

Authority and Determination

TSA may grant an exemption from a regulation if TSA determines that the exemption is in the public interest.⁵ TSA has determined that it is in the public interest to grant an exemption from the current expiration standard in 49 CFR part 1572, which is five years from the date of issuance, given the need for transportation workers to continue to work without interruption during the current the COVID-19 crisis. This exemption will allow TWIC® holders to continue to provide vital services during the COVID-19 crisis, while TSA ensures effective transportation security vetting.

TSA has determined that there is little to no risk to transportation security associated with this exemption for the following reasons:

1. The extension of expiration dates applies only to individuals who have already successfully completed a comprehensive STA;

2. The extension of expiration dates is applicable to a relatively small percentage of TWIC® holders and is for a set, limited duration subject to possible modification by TSA before the end of the effective period to ensure consistency with the duration and scope of the COVID-19 crisis;⁶

3. TSA will continue to recurrently vet these TWIC® holders against Federal terrorism and national security-related watch lists, and the DHS Office of Biometric Identity Management (OBIM) IDENT system (a DHS-wide system for storage and processing of biometric and biographic information for national security) for security threat, criminal history, and immigration status checks during the extension period; and

4. TSA retains its full authority to suspend or immediately revoke an individual's TWIC® if the agency determines the holder is no longer eligible, in accordance with 49 CFR 1572.5(b) and 1572.19(c).

⁵ See 49 U.S.C. 114(q). The Administrator may grant an exemption from a regulation prescribed in carrying out this section if the Administrator determines that the exemption is in the public interest. The Administrator of TSA delegated this authority to the Executive Assistant Administrator for Operations Security, effective March 26, 2020, during the period of the COVID-19 National Emergency.

⁶ The exemption remains in effect until July 31, 2020, unless otherwise modified by TSA through a notice published in the **Federal Register**. TSA considered tying the duration of the exemption to the duration of a public health emergency declaration, but believes that providing a set day is necessary because individuals without expired TWIC®s need a set date in order to initiate the steps necessary to renew their TWIC®s.

Exemption

1. *Eligibility.* This exemption applies to TWIC®s that expire on or after March 1, 2020.

2. *New Expiration Dates for Eligible TWIC®s.* For the duration of this exemption, the expiration date for an eligible TWIC® is 180 days after the expiration date that appears on the face of the credential. TSA deems these eligible TWIC®s to be valid for the purpose of unescorted access to secured areas of maritime facilities and vessels. If the 180-day period extends beyond the duration of this temporary exemption, the TWIC® will be valid for the remainder of the extended 180-day period based on the expiration date of the TWIC®.

3. *Continuation of Vetting.* For the duration of the exemption, TSA will continue to recurrently vet the holders of the eligible TWIC®s against governmental watch lists for security threat, criminal history, and immigration status. TSA retains its full authority to suspend or immediately revoke an individual's TWIC® if the agency determines the holder is no longer eligible, in accordance with 49 CFR 1572.5(b) and 1572.19(c).

Stacey Fitzmaurice,

Executive Assistant Administrator for Operations Support.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-7027-N-08]

60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Quality Control Requirements for Direct Endorsement Lenders; OMB Control No.: 2502-0600

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing- Federal Housing Commissioner, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: HUD is seeking approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the information collection described below. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, HUD is requesting comment from all interested parties on the proposed collection of information. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment.

DATES: *Comments Due Date:* June 15, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to

the proposal by name and/or OMB Control Number and should be sent to: Colette Pollard, Reports Management Officer, QDAM, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW, Room 4176, Washington, DC 20410-5000; telephone 202-402-3400 (this is not a toll-free number) or email at Colette.Pollard@hud.gov for a copy of the proposed forms or other available information. Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number through TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Colette Pollard, Reports Management Officer, QDAM, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW, Room 4176, Washington, DC 20410-5000; telephone 202-402-3400 (this is not a toll-free number) or email at Colette.Pollard@hud.gov for copies of available documents can be obtained from Ms. Pollard.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice informs the public that HUD is seeking approval from OMB for the information collection described in Section A.

A. Overview of Information Collection

Title of Information Collection: Quality Control Requirements for Direct Endorsement Lenders.

OMB Approval Number: 2502-0600.

Type of Request: Revision.

Form Number: Not Applicable.

