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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: The Rural Housing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Housing Service's (RHS) intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the program for Housing Application Packaging Grants.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by July 12, 1996 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Betsy McDaniel, Loan Specialist, Single Family Housing Processing Division, RHS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Ag Box 0783, Washington, DC 20250, Telephone (202) 720-1486.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Housing Application Packaging Grants.

OMB Number: 0575-0157.

Expiration Date of Approval: September 1996.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The Rural Housing Service under Section 509 of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended, authorizes grants to public and private nonprofit organizations and state and local governments to package housing applications for Sections 502, 504, 514/516, 515, and 533 in colonias and designated counties. Eligible organizations will aid very low- and low-income individuals and families in obtaining benefits from RHS housing programs.

RHS will be collecting information from grantees to assure the organizations participating in this program are eligible entities and have participated in RHS training in application packaging. The respondents are nonprofit organizations, States, State agencies, and units of general local government. The information required for approval of housing application packaging grants is used by RHS personnel to verify program eligibility requirements and to secure grant assistance. The information is collected at the RHS field office responsible for the processing of the application being submitted. The information is also used to insure the program is administered in a manner consistent with legislative and administrative requirements. If not collected, RHS would be unable to determine if a grantee would qualify for grant assistance.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 4.5 hours per response.

Respondents: Private and public nonprofit organizations, and State and local governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 400.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 4.5.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 1800 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from the Director, Regulations and Paperwork Management Division, at (202) 720-9725.

Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of RHS, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of RHS's estimate of the burden of the proposed 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 those who are to respond, 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

Director, Regulations and Paperwork Management Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Ag Box 0743, Washington, DC 20250. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: May 6, 1996.

Maureen Kennedy,

Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

[FR Doc. 96-11832 Filed 5-10-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-07-U

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: 1996 Community Census.

Form Number(s): DT-1A, 1B, 1(E), 1(E)SUPP, 10, 20A, 31, 14B.

Agency Approval Number: None.

Type of Request: New collection.

Burden: 1,203 hours.

Number of Respondents: 11,000.

Avg Hours Per Response: 7 minutes.

Needs and Uses: The Census Bureau plans to conduct the 1996 Community Census to test new and improved methodologies for reducing the differentials in the census among the various components of the population and for containing costs associated with conducting a census. The test will be conducted on two American Indian Reservations and in 6 census tracts in Chicago, Illinois. Objectives are to test the Integrated Coverage Measurement Program in a reengineered census setting and compare rostering strategies for improving within-household coverage. We will use respondent friendly forms to maximize mail response. We also plan to implement and evaluate a partnership agreement with tribal governments and expand the Tribal Liaison's role to include involvement in census operational activities.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Frequency: One time.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

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: May 7, 1996.

Linda Engelmeier,

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

[FR Doc. 96-11820 Filed 5-10-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-F

Bureau of the Census

1997 Census of Agriculture

ACTION: Proposed agency information collection activity; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, 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 proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before July 12, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Acting Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to: Joseph Reilly, Bureau of the Census, AGFS Division, Room 437, Iverson Mall, Washington, DC 20233. Phone: (301) 763-8557.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

A census of agriculture is taken to obtain measures of agricultural activity and productivity for each county or county equivalent and state in the United States and the outlying areas.

The census of agriculture is conducted on the same 5-year cycle as the other economic censuses. The 1997 Census of Agriculture covers all agricultural operations in each state, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands which meet the census farm definition. The farm definition for the 1997 Census of Agriculture for the 50 states is any place that produced and sold, or normally would produce and sell, \$1,000 or more of agricultural products during 1997. This is the identical definition used for the 1992 Census of Agriculture. The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico farm definition has been changed from the 1992 definition, and will be the same as the definition used in the United States. The farm definition for Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will stay at its 1992 level of \$100 in sales.

To minimize respondent burden, the Census Bureau limits the items asked on the report forms for all farms to just these basic subjects: land use and ownership, irrigated land, crop acreages and quantities harvested, livestock and poultry inventories and value of products sold, acres set aside under Federal acreage-reduction programs, payment for participation in Federal farm programs, the amount received from Commodity Credit Corporation loans, number of injuries and deaths, and operator characteristics. Additionally, 25 percent of the report forms include additional questions on number of hired farm workers, production expenses, fertilizer and chemicals, machinery and equipment, market value of land and buildings, and income from farm-related sources. The Census Bureau designs regionalized report forms that are tailored for various parts of the country and are specific to the crops grown in a farmer's particular area.

The census of agriculture is authorized by law under Title 13, United States Code, sections 142(a) and 191. Individual farm operators are guaranteed by this same law that their individual information will be kept confidential. The Census Bureau uses the information only for statistical purposes and publishes data only as tabulated totals. The census of agriculture is the only comprehensive source of agricultural statistics at the county level. These agricultural statistics are used by Congress in developing and changing farm programs. Many national and state programs are designed or allocated on the basis of census data such as funds

for extension services, research, and soil conservation projects. Private industry uses census statistics to provide a more effective production and distribution system for the agricultural community.

II. Method of Collection

The 1997 Census of Agriculture for the United States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico will be conducted primarily using mailout/mailback procedures for data collection. For Guam, the Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands direct enumeration methods will be used for data collection.

III. Data

OMB Number: Not Available.

Form Number: 97-A0101-97-A0111, 97-A0114, 97-A0201-97-A0216, 97-0216(SP), 97-A1(G), 97-A1(VI), 97-A1(NM), and 97-A46.

Type of Review: Regular.

Affected Public: Farms.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 3,590,000.

Estimated Time Per Response: 22.5 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,346,250.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$113.2 million over a 6-year cycle (1995-2000).

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (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 automated-collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: May 7, 1996.

Linda Engelmeier,

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

[FR Doc. 96-11826 Filed 5-10-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P