

prepared an information collection request for OMB review and approval and has requested public review and comment on the submission. OPIC published its first **Federal Register** notice on this information collection request on May 16, 2003, in Vol 68, No. 95 FR 26679, at which time a 60-day comment period was announced. This comment period ended July 17, 2003. No comments were received in response to this notice.

This information collection submission has now been submitted to OMB for emergency processing review. Comments are again being solicited on the need for the information, its practical utility, the accuracy of the Agency's burden estimate, and on ways to minimize the reporting burden, including automated collection techniques and uses of other forms of technology. The proposed form, OMB control number 3420-0011, under review is summarized below.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before August 21, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the subject form and the request for review prepared for submission to OMB may be obtained from the Agency submitting officer. Comments on the form should be submitted to the OMB reviewer.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

OPIC Agency Submitting Officer: Bruce I. Campbell, Records Management Officer, Overseas Private Investment Corporation, 1100 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20527; 202/336-8563.

OMB Reviewer: David Rostker, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Docket Library, Room 10102, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503; 202/395-3897.

Summary Form Under Review:

Type of Request: Revised form.

Title: Application for Political Risk Investment Insurance.

Form Number: OPIC-52.

Frequency of Use: Once per investor per project.

Type of Respondents: Business or other institution (except farms); individuals.

Standards Industrial Classification Codes: All.

Descriptions of Affected Public: U.S. companies or citizens investing overseas.

Reporting Hours: 7 hours per project.

Number of Responses: 150 per year.

Federal Cost: \$28,350.

Authority for Information Collection: Sections 231, 234(a), 239(d), and 240A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended.

Abstract (Needs and Uses): The application is the principle document used by OPIC to determine the investor's and project's eligibility for political risk insurance, assess the environmental impact and the developmental effects of the project, measure the economic effects for the U.S. and the host country economy, and collect information for the insurance underwriting analysis.

Dated: July 17, 2003.

Eli Landy,

*Senior Counsel, Administrative Affairs,
Department of Legal Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 03-18618 Filed 7-21-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3210-01-M

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

Proposed Submission of Information Collection for OMB Review; Comment Request; Qualified Domestic Relations Orders Submitted to the PBGC

AGENCY: Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

ACTION: Notice of intention to request extension of OMB approval.

SUMMARY: The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation ("PBGC") intends to request that the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") extend approval, under the Paperwork Reduction Act, of an information collection (OMB control number 1212-0054; expires November 30, 2003) relating to model forms contained in the PBGC booklet, *Divorce Orders & PBGC*. The booklet provides guidance on how to submit a proper qualified domestic relations order (a "QDRO") to the PBGC. This notice informs the public of the PBGC's intent and solicits public comment on the collection of information.

DATES: Comments should be submitted by September 22, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to the Office of the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005-4026, or delivered to Suite 340 at that address during normal business hours. Comments also may be submitted electronically through the PBGC's Web site at <http://www.pbgc.gov/paperwork>, or by fax to 202-326-4112. The PBGC will make all comments available on its Web site, <http://www.pbgc.gov>.

Copies of the collection of information may be obtained without charge by writing to the PBGC's Communications and Public Affairs Department at Suite 240 at the above address or by visiting that office or

calling 202-326-4040 during normal business hours. (TTY and TDD users may call the Federal relay service toll-free at 1-800-877-8339 and ask to be connected to 202-326-4040.)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

James L. Beller, Attorney, Office of the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005-4026, 202-326-4020. (TTY and TDD users may call the Federal relay service toll-free at 1-800-877-8339 and ask to be connected to 202-326-4020.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The PBGC intends to request a three-year extension of the paperwork approval relating to model forms contained in the PBGC booklet, *Divorce Orders & PBGC*. The collection of information has been approved through November 30, 2003, by OMB under control number 1212-0054. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

A defined benefit pension plan that does not have enough money to pay benefits may be terminated if the employer responsible for the plan faces severe financial difficulty, such as bankruptcy, and is unable to maintain the plan. In such an event, the PBGC becomes trustee of the plan and pays benefits, subject to legal limits, to plan participants and beneficiaries.

The benefits of a pension plan participant generally may not be assigned or alienated. Title I of ERISA provides an exception for domestic relations orders that relate to child support, alimony payments, or marital property rights of an alternate payee (a spouse, former spouse, child, or other dependent of a plan participant). The exception applies only if the domestic relations order meets specific legal requirements that make it a qualified domestic relations order.

When the PBGC is trustee of a plan, it reviews submitted domestic relations orders to determine whether the order is qualified before paying benefits to an alternate payee. The requirements for submitting a QDRO are established by statute. The models and the guidance assist parties by making it easier to comply with ERISA's QDRO requirements in plans trustee by the PBGC; they do not create any additional requirements and result in a reduction of the statutory burden.

