

RETRIEVABILITY:

Records are indexed by name, identification number and type of loan. Data may be retrieved from paper records or the magnetic tapes. A limited subset is available through telecommunications capability, ranging from telephones to intelligent terminals. All FSA Agricultural Credit Team, State, National and some county offices have the telecommunications capability available to access this subset of data.

SAFEGUARDS:

Records are kept in locked offices at the Agricultural Credit Team, County, District, State and National Offices. A limited subset of data is also maintained in a tape and disk library and an on-line retrieval system at the Finance Office. Access is restricted to authorized FSA personnel. A system operator and terminal passwords and code numbers are used to restrict access to the online system. Passwords and code numbers are changed as necessary.

RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:

Records are maintained subject to the Federal Records Disposal Act of 1943 (44 U.S.C. 366–380) and in accordance with FSA's disposal schedules. The Agricultural Credit Team, District, County, State and National office dispose of records by shredding, burning, or other suitable disposal methods after established retention periods have been fulfilled. Finance Office records are disposed of by overprinting. (Destruction methods may never compromise the confidentiality of information contained in the records). Applications, including credit reports and personal references which are rejected, withdrawn, or otherwise terminated, are kept in the Agricultural Credit, County, District, or State office for 2 full fiscal years and 1 month after the end of the fiscal year in which the application was rejected, withdrawn, canceled, or expired. If final action was taken on the application, including an appeal, investigation, or litigation, the application is kept for 1 full fiscal year after the end of the fiscal year in which final action was taken. The records, including credit reports, of borrowers who have paid or otherwise satisfied their obligations are retained at the Agricultural Credit Team, County, District, or State Office for 1 full fiscal year after the fiscal year in which the loan was paid in full. Correspondence records at the National Office which concern borrowers and applicants are retained for 3 full fiscal years after the last year in which there was correspondence.

SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:

The Agricultural Credit Manager at the Agricultural Credit Team Office or at the County Office, District Director at the District Office, and the State Executive Director at the State Office, the Assistant Administrator of the Finance Office for Finance Office in St. Louis, MO, and the FSA Administrator for the National Office at the following address: USDA/FSA Administrator, Stop 0501, PO 2415, Washington, DC 20250–2415.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:

Any individual may request information regarding this system of records, or determine whether the system contains records pertaining to themselves from the appropriate Systems Manager. If specific location of the record is not known, the individual should address their request to: Administrator, FSA, Attention: Freedom of Information Officer, Stop 0506, PO Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013–2415. A request for information should include: name, address, State and county where the loan was applied for or approved, and particulars involved (i.e. date of request/approval, type of loan, etc.).

RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:

Any individual may obtain information as to the procedures for gaining access to a record in this system which pertains to themselves by submitting a written request to one of the Systems Managers. The envelope and letter should be marked "Privacy Act Request." A request for information should contain: name, address, ZIP code, name of the system of records in question, and any other pertinent information to help identify the file.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

Individuals desiring to contest or amend information maintained in the system should direct their request to the above listed System Manager, and should include the reason for contesting it and the proposed amendment to the information with supporting information to show how the record is inaccurate. A request for contesting records should contain: name, address, ZIP code, name of the system of records in question, and any other pertinent information to help identify the file.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:

Information in this system comes primarily from the borrower. Credit reports and personal references come primarily from credit agencies and creditors.

EXEMPTIONS CLAIMED FOR THE SYSTEM:

None.

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BILLING CODE 3410–05–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Farm Service Agency****Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection**

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intent of the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to request an extension of a currently approved information collection for a form used in support of the FSA Farm Loan Programs (FLP). This renewal does not involve any revisions to the program rules.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before November 9, 2001, to be assured consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Cumpton, USDA, Farm Service Agency, Loan Servicing and Property Management Division, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, STOP 0523, Washington, DC 20250–0523; Telephone (202) 690–4014; Electronic mail: mike_cumpton@wdc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Form FSA 1962–1, Agreement for the Use of Proceeds/Release of Chattel Security.

OMB Control Number: 0560–0171.

Expiration Date of Approval: September 30, 2001.

Type of Request: Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection.

Abstract: This form is needed to implement section 335(f) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C 1985(f)), which requires release of normal income security to pay essential household and farm operating expenses of the borrower, until the Agency accelerates the loan.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 20 minutes per response.

Respondents: Individuals or households, businesses or other for profit and farms.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 55,000.

Estimated Number or Responses Per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden On Respondents: 18,150.

Comments are invited on: (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. These comments should be sent to the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503 and to Michael Cumpston, Senior Loan Officer, USDA, FSA, Farm Loan Programs, Loan Servicing Division, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, STOP 0523, Washington, DC 20250-0523.

