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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

Rural Housing Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection: comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of USDA Rural Development or individually as Housing and Community Programs, Business and Cooperative Programs, Utility Programs, to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of compliance with applicable acts for planning and performing construction and other development work.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by February 1, 2013 to be assured consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

William R. Downs, Supervisory Architect, Program Support Staff, RHS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Stop 0761, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0761, Telephone (202) 720-1499 or (202) 720-9619 or via email at william.downs@wdc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: RD 1924-A, "Planning and Performing Construction and Other Development."

OMB Number: 0575-0042.

Expiration Date of Approval: April 30, 2013.

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

Abstract: The information collection under OMB Number 0575-0042 enables the Agencies to effectively administer the policies, methods, and responsibilities in the planning and performing of construction and other

development work for the related construction programs.

Section 501 of Title V of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended, authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to extend financial assistance to construct, improve, alter, repair, replace, or rehabilitate dwellings; farm buildings; and/or related facilities to provide decent, safe, and sanitary living conditions, as well as adequate farm buildings and other structures in rural areas.

Section 506 of the Act requires that all new buildings and repairs shall be constructed in accordance with plans and specifications as required by the Secretary and that such construction be supervised and inspected.

Section 509 of the Act grants the Secretary the power to determine and prescribe the standards of adequate farm housing and other buildings. The Housing and Urban Rural Recovery Act of 1983 amended section 509(a) and section 515 to require residential buildings and related facilities to comply with the standards prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture, the standard prescribed by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, or the standards prescribed in any of the nationally recognized model building codes.

Similar authorizations are contained in sections 303, 304, 306, and 339 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, as amended, which authorized loans and grants for essential community services.

In several sections of both acts, loan limitations are established as percentages of development cost, requiring careful monitoring of those costs. Also, the Secretary is authorized to prescribe regulations to ensure that Federal funds are not wasted or dissipated and that construction will be undertaken in an economic manner and will not be of elaborate or extravagant design or materials.

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is the credit Agency for rural water and wastewater development within Rural Development of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The Rural-Business-Cooperative Service (RBS) is the credit Agency for rural business development within Rural Development of USDA. These Agencies adopted use of forms in RD Instruction 1924-A. Information for their usage is included in this report.

Other information collection is required to conform to numerous Public Laws applying to all Federal agencies, such as: Civil Rights Acts of 1964 and 1968, Davis-Bacon Act, Historic Preservation Act, Environmental Policy Act, and to conform to Executive Orders governing use of Federal funds. This information is cleared through the appropriate enforcing Agency or other executive Departments.

The Agencies provide forms and/or guidelines to assist in the collection and submission of information; however, most of the information may be collected and submitted in the form and content which is accepted and typically used in normal conduct of planning and performing development work in private industry when a private lender is financing the activity. The information is usually submitted via hand delivery or U.S. Postal Service to the appropriate Agency office. Electronic submittal of information is also possible through email or USDA's Service Center eForms Website.

The information is used by the Agencies to determine whether a loan/grant can be approved, to ensure that the Agency has adequate security for the loans financed, to provide for sound construction and development work, and to determine that the requirements of the applicable acts have been met. The information is also used to monitor compliance with the terms and conditions of the Agencies' loan/grant programs and to monitor the prudent use of Federal funds.

If the information were not collected and submitted, the Agencies would not have control over the type and quality of construction and development work planned and performed with Federal funds. The Agencies would not be assured that the security provided for loans is adequate, nor would the Agencies be certain that decent, safe, and sanitary dwelling or other adequate structures were being provided to rural residents as required by the different acts.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .31 hours per response.

Respondents: Individuals or households, farms, business or other for-profit, non-profit institutions, and small businesses or organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 16,000.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 2.

Estimated Number of Responses: 251,016.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 77,528 hours.

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

Comments: Comments are invited on:

(a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the function of the Agencies, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agencies' estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of 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, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Stop 0742, 1400 Independence Avenue 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: November 16, 2012.

Tammye Treviño,

Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

[FR Doc. 2012-29131 Filed 11-30-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

Agency: U.S. Census Bureau.

Title: Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement.

OMB Control Number: 0607-0354.

Form Number(s): CPS-580 (ASEC), CPS-580 (ASEC)SP, CPS-676, CPS-676(SP).

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Burden Hours: 36,400.

Number of Respondents: 78,000.

Average Hours per Response: 28 minutes.

Needs and Uses: The purpose of this request for review is to obtain clearance for the Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC), which we will conduct in conjunction with the February, March, and April Current Population Survey (CPS). Congressional passage of the State Children's Health Insurance Program, or Title XXI, led to a mandate from Congress in 1999 that the sample size for the CPS, and specifically the Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC), be increased to a level whereby more reliable estimates can be derived for the number of individuals participating in this program at the state level. By administering the ASEC in February, March, and April, we have been able to achieve this goal.

The U.S. Census Bureau has conducted this supplement annually for over 60 years. The Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) sponsor this supplement.

The proposed supplement, as it will appear in the CPS instrument, contains the same items that were in the 2012 ASEC instrument, with the exception that questions on current public assistance (Q96—Q97) are no longer included.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Frequency: Annually.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Title 13, United States Code, Section 182, and Title 29, United States Code, Sections 1-9.

OMB Desk Officer: Brian Harris-Kojetin, (202) 395-7314.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0336, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at jjessup@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Brian Harris-Kojetin, OMB Desk Officer either by fax (202-395-7245) or email (bharrisk@omb.eop.gov).

Dated: November 27, 2012.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2012-29054 Filed 11-30-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

Agency: U.S. Census Bureau.

Title: 2013 Current Population Survey Annual Social & Economic Supplement. Content Test.

OMB Control Number: None

Form Number(s): The automated survey instrument has no form number.

Type of Request: New collection.

Burden Hours: 10,000.

Number of Respondents: 15,000.

Average Hours Per Response: 40 minutes.

Needs and Uses: The Current Population Survey (CPS) Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) is used to produce official estimates of income and poverty, and it serves as the most widely-cited source of estimates on health insurance and the uninsured. These statistics have far-ranging implications for policy and funding decisions. Alternative sets of questions on income and health insurance have been developed and are now slated for a large-scale field test to evaluate the questions and the estimates they generate.

With regard to income, the CPS ASEC was converted to computer assisted interviewing (CAI) in 1994. This conversion, however, essentially took the questions and skips patterns of the paper questionnaire, and put them on a computer screen. Automated data collection methods allow for complicated skips, respondent-specific question wording, and carry-over of data from one interview to the next. The computerized questionnaire also permits the inclusion of several built-in editing features, including automatic checks for internal consistency and unlikely responses, and verification of answers. With these built-in editing features, errors can be caught and corrected during the interview itself. It has been more than 30 years since the last major redesign of the income questions of this questionnaire (1980), and the need to modernize this survey to take advantage of CAI technologies has become more and more apparent.

Regarding health insurance, the CPS ASEC health insurance questions have measurement error due to both the reference period and timing of data collection. Qualitative research has