The PBGC estimates that it will receive 664 QDROs each year from prospective alternate payees; that the average burden of preparing a QDRO with the assistance of the guidance and

model QDROs in PBGC's booklet will be 1/4 hour of the alternate payee's time and \$533 in professional fees if the alternate payee hires an attorney or other professional to prepare the QDRO, or 10 hours of the alternate payee's time if the alternate payee prepares the QDRO without hiring an attorney or other professional; and that the total annual burden will be 234 hours and \$350,800.

The PBGC is updating the model QDROs and accompanying guidance. In particular, the revised booklet will reflect that, since the last approval, the PBGC has amended its regulations to make changes in how it pays benefits, including giving participants more choices of annuity benefit forms.

The PBGC is soliciting public comments to—

- Evaluate 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;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- 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.

Issued in Washington, DC this 16th day of July, 2003.

Stuart Sirkin,

*Director, Corporate Policy and Research
Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.*

[FR Doc. 03-18623 Filed 7-21-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7708-01-P

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Excepted Service

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This gives notice of OPM decisions, granting authority to make appointments under Schedules A, B and C in the excepted service as required by 5 CFR 6.6 and 213.103.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Deborah Grade, Acting Director,

Washington Services Branch, Center for Talent Services, Division for Human Products and Services, (202) 606-5027.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Appearing in the listing below are the individual authorities established under Schedule A, B and C between May 1, 2003 and May 31, 2003. Future notices will be published on the fourth Tuesday of each month, or as soon as possible thereafter. A consolidated listing of all authorities as of June 30 is published each year.

Schedule A

No Schedule A's for May 2003.

Schedule B

No Schedule B's for May 2003.

Schedule C

The following Schedule C authorities were established during May 2003:

Department of Agriculture

Director for Tobacco Programs to the Deputy Administrator. Effective May 7, 2003.

Confidential Assistant to the Deputy Secretary. Effective May 15, 2003.

Special Assistant to the Director for Intergovernmental Affairs. Effective May 16, 2003.

Department of Commerce

Special Assistant to the Director for the Executive Secretariat. Effective May 9, 2003.

Confidential Assistant to the Director for the Executive Secretariat. Effective May 16, 2003.

Speechwriter to the Director for Speechwriting. Effective May 27, 2003.

Confidential Assistant to the Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff. Effective May 30, 2003.

Senior Counsel to the Under Secretary for Intellectual Property and Director for U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Effective May 30, 2003.

Department of Defense

Staff Assistant to the Deputy Under Secretary for Defense (Special Plans and Near East/South Asian Affairs). Effective May 2, 2003.

Staff Assistant to the Deputy Under Secretary for Defense (Special Plans and Near East/South Asian Affairs). Effective May 7, 2003.

Administrative Assistant to the Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for White House Liaison. Effective May 7, 2003.

Defense Fellow to the Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for White House Liaison. Effective May 7, 2003.

Defense Fellow to the Special Assistant to the Secretary and Deputy

Secretary for Defense. Effective May 27, 2003.

Department of Education

Confidential Assistant to the Chief of Staff. Effective May 6, 2003.

Confidential Assistant to the Special Assistant (Executive Assistant). Effective May 19, 2003.

Director for White House Liaison to the Chief of Staff. Effective May 23, 2003.

Confidential Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary. Effective May 27, 2003.

Department of Energy

Special Assistant to the Director for Public Affairs. Effective May 2, 2003.

Special Assistant to the Director for Scheduling and Advance. Effective May 5, 2003.

Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for International Affairs. Effective May 7, 2003.

Congressional Relations Specialist to the Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, National Nuclear Security Administration. Effective May 9, 2003.

Special Assistant to the Director for Public Affairs. Effective May 9, 2003.

Director for Climate Change Policy to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for National Energy Policy. Effective May 30, 2003.

Department of Health and Human Services

Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff. Effective May 13, 2003.

Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Aging (Commissioner for Aging). Effective May 14, 2003.

Department of Homeland Security Agency

Deputy Press Secretary to the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs. Effective May 5, 2003.

Associate Executive Secretary (External Coordination) to the Executive Secretary. Effective May 9, 2003.

Deputy White House Liaison to the White House Liaison. Effective May 13, 2003.

Executive Assistant to the Executive Director for Homeland Security Advisory Council. Effective May 16, 2003.

Advance Representative to the Deputy Chief of Staff (Operations). Effective May 28, 2003.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Staff Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Congressional/Intergovernmental Relations. Effective May 13, 2003.