

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 76, No. 234

Tuesday, December 6, 2011

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

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

December 1, 2011.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments regarding (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 should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), *OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV* or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8958.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it

displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Economic Research Service

Title: National Household Food Acquisition and Purchase Survey.

OMB Control Number: 0536-NEW.

Summary of Collection: The Economic Research Service (ERS) will be conducting the National Household Food Acquisition and Purchase Survey (aka National Food Study). The mission of ERS is to provide timely research and analysis to public and private decision makers on topics related to agriculture, food, the environment, and rural America. To achieve this mission, ERS requires a variety of data that describe agricultural production, food distribution channels, availability and price of food at the point of sale, and household demand for food products. There is a great need for the above information as it relates to low-income households. It is critical for USDA to better understand the food acquisition behaviors of low-income, program-eligible households in order to effectively serve this segment of the population with efficient and effective programs. Section 17 (U.S.C. 2026)(a)(1) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 provides legislative authority for the planned data collection. This section authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into contracts with private institutions to undertake research that will help to improve the administration and effectiveness of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in delivering nutrition-related benefits.

Need and Use of the Information: The National Food Study will collect information about household food acquisitions, including foods purchased and foods obtained at no cost (e.g., home-grown vegetables). Information also will be collected about household characteristics, including demographics, income, major categories of nonfood expenditures, food security, health status (including heights and weights), and dietary knowledge. This survey will provide ERS with information to support the analysis of a wide variety of research questions.

Description of Respondents: Individuals or household.

Number of Respondents: 24,675.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 44,695.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2011-31303 Filed 12-5-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-18-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Establishment of the Council for Native American Farming and Ranching

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and Call for Nominations.

SUMMARY: The Department of Agriculture (USDA) is announcing the establishment of the Council for Native American Farming and Ranching (Council). The purpose of the Council is to provide recommendations to the Secretary on how to eliminate barriers to Native American participation in Farm Service Agency (FSA) farm loan programs and other farm programs. The Council will discuss issues related to the participation of Native American farmers and ranchers in USDA farm loan programs and transmit recommendations concerning any changes to FSA regulations or internal guidance or other measures. The Council is necessary and in the public interest. USDA is seeking nominations for individuals to be considered Council members. Candidates who wish to be considered for membership on the Council should submit an AD-755 application form and resume to the Secretary of Agriculture. Cover letters should be addressed to the Secretary of Agriculture. The application form and more information about advisory Councils can be found at usda.gov/advisory_committees.xml.

DATES: Submit nominations on or before January 20, 2012.

ADDRESSES: All nomination materials should be mailed in a single, complete package and postmarked by January 20, 2012. Nominations may be submitted by mail to:

- Thomas Vilsack, Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington DC, 20250, Attn: Council on Native American Farmers and Ranchers.

- Send comments to the Office of Tribal Relations, 500A Whitten