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Decided: March 20, 2000.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik,
Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-7470 Filed 3-24-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Proposed Renewal of Information Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The OCC, 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 a continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Currently, the OCC is soliciting comment concerning its extension, without change, of an information collection titled, "Leasing—12 CFR 23."

DATES: You should submit written comments by May 26, 2000.

ADDRESSES: You should direct all written comments to the Communications Division, Attention: 1557-0206, Third Floor, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 250 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20219. In addition, you may send comments by facsimile transmission to (202) 874-5274, or by electronic mail to regs.comments@occ.treas.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: You can request additional information from Jacqueline Lussier, Senior Attorney, (202) 874-5090; or a copy of the collection from Jessie Dunaway or Camille Dixon, (202) 874-5090, Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division (1557-0206), Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 250 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20219. You can inspect and photocopy the comments at the OCC's Public Reference Room, 250 E Street, SW, Washington, DC, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on business days. You can make an appointment to inspect the comments by calling (202) 874-5043.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The OCC is proposing to extend OMB approval of the following information collection:

Title: Leasing—12 CFR 23.

OMB Number: 1557-0206.

Form Number: None.

Abstract: This submission covers an existing regulation and involves no change to the regulation or to the information collections embodied in the regulation. The OCC requests only that OMB renew its approval of the information collections in the current regulation.

The information requirements in 12 CFR part 23 are located as follows:

12 CFR 23.4(c)—Reporting: A national bank must liquidate or re-lease property that is no longer subject to lease (off-lease property) as soon as practicable, but no later than five years from the lease expiration. A bank wishing to extend that five-year holding period for up to an additional five years must obtain OCC approval. To ensure that a bank is not holding property for speculative reasons, the OCC requires the bank to provide a clearly convincing demonstration why an additional holding period is necessary. This requirement confers a benefit on national banks and may result in cost savings. This requirement provides flexibility for a bank when it faces unusual and unforeseen conditions under which it would be imprudent to dispose of the off-lease property.

12 CFR 23.4(c)—Recordkeeping: A national bank must value off-lease property at the lower of current fair market value or book value promptly after the property comes off-lease.

12 CFR 23.5—Recordkeeping: A national bank may engage in two types of lease financing. First, a national bank may acquire tangible or intangible personal property for purposes of lease financing if the lease serves as the functional equivalent of a loan. There is no aggregate volume limitation on a bank's investment in personal property that it leases. Second, a national bank may acquire tangible personal property for purposes of lease financing up to 10 percent of the assets of the bank. Section 23.5 requires that if a bank enters into both types of leases, its records must distinguish between the two types of leases.

National banks need these information collections to ensure that they conduct their operations in a safe and sound manner and in accordance with Federal banking statutes and regulations. These information collections also provide needed information for examiners and protections for banks. The OCC uses this information to verify compliance.

Type of Review: Extension, without change, of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 660.

Estimated Total Annual Responses: 710.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 1,820 burden hours.

COMMENTS: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on:

(a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility;

(b) The accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information;

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

(d) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and

(e) Estimates of capital or startup costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Dated: March 21, 2000.

Mark Tenhundfeld,

Assistant Director, Legislative & Regulatory Activities Division.

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TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY WORKFORCE COMMISSION

Notice of Business Meeting

AGENCY: Twenty-First Century Workforce Commission.

ACTION: Notice of business meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice is to announce a business meeting on Thursday, March 30, 2000. Members of the public are invited to attend the meeting. The agenda is set forth below.

The purpose of the meeting is for Commissioners to formulate next steps in carrying out its statutory requirements. The Commissioners and Commission staff will discuss trends and findings arising from its public information gathering hearings, and from site visits conducted by Commission staff. In addition, Commissioners will discuss best practices in Information Technology