

approval process, we invite comments on the following information collection.

*Comments should address one or more of the following points:*

a. Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of OTS;

b. The accuracy of OTS's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection;

c. Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

d. Ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of information technology.

We will summarize the comments that we receive and include them in the OTS request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. In this notice, OTS is soliciting comments concerning the following information collection.

*Title of Proposal:* Basel Comprehensive Quantitative Impact Study.

*OMB Number:* 1550-ONEW.

*Form Numbers:* N/A.

*Regulation requirement:* 12 CFR Part 567.

*Description:* The International Convergence of Capital Measurement and Capital Standards: A Revised Framework, also known as the Basel II Capital Accord, sets out a general international capital framework for financial institutions. The Basel II Capital Accord was adopted under the auspices of the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision<sup>1</sup> (Basel Committee), and was implemented into domestic regulations in the United States by the Federal financial agencies on December 7, 2007 (72 FR 69288). In an effort to refine the Basel II Capital Accord, the Basel Committee will conduct a quantitative impact study (QIS) to assess the impact of the proposed revisions that were published by the Basel Committee on December 17, 2009.<sup>2</sup> As part of this effort, the OTS, in coordination with the other Federal

financial agencies, is proposing to collect data from national financial institutions with respect to the following subjects:

■ Revisions to the Basel II market risk framework<sup>3</sup> and guidelines for computing capital for incremental risk in the trading book,<sup>4</sup> including the incremental risk capital charge; the comprehensive risk measure for correlation trading portfolios; the new rules for securitization exposures in the trading book; and the revised capital charges for certain equity exposures subject to the standardized measurement method for market risk.

■ Enhancements to the Basel II framework<sup>5</sup> including the revised risk weights for re-securitizations held in the banking book.

■ Enhancements to strengthen the resilience of the financial institution sector<sup>6</sup> including the proposed changes to the definition of capital; the proposed introduction of a leverage ratio; and the proposed changes to the treatment of counterparty credit risk.

■ Liquidity enhancements referring to the international framework for liquidity risk measurement, standards and monitoring.<sup>7</sup>

■ Operational risk and countercyclical tools.

The OTS intends to collect data for the QIS from financial institutions subject to the Basel II Capital Framework<sup>8</sup> and those subject to the current risk-based capital guidelines (Basel I).<sup>9</sup> Unless otherwise noted, all data would be reported on a consolidated basis. Ideally, financial institutions should include all their assets in this information collection. However, due to data limitations, inclusion of some assets (for example, the portfolio of a minor subsidiary) may not be feasible. Exclusion of such assets is acceptable, as long as the remaining assets are representative of the financial institution as a whole.

*Type of Review:* New collection.

*Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profit.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 5.

*Estimated Burden Hours per Response:* 117.

*Estimated Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Total Burden:* 585 hours.

Dated: February 24, 2010.

Ira L. Mills,

*Paperwork Clearance Officer, Office of Chief Counsel, Office of Thrift Supervision.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0585]

### Proposed Information Collection (Brand Name or Equal) Activity: Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Office of Acquisition and Logistics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Acquisition and Logistics (OA&L), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information including each proposed extension of a currently approved collection and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on the information needed to allow firms to offer items that are equal to the brand name item stated in the bid.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before May 3, 2010.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information through Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at <http://www.Regulations.gov>; or to Arita Tillman, Office of Acquisition and Logistics (049A5A), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420; or e-mail: [arita.tillman@va.gov](mailto:arita.tillman@va.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0585" in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Arita Tillman at (202) 461-6859 or Fax.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501-3521), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct

<sup>1</sup> The Basel Committee on Banking Supervision is a committee of banking supervisory authorities, which was established by the central bank Governors of the Group of Ten countries in 1975. It consists of senior representatives of bank supervisory authorities and central banks from Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Hong Kong SAR, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States. It usually meets at the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) in Basel, Switzerland, where its permanent Secretariat is located.

<sup>2</sup> Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, *Strengthening the resilience of the banking sector*, consultative document, December 17, 2009.

<sup>3</sup> Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, *Revisions to the Basel II market risk framework*, July 2009.

<sup>4</sup> Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, *Guidelines for computing capital for incremental risk in the trading book*, July 2009.

<sup>5</sup> Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, *Enhancements to the Basel II framework*, July 2009.

<sup>6</sup> See footnote 2.

<sup>7</sup> Basel Committee on Banking and Supervision, *International Framework for liquidity risk measurement, standards and monitoring*, consultative document, December 17, 2009.

<sup>8</sup> See 12 CFR Part 3, Appendix C.

<sup>9</sup> See 12 CFR Part 3, Appendix A.

or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, OA&L invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of OA&L's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of OA&L's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

*Title:* Veterans Affairs Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) Clause 852.211-77, Brand Name or Equal (was 852.210-77).

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0585.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* VAAR clause 852.211-77 advises bidders or offerors who are proposing to offer an item that is alleged to be equal to the brand name item stated in the bid, that it is the bidder's or offeror's responsibility to show that the item offered is in fact, equal to the brand name item. This evidence may be in the form of descriptive literature or material, such as cuts, illustrations, drawings, or other information. While submission of the information is voluntary, failure to provide the information may result in rejection of the firm's bid or offer if the Government cannot otherwise determine that the item offered is equal. The contracting officer will use the information to evaluate whether or not the item offered meets the specification requirements.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit and not-for-profit institutions.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 1,666 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden per Respondent:* 10 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 10,000.

Dated: February 25, 2010.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Denise McLamb,**

*Program Analyst, Enterprise Records Service.*

[FR Doc. 2010-4214 Filed 3-1-10; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-New (VA Form 10-0502)]

### Proposed Information Collection (Ethics Consultation Feedback Tool (ECFT)) Activity: Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Veterans Health Administration (VHA), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed new collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments for information needed to improve the process of ethics consultation service.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before May 3, 2010.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information through the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at <http://www.Regulations.gov>; or to Mary Stout, Veterans Health Administration (193E1), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420 or *e-mail*: [mary.stout@va.gov](mailto:mary.stout@va.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-New (VA Form 10-0502)" in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mary Stout at (202) 461-5867 or FAX (202) 273-9381.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501-3521), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, VHA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VHA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VHA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of

information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

*Title:* Ethics Consultation Feedback Tool (ECFT), VA Form 10-0502.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-New (VA Form 10-0502).

*Type of Review:* New collection.

*Abstract:* VA Form 10-0502 will use to collect data from patients and family members about their experience during the Ethics Consultation Service. VA will use the data to improve the process of ethics consultation (*i.e.*, how ethics consultation is being performed) as well as its outcomes (*i.e.*, how ethics consultation affects participants and the facility).

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 100.

*Estimated Average Burden per Respondent:* 5 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 1,200.

Dated: February 25, 2010.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Denise McLamb,**

*Program Analyst, Enterprise Records Service.*

[FR Doc. 2010-4215 Filed 3-1-10; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0020]

### Proposed Information Collection (Designation of Beneficiary) Activity: Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on information