Comments will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval of the information collection. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Signed in Washington, DC, on August 31, 2001.

James R. Little,

Acting Administrator, Farm Service Agency.
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BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

[Docket No. 0413-MGGL16C]

Idaho Cobalt Project Plan of Operations, Salmon-Challis National Forest, Lemhi County, ID

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The USDA, Forest Service, will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Idaho Cobalt Project Mine. The Salmon-Challis National Forest Supervisor has determined that preparation of the EIS is required for approval of the Idaho Cobalt Project Plan of Operations (Plan), under FS regulations governing locatable mineral activities on National Forest System Lands (36 CFR 228A) and CEQ regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (40

CFR 1501-1508). The EIS will disclose the environmental effects of the Plan submitted by Formation Capital Corporation U.S. (Formation) for an underground cobalt-copper-gold mine on the Salmon/Cobalt District of the Salmon-Challis National Forest in Lemhi County, Idaho.

The proposed Idaho Cobalt Project is located in an area of the Salmon-Challis National Forest open to mineral location and development. The Forest Service is guided by law and policy, which recognizes Formation's legal right to explore for, and develop mineral resources. At the same time, the Forest Service is charged to ensure that these activities are conducted in an environmentally sound manner, and that once completed, reclamation of the land to a stable and useable condition is accomplished.

The Idaho Cobalt is approximately 45 road miles west from Salmon, Idaho or 22 direct miles. The initial Plan submitted by Formation describes the proposed Idaho Cobalt Project, including production adits and declines, waste rock disposal areas, processing plant, tailings disposal methods, haul roads, and ancillary support facilities on National Forest System Lands. Two separate underground mining operations would be developed and used to extract ore from two deposits, the Ram and Sunshine. Three portals are being proposed along the slopes above Bucktail Creek. A mill would be situated on a plateau located east of the portals. Tailings disposal is proposed to utilize a dry stacking method in an area located east and down slope of the mill. Process waters would be managed and are proposed to be recycled in a closed system, using a water management reservoirs located east and down slope of the tailings disposal site. The proposed nominal ore production rate for mining has been established at 800 tons per day (tpd) or 280,000 tons per year (tpy). The initial start-up rate is proposed to be 600 tpd or 210,000 tpy, with full production in the third year. Current reserves and resources identified by Formation would allow for a 9-year mine life. The project would have a surface disturbance estimated at 191 acres.

The proposed Idaho Cobalt Project is located adjacent to the Blackbird Mine in the historic Blackbird Mining District. Extensive negotiations have occurred and are still ongoing between the existing and previous owners of the Blackbird property and state and federal agencies regarding environmental damage arising from the previous mining operations in the area. The

problems created by past mining include degradation of waters draining from mine portals, waste dumps and the tailings impoundment area, as well as spilled tailings along Blackbird Creek. Actions taken by federal and state agencies under Superfund authority have included a Natural Resource Damage Assessment which was settled by Consent Decree, and an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) for the performance of early removal action and a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) for site cleanup which is still ongoing.

The area that may potentially be affected by the proposed Idaho Cobalt Project mining and mill operation drains to Big Deer Creek, and Panther Creek. Ninety-nine percent of the Panther Creek basin is National Forest; less than one percent is privately owned. Panther Creek flows into the Salmon River, a principal sub-basin of the Snake River. Preliminary environmental issues identified for the immediate project area are described below. Potential Project impacts outside this area include the transportation corridor (Salmon, Idaho to the project site); impact to the socio-economic areas of Lemhi and Custer Counties with the respective county seats of Salmon and Challis, Idaho; and line of sight visual impacts from Gant Ridge trails.

The EIS will tier to the Salmon National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) and Final EIS, January 1988, which provide overall guidance of all land management activities on the Salmon National Forest, including mineral exploration and development. This document also tiers to the 1982 Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Blackbird Cobalt-Copper Project.

DATES: Written comments and suggestions must be submitted on or before October 31st, 2001.

ADDRESSES AND FURTHER INFORMATION: Submit written comments and suggestions on the proposed activities to Ray Henderson, Project Coordinator, Salmon-Challis National Forest, 50 Hwy 93 South, Salmon, Idaho, 83467, Phone (208) 756-5100. To be placed on the project mailing list or for additional information, contact the Project Coordinator identified above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Formation Capital Corporation U.S. (Formation) submitted a Plan of Operations for the proposed Idaho Cobalt Project to the Salmon-Challis National Forest in January 2001. The plan, as proposed and subsequently modified by Formation, is summarized as follows: