

employees under Federal-State cooperative agreements, pursuant to the Talmadge-Aiken Act (7 U.S.C. 450)?

Availability of Resources for Federal Oversight of and Assistance to State Programs

A perennial question to be addressed is the availability of resources for appropriate Federal oversight of State programs to ensure that they are "at least equal to" the Federal program. The resource question is sometimes highlighted when the Agency's oversight of State programs undergoes external evaluation by GAO or OIG, as discussed above. Nevertheless, the ability of the Agency to meet the need for oversight of State programs will continue to be challenged by a scarcity of resources. This challenge is likely to be far greater than it is at present if State-inspected products are permitted to be shipped in interstate commerce, for the volume and geographical distribution of State-inspected products could be greater than they are now, and the handling of the products more complicated.

◆ What is the best way to ensure the continued provision of resources necessary for Federal oversight of State programs?

◆ What would be the effect on State resources of allowing interstate shipment of State-inspected product, especially if large numbers of establishments switch from Federal to State inspection?

◆ In addition, how should the financing of State programs be accomplished? Should USDA continue to pay up to half the cost of operating a State program?

◆ If a wider market were opened to State-inspected products, would sales volumes rise and would State economies be better able to support a larger share of program operations?

The foregoing list of issues is not intended to be inclusive; FSIS recognizes that commenters may suggest other issues and provide comments regarding them. FSIS welcomes comments on other issues related to interstate shipment of meat and poultry from State-inspected establishments.

Done, at Washington, D.C., on: May 3, 1996.

Michael R. Taylor,

Acting Under Secretary for Food Safety.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**Submission For OMB Review;
Comment Request**

DOC has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

Agency: Bureau of the Census.
Title: Survey of Public Attitudes Toward Administrative Records Use.
Form Number(s): None — Computer assisted telephone interview.

Agency Approval Number: None.
Type of Request: New collection.
Burden: 300 hours.
Number of Respondents: 1,200.
Avg Hours Per Response: 15 minutes.
Needs and Uses: The Census Bureau

is testing the use of administrative records in the Census 2000 to estimate the characteristics of nonresponding households, supplement data for respondents that return incomplete forms, and estimate the number of persons missed within households. To enhance the usability of administrative record information, the Census Bureau is also considering asking respondents in the Census 2000 to provide their Social Security number (SSN). This survey asks respondents to rate their feelings and attitudes toward our use of administrative records and collecting SSN in the census. Knowledge about the public's feelings and attitudes will help the Census Bureau form privacy policy, achieve effective promotion and outreach, and determine language for public use forms.

Affected Public: Individuals.
Frequency: One time.
Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.
OMB Desk Officer: Jerry Coffey, (202) 395-7314.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, Acting DOC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, Room 5312, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Jerry Coffey, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10201, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: April 29, 1996.

Linda Engelmeier,

Acting Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

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National Institute of Standards and Technology

[Docket No. 960405101-6101-0]

RIN 0693-XX17

Request To Identify Bodies Interested in European Union (EU) Conformity Assessment Activities

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Request for public comment.

SUMMARY: This is to advise the public that the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is seeking input regarding the identification of bodies which can perform conformity assessment of products that will ultimately be entered into commerce in the European union (EU). This information is requested in support of ongoing negotiations between the United States and the EU for mutual recognition of product approvals pursuant to regulatory requirements. At the present time, we wish to identify and report to the EU those U.S. organizations that believe that they are qualified and are interested in certifying products as being in compliance with mandatory EU product safety requirements, that is, U.S.-based organizations that desire to be recognized as equivalent to notified or competent body status under a U.S.-EU mutual recognition agreement (MRA), as specified in the EU directives covering telecommunications terminal equipment (TTE) (EEC 89/263), electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) (89/336), low voltage electrical equipment (LVD) (EEC 73/23), and recreational craft (EEC 94/25). The areas of present interest are the following: (1) Product testing and quality assessment; (2) quality system registration; (3) evaluation of technical construction files (specific to the EMC directive); and (4) product certification. Copies of the pertinent EU directives and related lists of reference standards are available at the U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 3042, Herbert C. Hoover Building, 14th and Constitution Avenue, Washington, D.C., or NIST, building 820, Room 164, Gaithersburg, Maryland.

Organizations are invited to inform NIST of their interest in carrying out any of the activities listed above under specific EU directives, indicating the scope of their claimed competence and identifying specific standards, test methods, etc. Organizations should note current accreditation by a recognized national, regional or international accreditation body to a recognized or international standard and, if possible,