Description of the need for the information and proposed use: Per 24 CFR 202.8(3), a Direct Endorsement (DE) lender that sponsors third party originators (TPOs) is, "responsible to the Secretary for the actions of its third party originators or mortgagees in originating loans or mortgages, unless applicable law or regulation requires specific knowledge on the part of the party to be held responsible." As a result, DE lenders are responsible for conducting quality control reviews on TPO originations of FHA-insured mortgage loans and ensuring that their Quality Control Plans contain this oversight provision. This creates an information collection burden on DE lenders, since these institutions must also conduct quality control on loans they originate and underwrite. DE lenders must conduct quality control reviews on a sample of loans that they originate or underwrite, including loans originated by TPOs. For the purposes of this information collection, it is assumed that the number of loans reviewed by each DE lender will comply with the Sample Size Standard and Sample Composition Standard described in HUD Handbook 4000.1, Section V.A.3.a.

In addition, under 24 CFR 203.255(c) and (e), HUD conducts both pre- and post-endorsement reviews of loans submitted for FHA insurance by DE lenders. As part of those reviews, the Secretary is authorized to determine if there is any information indicating that any certification or required document is false, misleading, or constitutes fraud or misrepresentation on the part of any party, or that the mortgage fails to meet a statutory or regulatory requirement. In order to assist the Secretary with this directive, FHA requires that lenders self-report all findings of fraud and material misrepresentation, as well any material findings concerning the origination, underwriting, or servicing of the loan that the lender is unable to mitigate or otherwise resolve. The obligation to self-report these findings creates an additional information collection burden on DE lenders.

In accordance with the requirements of 5 CFR 1320.8(d), a Notice soliciting comments on this collection of information was initially published in the **Federal Register** on December 21, 2010 (Volume 75, Number 244, page 80066). At that time, FHA still allowed for loan correspondents to participate in its programs and had not yet transitioned to the use of TPOs. Therefore, FHA estimated information collection burdens based on the estimated used of TPOs by DE lenders. FHA has since revised these estimates with real data that captures TPO originations of FHA-insured single-family mortgage loans. This revision has increased the information collection burden associated with OMB Control Number 2502-0600.

Respondents: Active Title II Direct Endorsement (DE) lenders.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 3,641.

Estimated Number of Responses: 118,952.

Frequency of Response: Annually.

Average Hours per Response: 25.

Total Estimated Burdens: 29,738.

B. Solicitation of Public Comment

This notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affected parties concerning the collection of information described in Section A on the following:

(1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) The accuracy of the agency'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 those who are to respond; including through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses. HUD encourages interested parties to submit comment in response to these questions. The General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Housing, John L. Garvin, having reviewed and approved this document, is delegating the authority to electronically sign this document to submitter, Nacheshia Foxx, who is the Federal Register Liaison for HUD, for purposes of publication in the **Federal Register**.

C. Authority

Section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35.

Dated: April 10, 2020.

Nacheshia Foxx,

Federal Register Liaison for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

**[FWS-R3-ES-2020-N061;
FXES11130300000-201-FF03E00000]**

Endangered and Threatened Species; Receipt of Recovery Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of permit applications; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, have received applications for permits to conduct activities intended to enhance the propagation or survival of endangered or threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. We invite the public and local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies to comment on these applications. Before issuing any of the requested permits, we will take into consideration any information that we receive during the public comment period.

DATES: We must receive your written comments on or before May 15, 2020.

ADDRESSES: *Document availability and comment submission:* Submit requests for copies of the applications and related documents, as well as any comments, by one of the following methods. All requests and comments should specify the applicant name(s) and application number(s) (*e.g.*, TXXXXXX; see table in

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION):

- *Email:* permitsR3ES@fws.gov.

Please refer to the respective application number (*e.g.*, Application No. TXXXXXX) in the subject line of your email message.

- *U.S. Mail:* Regional Director, Attn: Nathan Rathbun, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services, 5600 American Blvd. West, Suite 990, Bloomington, MN 55437-1458.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nathan Rathbun, 612-713-5343 (phone); permitsR3ES@fws.gov (email). Individuals who are hearing or speech impaired may call the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 for TTY assistance.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), prohibits certain activities with endangered and threatened species unless authorized by a Federal permit. The ESA and our implementing regulations in part 17 of title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) provide for the issuance of such permits and require that we invite public comment before issuing permits for activities involving endangered species.

A recovery permit issued by us under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA authorizes the permittee to conduct activities with endangered species for scientific purposes that promote recovery or for enhancement of propagation or survival of the species. Our regulations implementing section 10(a)(1)(A) for these permits are found at 50 CFR 17.22 for endangered wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.32 for threatened wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.62 for endangered plant species, and 50 CFR 17.72 for threatened plant species.

Permit Applications Available for Review and Comment

We invite local, State, and Federal agencies; Tribes; and the public to comment on the following applications: