

ADDRESSES: Please send hearing requests to Thomas Bickerton, Economic and Policy Analysis Staff, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Stop 0516, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-0504. Phone: (202) 720-6733. Fax: (202) 690-1480. E-mail: Thomas.Bickerton@usda.gov.

Signed in Washington, DC, on August 13, 2002.

James R. Little,

Executive Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

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BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Ravalli County Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Ravalli County Resource Advisory Committee will be meeting to discuss projects to fund this fiscal year. Agenda topics will include Project selection feedback, future project development and a public forum (question and answer session). The meeting is being held pursuant to the authorities in the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463) and under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106-393). The meeting is open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will be held on August 27, 2002, 6:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Ravalli County Administration Building, 215 S. 4th Street, Hamilton, Montana. Send written comments to Jeanne Higgins, District Ranger, Stevensville Ranger District, 88 Main Street, Stevensville, MT 59870, by facsimile (406) 777-7423, or electronically to jmhiggins@fs.fed.us.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeanne Higgins, Stevensville District Ranger and Designated Federal Officer, Phone: (406) 777-5461.

Dated: August 9, 2002.

Lesley Thompson,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 02-20809 Filed 8-15-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Information Collection Activity; Comment Request

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35, as amended), the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) invites comments on the following information collections for which RUS intends to request approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by October 15, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr., Director, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., STOP 1522, Room 4036, South Building, Washington, DC 20250-1522. Telephone: (202)720-9550. Fax: (202) 720-4120.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) regulation (5 CFR 1320) implementing provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) requires that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities [see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)]. This notice identifies information collections that RUS is submitting to OMB for extension.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether this 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 the burden of the collection of information including the validity of the 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 respondents, 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 F. Lamont Heppe, Jr., Director, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 1522, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-1522. Fax: (202) 720-4120.

- *Title:* 7 CFR Part 1789, Use of Consultants Funded by Borrowers.
- *OMB Control Number:* 0572-0115.
- *Type of Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection.
- *Abstract:* Section 18(c) of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (RE Act), as amended (7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*) authorizes RUS to use consultants voluntarily funded by borrowers for financial, legal, engineering, and other technical services. Consultants may be used to facilitate timely action on loan applications by borrowers for financial assistance and for approvals required by RUS, pursuant to the terms of outstanding loans, or otherwise. RUS may not require borrowers to fund consultants. The provisions of section 18(c) may be utilized only at the borrower's request.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2 hours per response.

Respondents: Not for profit institutions; business or other for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 6.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 12 hours.

- *Title:* Prospective Large Power Service.

- *OMB Control Number:* 0572-0001.

- *Type of Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

- *Abstract:* The RUS makes mortgage loans and loan guarantees to electric systems to provide and improve electric service in rural areas pursuant to the RE Act of 1936, as amended (7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*). RUS electric borrowers often enter into special contracts with commercial and industrial consumers for the retail sale of electricity. These contracts typically require extensions to the borrower's electric system which may be financed with RUS loan funds, debt financing from another source, the borrower's own funds, sometimes called general funds, and/or funds provided by the consumer.

RUS review of these contracts is intended to protect the interests of the government as a secured lender and to foster the purposes of the RE Act. RUS Form 170, Prospective Large Power Service, provides RUS with information needed for this review.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 4 hours per response.

Respondents: Not-for-profit institutions; business or other for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 5.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.