(CCL) and the U.S. Munitions List (USML). The requirement to implement this process went into effect October 18, 2003. On July 29, 2003, the President signed Executive Order 13312, which executed prohibitions to Public Law 108–19, the Clean Diamond Trade Act thereby authorizing the mandatory electronic filing of rough diamonds. Implementation for this process went into effect October 20, 2003. On September 30, 2002, the President signed into law the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Public Law 107–228. This law authorizes the Secretary of Commerce, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Homeland Security, to publish regulations in the **Federal Register** detailing that upon the effective date of these regulations, all persons who are required to file export information under Title 13, U.S.C., chapter 9, file such information through the AES and there will no longer be provisions made for manual filing thereafter. On October 22, 2003, The Census Bureau published an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the **Federal Register** (68 FR 60301) announcing the Census Bureau's intent to propose the rule mandating electronic filing through the AES of all information on export shipments that require the filing of a SED and allowed the public to comment on this subject.

II. Method of Collection

A paper SED or electronic AES record is required, with certain exceptions, for all export shipments valued more than $2,500 from the United States, including Foreign Trade Zones located therein, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands to foreign countries; for exports between the United States and Puerto Rico; and for exports to the U.S. Virgin Islands from the United States or Puerto Rico. The AES record information is also required for the export of rough diamonds and all exports requiring a license from the Bureau of Industry and Security, a license or license exception from the Department of State, or other government agency, regardless of value, unless exempted from the requirement for filing AES information by the licensing government agency. The SED/AES program is unique among Census Bureau statistical collections since it is not sent to respondents to solicit responses as is the case with surveys. Filing export information via the SED or AES is a mandatory process under Title 13, Chapter 9, U.S.C. The Census Bureau has seen a progressive growth in the number of electronic filers, with a comparable decrease in the number of the paper SED filers. For example, the requirements to file export information through the AES for all USML and CCL shipments has resulted in the elimination of more than 360,000 paper SEDs annually. Exporters can access the AES via the Census Bureau's free Internet-based system, AESDirect, or they can integrate the AES into their company's computer network and file directly with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). Exporters may also download the SED, Commerce Form 7525–V, from the Internet and print it on the required ''buff'' colored paper.

For exports to Canada, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the CBP and statistical agencies in the United States and Canada enables the United States to substitute Canadian import statistics for U.S. export statistics. Similarly, in accordance with the MOU, Canada substitutes U.S. import statistics for Canadian exports to the United States. This exchange of data eliminates the requirement for U.S. exporters to file any information with the U.S. Government for exports of nonlicensed shipments to Canada, thus resulting in the elimination of over eight million paper SEDs annually. Export shipments to Canada that require a license must be filed through the AES. Also, export shipments from the United States through Canada destined to a country other than Canada require a SED or AES record.

U.S. principal parties in interest (USPPI) or authorized agents file individual paper SEDs with exporting carriers at the time export shipments leave the United States. For the AES, USPPIs or authorized agents file export data electronically with the Census Bureau or the CBP. Carriers submit paper SED documents to CBP officials when the carrier departs from the United States and the CBP then transmits the export information to the Census Bureau for statistical processing.

The AES enables the Government to significantly improve the quality, timeliness, and coverage of export statistics. Since July 1995, the Census Bureau and the CBP have utilized the AES to improve the reporting of export trade information, customer service, compliance with and enforcement of export laws, and provide paperless reports of export information. The AES also enables the U.S. Government to increase its ability to prevent the export of certain items by unauthorized parties, to unauthorized destinations and end users through electronic filing.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0607–0152.

Commerce Form Number: 7525–V, Automated Export System (AES) submissions.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Exporters, Forwarding agents, Export Carriers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 223,213.

Estimated Time Per Response: 11.0 minutes for 7525–V, 3.0 minutes for AES Submissions.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 814,140 (SEDs 198,000) (AES 616,140).

