

Dated: July 11, 2018.

Patricia Hu,

Director, Bureau of Transportation Statistics,
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research
and Technology U.S. Department of
Transportation.

[FR Doc. 2018-15316 Filed 7-17-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-9X-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau

[Docket No. TTB-2018-0001]

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request (No. 70) for Chemist Certification Program

AGENCY: Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of our continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, and as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) invites comments on the proposed information collection associated with its chemist certification program.

DATES: Comments are due on or before September 17, 2018.

ADDRESSES: As described below, you may send comments on the proposed information collection using the “Regulations.gov” online comment form for this document, or you may send written comments via U.S. mail or hand delivery. TTB no longer accepts public comments via email or fax.

- <https://www.regulations.gov>: Use the comment form for this document posted within Docket No. TTB-2018-0001 on “Regulations.gov,” the Federal e-rulemaking portal, to submit comments via the internet;

- *U.S. Mail:* Michael Hoover, Regulations and Rulings Division, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, 1310 G Street NW, Box 12, Washington, DC 20005.

- *Hand Delivery/Courier in Lieu of Mail:* Michael Hoover, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, 1310 G Street NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20005.

Please reference the proposed information collection’s title in your comment. You may view copies of this document and all comments received in response to this document within Docket No. TTB-2018-0001 at <https://www.regulations.gov>. A link to that docket is posted on the TTB website at

<https://www.ttb.gov/forms/comment-on-form.shtml>. You may also obtain paper copies of this document and any comments received in response to this document by contacting Michael Hoover at the addresses or telephone number shown below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Hoover, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, 1310 G Street NW, Box 12, Washington, DC 20005; telephone (202) 453-1039, ext. 135; or email informationcollections@ttb.gov (please *do not* submit comments on the proposed information collection to this email address).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Department of the Treasury and its Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB), as part of a continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on the proposed information collection associated with TTB’s chemist certification program.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be included or summarized in our request for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval of the proposed information collection. All comments are part of the public record and subject to disclosure. Please do not include any confidential or inappropriate material in comments.

In particular, we invite comments on: (a) Whether the information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the agency’s functions, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the information collection’s burden; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; (d) ways to minimize the information collection’s burden on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide the requested information.

Chemist Certification Information Collection

Currently, we are seeking comments on the following information collection:

Title: Applications, Notices, and Record Related to the Voluntary Chemist Certification Program for the Analysis of Wine, Distilled Spirits, and Beer for Export.

OMB Number: 1513-NEW.

Abstract: The TTB chemist certification program, established under the authority of section 105(e) of the Federal Alcohol Administration Act (FAA Act; 27 U.S.C. 205(e)), is a voluntary program that certifies private industry chemists to analyze alcohol beverages and report the results of specific chemical analyses on alcohol beverages to the governments of importing countries. As a condition of importation, some countries require that their own government laboratories (or laboratories certified by their government) perform these analyses, while other countries allow a person certified by the government of the exporting country to perform the analyses. TTB conducts its chemist certification program as a service to the alcohol beverage industry to facilitate the export of domestic alcohol beverage products. This certification program helps ensure that chemists, enologists, brewers, and technicians (referred to in this document collectively as “chemists”) generate quality data and have the required proficiencies to conduct chemical analyses associated with exportation of alcohol beverages from the United States.

The information collected under TTB’s chemist certification program includes: Letterhead applications for chemist certification and supporting documentation such as copies of diplomas, transcripts, accreditation certificates, and laboratory verification statements; results of qualifying analyses of TTB-supplied alcohol beverage samples made by applicants; and miscellaneous letterhead applications and notices to TTB such as applications and supporting documents related to requests for certification in additional types of analysis, requests for TTB-affirmed reports of analysis, and notices of changes in employment place or status. TTB believes the burden associated with the application portion of this information collection is minimal and is the minimum necessary to ensure that certified chemists are professionally qualified to conduct analyses of alcohol beverages for export purposes.

Certified chemists also must retain, and allow TTB inspection of, records of all analysis results conducted under the authority of a TTB certificate, for a period of up to two years. In addition, the laboratories of certified chemists must retain for a similar period, and allow TTB inspection of, records related to laboratory equipment, laboratory quality control policies, procedures and systems, analyst training and competence, and analysis records pertaining to certified tests. TTB believes that the required records are

usual and customary records that chemists and laboratories keep during the normal course of business, regardless of any TTB requirement to do so, and, as such, the keeping of such records imposes no additional burden on respondents.

