

minimize the burden of the collection of the 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 regarding this information collection requirement may be directed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for USDA, Washington, DC 20503, and to Timothy P. Mehl, Chief, Planning and Analysis Division, Kansas City Commodity Office, 9200 Ward Parkway, Kansas City, Missouri 64114, telephone (816) 926-3536, fax (816) 926-6767.

All comments will become a matter of public record.

Signed at Washington, DC, April 24, 1998.

Keith Kelly,

Executive Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

[FR Doc. 98-11697 Filed 5-1-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

Uniform Grain and Rice Storage Agreement Fees

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of fees.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to publish a schedule of fees to be paid to Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) by grain and rice warehouse operators requesting to enter into a storage agreement; increase the capacity of an existing storage agreement; or renew an existing storage agreement.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 1, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Howard Froehlich, Chief, Storage Contract Branch, Warehouse and Inventory Division, Farm Service Agency, United States Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., STOP 0553, Washington, D.C. 20250-0553, telephone (202) 720-7398, FAX (202) 690-3123.

In accordance with the provisions of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714 *et seq.*), CCC enters into storage agreements with private grain and rice warehouse operators to provide for the storage of commodities owned by CCC or pledged as security to CCC for marketing assistance and price support loans.

Specifically, 7 CFR 1421.5558 provides that all grain and rice warehouse operators who do not have an existing agreement with CCC for

storage and handling of CCC-owned commodities or commodities pledged to CCC as loan collateral, but who desire such an agreement, must pay an application and examination fee for each warehouse for which CCC approval is sought prior to CCC conducting the original warehouse examination.

A review of the revenue collected for application and examination fees indicates that the fees collected are insufficient to meet costs incurred by CCC for warehouse examinations and contract origination administrative functions. Accordingly, beginning April 1 with the start of the 1998-99 contract year, the fees are changed by increasing by 10 percent those fees applicable to the 1997-98 contract year. The fee will be computed at the rate of \$15 for each 10,000 bushels of storage capacity or fraction thereof, but the fee will be not less than \$150 nor more than \$1,500.

Further, each warehouse operator who has a non-federally licensed grain or rice warehouse in States that do not have a cooperative agreement with CCC for warehouse examinations must pay an annual fee to CCC for each such warehouse which is approved by CCC or for which CCC approval is sought. The collection of the annual fee by CCC is currently suspended. CCC continues to suspend collection of the annual fee, but CCC may reinstate the annual fee by future notice to the industry.

Signed at Washington, DC, on April 27, 1998.

Keith Kelly,

Executive Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Rural Utilities Service

Farm Service Agency

Notice of Request for Reinstatement of an Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Rural Utilities Service, and Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection: Comments request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Housing Service (RHS), the Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS), Rural

Utilities Service (RUS), and the Farm Service Agency's (FSA) intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of compliance with Civil Rights laws.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by July 6, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jacqueline Micheli, Equal Opportunity Specialist, Rural Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 0703, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250-0703, Telephone (202) 690-9812 (voice) or 690-9809 (TDD).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: 7 CFR 1901-E, Civil Rights Compliance Requirements.

OMB Number: 0575-0018.

Type of Request: Reinstatement of an information collection.

Abstract: The information collection under OMB Number 0575-0018 enables the RHS, RBS, RUS, and FSA to effectively monitor a recipient's compliance with the civil rights laws, and to determine whether or not service and benefits are being provided to beneficiaries on an equal opportunity basis.

The RBS, RHS, RUS, and FSA, formerly the Farmers Home Administration, are required to provide Federal financial assistance through its farmer, housing, and community and business programs on an equal opportunity basis. The laws implemented in 7 CFR Part 1901, Subpart E ("1901-E"), require the recipients of RBS, RHS, RUS, and FSA's Federal financial assistance to collect various types of information, including information on participants in certain of these agencies' programs, by race, color, and national origin. While these agencies realize that the provisions of 1901-E are outdated as the result of statutory amendment and other processes of law, the information needed to be collected under this implementing regulation is not affected by the obsolete nature of the regulation. The RBS, RHS, RUS, and FSA use the information to monitor a recipient's compliance with the civil rights laws, and to determine whether or not service and benefits are being provided to beneficiaries on an equal opportunity basis. The agencies are in the process of revising 1901-E, and expect to publish for comment a **Federal Register** document proposing these revisions in 1998. The following laws implemented are 7 CFR 1901-E:

a. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 ("Title VI"). The implementing

regulations for this Act issued by the Department of Justice and the Department of Agriculture requires recipients of RBS, RHS, RUS, and FSA's program assistance to collect information on the race/national origin of the beneficiaries of their specific programs. This information is used by the RBS, RHS, RUS, and FSA for compliance review and monitoring purposes for Title VI.

b. Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (as amended) ("Title VIII). Section 808a of Title VIII (42 U.S.C. 3608a (1988)), in pertinent part, requires the Secretary of Agriculture to collect racial and ethnic data on beneficiaries and recipients of USDA housing programs. Furthermore, the implementing regulations issued by the Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") and adopted by the RBS, RHS, RUS, and FSA, requires recipients and other participants in RHS's housing programs affirmatively to further fair housing by providing housing and the opportunity to acquire housing in a non-discriminatory fashion. One way to demonstrate compliance with Title VIII is to prepare affirmative fair housing marketing plans, and to collect and maintain data to reflect compliance with the requirements of that plan. Furthermore, under the Memorandum of Understanding between HUD and USDA, many complaints of fair housing violation by USDA recipients will be processed by HUD. The collection and maintenance of these data will assist in this enforcement effort.

c. Executive Order 11246. The implementing regulations issued by the Department of Labor (DOL) and adopted by the RBS, RHS, RUS, and FSA, require recipients of Federally assisted construction contracts of \$10,000 or more to maintain goals for hiring minorities and females, and to submit employment utilization reports to the DOL's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs.

The information collected and maintained by the recipients of certain programs from RBS, RHS, RUS, and FSA is used internally by these agencies for monitoring compliance with the civil rights laws and regulations. This information is made available to USDA officials, officials of other Federal agencies, and to Congress for reporting purposes. Without the required information, RBS, RHS, RUS, FSA and its recipients will lack the necessary documentation to demonstrate that their programs are being administered in a nondiscriminatory manner and in full compliance with the civil rights laws. In addition, the RBS, RHS, RUS, and FSA, and their recipients would be

vulnerable in lawsuits alleging discrimination in the affected programs of these agencies and would be without appropriate data and documentation to defend themselves by demonstrating that services and benefits are being provided to beneficiaries on an equal opportunity basis.

Estimate of Burden: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response.

Respondents: Recipients of RBS, RHS, RUS, and FSA's Federal financial assistance, loan, and loan guarantee programs.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 19,565.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 5.40.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 533,017.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Richard Gartman, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Support Services Division, at (202) 720-9745.

Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Rural Development, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agencies' 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 Richard Gartman, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Support Services 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: April 20, 1998.

Jill Long Thompson,

Under Secretary, Rural Development.

Dated: April 4, 1998.

August Schumacher, Jr.,

Under Secretary, Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services.

[FR Doc. 98-11693 Filed 5-1-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

List of Warehouses and Availability of List of Cancellations and/or Terminations

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of publication.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Farm Service Agency has published a list of warehouses licensed under the United States Warehouse Act (7 U.S.C. 241 *et. seq.*) as of December 31, 1997, as required by section 26 of that Act (7 U.S.C. 266). A list of cancellations or terminations that occurred during calendar year 1997 is also available. Interested persons may obtain a copy of either list from the person listed below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Judy Fry, Farm Service Agency, Warehouse and Inventory Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 0553, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-0553; e-mail requests may be sent: Judy—Fry@wdc.fsa.usda.gov.; telephone 202-720-3822.

Signed at Washington, D.C., on April 24, 1998.

Keith Kelly,

Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL

Foreign Agricultural Service

Types and Quantities of Agricultural Commodities Available for Donation Overseas Under Section 416(b) of the Agricultural Act of 1949, as Amended, in Fiscal Year 1998

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On April 6, 1998, the Secretary of Agriculture determined that 10,500 metric tons of nonfortified nonfat dry milk packaged in 25 kilogram bags are available for donation overseas under section 416(b) of the Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended, during fiscal year 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ira Branson, Director, CCC Program Support Division, FAS, USDA, (202) 720-3573.