad range of U.S. machinery exports. OTM will hold a one-day conference to conduct a dialog and review with our private-sector stakeholders what we have learned and further refine our understanding of the market access challenges they face.

Dated: Tuesday, October 16, 2012.

Thomas Sobotta,

Acting Office Director—MAS Office of Transportation & Machinery.

[FR Doc. 2012-25930 Filed 10-19-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3570-DR-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

[Docket Number 121010534-2534-01]

Annual Retail Trade Survey

AGENCY: Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of determination.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of the Census (Census Bureau) publishes this notice to announce that the Director of the Census Bureau has determined the need to conduct the 2012 Annual Retail Trade Survey (ARTS). ARTS covers employer firms with establishments located in the United States and classified in the Retail Trade and/or Accommodation and Food Services sectors as defined by the 2007 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Through this survey, the Census Bureau will collect data covering annual sales, annual e-commerce sales, year-end inventories held inside and outside the United States, total and detailed operating expenses, purchases, accounts receivables, and, for selected industries, merchandise line sales, and percent of e-commerce sales to customers located outside the United States. These data are collected to provide a sound statistical basis for the formation of policy by various government agencies.

Results will be available for use for a variety of public and business needs such as economic and market analysis, company performance, and forecasting future demand. The Census Bureau conducts the ARTS to provide continuing and timely national statistical data on retail trade, and accommodation and food services activity annually. The 2012 ARTS is a separate collection and is not part of 2012 Economic Census.

ADDRESSES: The Census Bureau will provide report forms to businesses included in the survey. Additional copies are available upon written request to the Director, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC 20233-0101.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Aneta Erdie, Service Sector Statistics Division, at (301) 763-4841 or by email at aneta.erdie@census.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Sections 182, 224, and 225 of Title 13 of the United States Code (U.S.C.) authorize the Census Bureau to take surveys that are necessary to produce current data on the subjects covered by the major censuses. As part of this authorization, the Census Bureau conducts the ARTS to provide continuing and timely national statistical data on retail trade, and accommodation and food services activity for the period between economic censuses and, for this year, during the economic census. ARTS is a continuation of similar retail trade surveys conducted each year since 1951 (except 1954). ARTS covers employer firms with establishments located in the United States and classified in the Retail Trade and/or Accommodation and Food Services sectors as defined by the 2007 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). ARTS provides, on a comparable classification basis, annual sales, annual e-commerce sales, purchases, total and detailed operating expenses, accounts receivables, and year-end inventories held inside and outside the United States for 2012. The Census Bureau has determined that the conduct of this survey is necessary because these data are not available publicly on a timely basis from any other sources.

For the 2012 ARTS, we will request data on detailed operating expenses that were previously requested under a separate supplemental mailing (conducted every five years). The last supplemental mailing was conducted for the 2007 ARTS under OMB Control Number 0607-0942. While the retail portion of that program will be collapsed into the ARTS, we will continue to ask only the additional

detailed expense questions every five years.

Firms are selected for the ARTS using a stratified random sample based on industry groupings and annual sales size. We will provide report forms to the firms covered by this survey in February 2013, and will require their responses within 50 days after receipt. Firms' responses to the ARTS are required by law (Title 13 U.S.C. Sections 182, 224, and 225). The sample of firms selected will provide, with measurable reliability, statistics on annual sales, annual e-commerce sales, purchases, total and detailed operating expenses, accounts receivables, and year-end inventories held both inside and outside the United States for 2012.

The data collected in this survey be similar to that collected in the past and within the general scope and nature of those inquiries covered in the economic census. These data are collected to provide a sound statistical basis for the formation of policy by various government agencies. Results will be available for use for a variety of public and business needs including economic and market analysis, company performance, and forecasting future demand.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) unless that collection of information displays a current valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. In accordance with the PRA, 44 U.S.C. §§ 3501-3521, OMB has approved the Annual Retail Trade Survey under OMB Control Number 0607-0013.

Based upon the foregoing, I have directed that an annual survey be conducted for the purpose of collecting these data.

Dated: October 16, 2012.

Thomas L. Mesenbourg, Jr.,

Acting Director, Bureau of the Census.

[FR Doc. 2012-25909 Filed 10-19-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Order No. 1851]

Grant of Authority; Establishment of a Foreign-Trade Zone Under the Alternative Site Framework; West Tennessee Area

Pursuant to its authority under the Foreign-Trade Zones Act of June 18, 1934, as