Current Actions: TTB is submitting this new information collection for approval by the Office of Management and Budget.

Type of Review: Approval of new collection.

Affected Public: Individuals; businesses and other for-profits.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 310.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 495.

Dated: July 12, 2018.

Amy R. Greenberg,

Director, Regulations and Rulings Division.

[FR Doc. 2018-15287 Filed 7-17-18; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Departmental Offices; Debt Management Advisory Committee; Meeting

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. App. 2, 110(a)(2), that a meeting will be held at the Hay-Adams Hotel, 16th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC on July 31, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. of the following debt management advisory committee: Treasury Borrowing Advisory Committee of The Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association.

The agenda for the meeting provides for a charge by the Secretary of the Treasury or his designate that the Committee discuss particular issues and conduct a working session. Following the working session, the Committee will present a written report of its recommendations. The meeting will be closed to the public, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. App. 2, 10(d) and Public Law 103-202, § 202(c)(1)(B)(31 U.S.C. 3121 note).

This notice shall constitute my determination, pursuant to the authority placed in heads of agencies by 5 U.S.C. App. 2, 10(d) and vested in me by Treasury Department Order No. 101-05, that the meeting will consist of discussions and debates of the issues presented to the Committee by the Secretary of the Treasury and the making of recommendations of the Committee to the Secretary, pursuant to Public Law 103-202, § 202(c)(1)(B). Thus, this information is exempt from disclosure under that provision and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(3)(B). In addition, the

meeting is concerned with information that is exempt from disclosure under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(A). The public interest requires that such meetings be closed to the public because the Treasury Department requires frank and full advice from representatives of the financial community prior to making its final decisions on major financing operations. Historically, this advice has been offered by debt management advisory committees established by the several major segments of the financial community. When so utilized, such a committee is recognized to be an advisory committee under 5 U.S.C. App. 2, 3.

Although the Treasury's final announcement of financing plans may not reflect the recommendations provided in reports of the Committee, premature disclosure of the Committee's deliberations and reports would be likely to lead to significant financial speculation in the securities market. Thus, this meeting falls within the exemption covered by 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(A).

Treasury staff will provide a technical briefing to the press on the day before the Committee meeting, following the release of a statement of economic conditions and financing estimates. This briefing will give the press an opportunity to ask questions about financing projections. The day after the Committee meeting, Treasury will release the minutes of the meeting, any charts that were discussed at the meeting, and the Committee's report to the Secretary.

The Office of Debt Management is responsible for maintaining records of debt management advisory committee meetings and for providing annual reports setting forth a summary of Committee activities and such other matters as may be informative to the public consistent with the policy of 5 U.S.C. 552(b). The Designated Federal Officer or other responsible agency official who may be contacted for additional information is Fred Pietrangeli, Director for Office of Debt Management (202) 622-1876.

Dated: July 6, 2018.

Fred Pietrangeli,

Director, Office of Debt Management.

[FR Doc. 2018-14869 Filed 7-17-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-25-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Solicitation of Nominations for Appointment to the Veterans and Community Oversight and Engagement Board

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is seeking nominations of qualified candidates to be considered for appointment as a member of the Veterans and Community Oversight and Engagement Board (herein-after referred in this section to as "the Board") for the VA West Los Angeles Campus in Los Angeles, CA ("Campus"). The Board is established to coordinate locally with the Department of Veterans Affairs to identify the goals of the community and Veteran partnership; provide advice and recommendations to the Secretary to improve services and outcomes for Veterans, members of the Armed Forces, and the families of such Veterans and members; and provide advice and recommendations on the implementation of the Draft Master Plan approved by the Secretary on January 28, 2016, and on the creation and implementation of any other successor master plans.

DATES: Nominations for membership on the Board must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. EST on August 10, 2018.

ADDRESSES: All nominations should be mailed to the Veterans Experience Office,

Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, (30), Washington, DC 20420; or sent electronically to the Advisory Committee Management Office mailbox at vaadvisorycmte@va.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Eugene W. Skinner, Jr., Designated Federal Officer, Veterans Experience Office, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW (30), Washington, DC 20420, telephone 202-631-7645 or via email at Eugene.Skinner@va.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In carrying out the duties set forth in the West LA Leasing Act, the Board shall:

(1) Provide the community with opportunities to collaborate and communicate by conducting public forums; and

(2) Focus on local issues regarding the Department that are identified by the community with respect to health care, implementation of the Master Plan, and any subsequent plans, benefits, and memorial services at the Campus. Information on the Master Plan can be