Estimated Total Annual Cost: $13,156,502.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Title 13, United States Code, Chapter 9; Public Law 107–228 Foreign Relations Authorization Act.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (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 respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: December 1, 2004.

Madeleine Clayton,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 04–26780 Filed 12–6–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–07–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

The American Community Survey

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paper work and respondent burden, invites the general public and other federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on

proposed or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before February 7, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at *DHynek@doc.gov*).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Lawrence McGinn, U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey Office, Washington, DC 20233. Phone: (301) 763–8050.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Given the rapid demographic changes experienced in recent years and the strong expectation that such changes will continue and accelerate, the once-a-decade data collection approach of a decennial census is no longer acceptable. To meet the needs and expectations of the country, the Census Bureau developed the American Community Survey. This survey will collect long-form data every month and provide tabulations of these data on a yearly basis. In the past, the long-form data were collected only at the time of each decennial census. The American Community Survey will allow the Census Bureau to remove the long form from the 2010 Census, thus reducing operational risks, improving accuracy, and providing more relevant data. After years of development and testing, the American Community Survey is ready for full implementation in FY 2005.

The American Community Survey will provide more timely information for critical economic planning by governments and the private sector. In the current information-based economy, federal, state, tribal, and local decision makers, as well as private business and nongovernmental organizations, need current, reliable, and comparable socioeconomic data to chart the future. The American Community Survey will provide up-to-date profiles of American communities every year beginning in 2006, providing policymakers, planners, and service providers in the public and private sectors with information every year—not just every ten years.

The American Community Survey must begin full implementation in 2005 to provide comparable data at the census tract level by summer of 2010.

The American Community Survey demonstration period began in 1996 in four sites. In 1999, the number of sites was increased to 31 comparison sites. The comparison with Census 2000 was designed to collect several kinds of information necessary to understand the differences between data from the 1999–2001 American Community Survey and data from the 2000 long form. The purpose of the comparison sites was to give a good tract-by-tract comparison between the 1999–2001 American Community Survey cumulated estimates and the Census 2000 long-form estimates and to use these comparisons to identify both the causes of differences and diagnostic variables that tend to predict a certain kind of difference.

In 2000–2004, the Census Bureau conducted supplementary surveys using the American Community Survey methodology. Each of these surveys had a sample of approximately 800,000 residential addresses per year. These surveys were conducted to study the operational feasibility of collecting long-form type data using a different methodology from the decennial census and demonstrate the reliability and stability of state and large area estimates over time.

For 2005–2008, the Census Bureau plans to conduct the American Community Survey in every part of the United States and also in Puerto Rico. In 2005, the Census Bureau will begin full implementation of the American Community Survey by increasing the sample to a total of approximately 250,000 residential addresses per month in the 50 states and the District of Columbia and approximately 3,000 residential addresses per month in Puerto Rico. Data will be collected by mail and Census Bureau staff will follow up with households that do not respond using computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) and computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI).

In addition to selecting a sample of residential addresses, the Census Bureau plans to select a sample of group quarters (GQs) and conduct the American Community Survey with a sample of persons within the GQs starting in January 2006. The Census Bureau will also conduct a reinterview operation with a small sample of households and persons in GQs to monitor the quality of data collected during the CAPI.

II. Method of Collection

The Census Bureau will mail questionnaires to households selected for the American Community Survey. For households that do not return a questionnaire, Census Bureau staff will attempt to conduct interviews via CATI. We will also conduct CAPI interviews for a subsample of nonrespondents.

For most types of GQs, Census Bureau field representatives (FRs) will conduct the interviews in person or, if necessary, leave questionnaires and ask respondents to complete.

Information from GQ contacts will be collected via FR interview.

The Census Bureau staff will provide Telephone Questionnaire Assistance (TQA) and if the respondent indicates a desire to answer by telephone, the TQA interviewer conducts the interview.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0607–0810.

Form Number(s): ACS–1, ACS–1 (SP), ACS–1PR, ACS–1PR (SP), ACS–1(GQ), ACS–1(GQ) PR, ACS–3(GQ), ACS–4(GQ), ACS–4(GQ) (SP), ACS–4(GQ) PR, ACS–4(GQ) PR (SP), ACS–290, ACS–290(SP), ACS–290PR, and ACS–290PR (SP).

Type of Review: Regular.

Affected Public: Individuals and households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: During the period of July 2005 through June 2008, we plan to contact the following number of respondents: 9,108,000 residential addresses; 537,500 persons in GQs; and 51,000 contacts in GQs. In addition, 106,000 residential addresses and 14,800 persons in GQs for reinterview will be contacted.

Estimated Time Per Response: Estimates are 38 minutes per residential address, 15 minutes per person in GQs, 25 minutes per contact in GQs, and 10 minutes per residential address and per person in GQs in the reinterview sample.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: The estimate is an annual average of 1,981,386 burden hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: Except for their time, there is no cost to respondents.

Respondent Obligation: Mandatory.

Authority: Title 13, United States Code, Sections 141 and 193.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (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 respondents, including through the use of automated collections techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for the OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: December 1, 2004.

Madeleine Clayton,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 04–26781 Filed 12–6–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–07–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

Government Finance Forms

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before February 7, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at *DHynek@doc.gov*).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Stephen Poyta, Chief, Public Finance Analysis Branch–A, Governments Division, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233–6800, (301) 763–1580.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Census Bureau plans to request clearance for the forms necessary to conduct the public finance program which consists of an annual collection of information and a quinquennial collection in the census years ending in ''2'' and ''7''. During the upcoming three years, we intend to conduct the 2005 and 2006 Annual Survey of Government Finance, and the 2007 Census of Government Finance.

The Annual Survey of State and Local Government Finance collects data on state government finances and estimates of local government revenue, expenditure, debt, and assets, nationally and within state areas. Data are collected for all agencies, departments, and institutions of the fifty state governments and for a sample of all local governments (counties, municipalities, townships, and special districts). Data for school districts are collected under a separate survey. In the census year, equivalent data are collected from all local governments.

This survey is a mail canvass survey with an initial mailing and one follow-up mailing. Telephone follow-up is used to contact non-respondents and, as necessary, to correct apparent errors and incorrect responses. These forms and procedures are similar to those used in previous finance surveys. We are currently in the process of redesigning the finance forms, such that items included in the previous F–21, F–22, and F–28 will now all be included within a new overall F–28 form.

Results of this survey are used by the Bureau of Economic Analysis to develop the public sector components of the National Income and Product Accounts. Other Federal agencies that make frequent use of these data include the U.S. Federal Reserve Board, the Congressional Research Service, the General Accounting Office, and the Department of Justice. Other users include state and local government executives and legislators, policy makers, economists, researchers, and the general public.

II. Method of Collection

Canvass methodology primarily consists of a mail out/mail back questionnaire. Responses will be screened manually, then put into an electronic format. Other methods used to collect data and maximize response include collecting local government data from central state sources, compiling from submitted financial audits, comprehensive financial reports, and public Internet outputs. Also, the finance forms can be completed on the Internet.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0607–0585.

Form Number: F–5, F–5A, F–11, F–12, F–13, F–25, F–28, F–29, F–32, F–42.

Type of Review: Regular.

Affected Public: State and local governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 9,753 (annual survey), 45,961 (Census).

Estimated Time Per Response: 2.903 (Annual); 2.37 (Census).

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 28,310.5 (Annual); 108,840.5 (Census).

Estimated Total Annual Cost: Cost to respondents is estimated to be $535,918 (Annual); 2,060,351 (Census).

(**Note—**Based upon the average hourly pay for full-time employment for the financial administration function within the 2002 census of local government employment.)

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Title 13, sections 161 and 182.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (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 respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: December 1, 2004.

Madeleine Clayton,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 04–26783 Filed 12–6–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–07–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Outside Assessment of DOC Compliance Program

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burdens, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction