

Commission is authorizing NFA to review Disclosure Documents that CPOs are required to submit pursuant to rule 4.26(d)(3). In final rules being published elsewhere in the **Federal Register**, the Commission is amending rule 4.26(d) so as to make clear that CPOs need only file such Disclosure Documents with NFA and need not also file them with the Commission.

II. Authority

Section 4n(3)(A) of the Act provides, among other things, that each CPO shall "file such reports in such form and manner as may be prescribed by the Commission." The Commission also notes that, in amending the Act through passage of the Commodity Futures Modernization Act of 2000 (the "CFMA"),¹⁰ Congress intended, as evidenced in section 2 of the CFMA, to transform the role of the Commission from that of a frontline regulator to that of an oversight regulator of the futures industry. Moreover, section 125 of the CFMA required the Commission to conduct a study of the Act and the Commission's rules and orders governing the conduct of registrants under the Act, identifying, among other things, regulatory functions the Commission performs that can be delegated to a registered futures association.¹¹ Additionally, the Commission notes that NFA, as a registered futures association, is obligated to establish a program for the protection of customers and customer funds and to prevent fraudulent acts and practices.¹²

III. Maintenance of and Access to Disclosure Document Filings

The Commission has also determined to authorize NFA to maintain and serve as official custodian of record for the Disclosure Documents filed by CPOs with regard to publicly-offered pools, as required under rule 4.26(d). This determination is based upon NFA's representations regarding procedures for maintaining and safeguarding all such records, in connection with NFA's assumption of the responsibilities for the activities referenced above. In maintaining the Commission's records pursuant to this Order, NFA shall be subject to all other requirements and obligations imposed upon it by the Commission in existing or future orders or regulations. In this regard, NFA shall

also implement such additional procedures (or modify existing procedures) as are acceptable to the Commission and as are necessary: (1) To ensure the security and integrity of the records in NFA's custody; (2) to facilitate prompt access to those records by the Commission and its staff, particularly as described in other Commission orders or rules; (3) to facilitate disclosure of public or nonpublic information in those records when permitted by Commission orders or rules and to keep logs as required by the Commission concerning disclosure of nonpublic information; and (4) to otherwise safeguard the confidentiality of the records.

IV. Conclusion and Order

For the reasons discussed above, and pursuant to its authority under the Act, the Commission has determined to authorize NFA to receive and review Disclosure Documents filed by CPOs pursuant to rule 4.26(d) with regard to publicly-offered commodity pools. In addition, the Commission has determined to authorize NFA to maintain and to serve as the official custodian of such records.

These determinations are based upon: (1) The Congressional intent that the Commission be permitted to determine the best manner in which to oversee CPOs; (2) the Congressional intent that a registered futures association, where appropriate, assume responsibility under the Act for regulatory functions the Commission has deemed unnecessary to retain; and (3) NFA's representation and demonstration of its willingness and ability to administer the required regulatory functions in accordance with the standards established by the Act, the Commission's regulations and orders promulgated thereunder, any supplemental direction established by the Commission or Commission staff, and relevant case law, and to provide the Commission with whatever information, reports, summaries, or records the Commission may determine are necessary for effective oversight of NFA's administration of the functions delegated herein, or for the Commission to fulfill its role of regulatory oversight of the futures markets.

This order does not authorize NFA to accept or act upon requests for exemption from the requirements of rule 4.26(d). Moreover, NFA is not authorized to issue any interpretations, "no-action" positions, or exemptions with respect to the requirements of rule 4.26(d).

NFA is authorized to perform all functions specified in this order until

the Commission orders otherwise. Nothing in this order shall prevent the Commission from exercising the authority delegated herein. NFA may submit to the Commission for decision any specific matter regarding the functions delegated to it by this order. Nothing in this order affects the applicability of any previous orders issued by the Commission.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 10, 2003, by the Commission.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 03-6178 Filed 3-14-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[OMB Control No. 9000-0150]

Federal Acquisition Regulation; Information Collection; Small Disadvantaged Business Procurement Credits

AGENCIES: Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of request for public comments regarding an extension to an existing OMB clearance (9000-0150).

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Secretariat will be submitting to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension of a currently approved information collection requirement concerning Small Business Procurement Credit Programs. This OMB clearance expires on June 30, 2003.

Public comments are particularly invited on: Whether this collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the FAR, and whether it will have practical utility; whether our estimate of the public burden of this collection of information is accurate, and based on valid assumptions and methodology; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways in which we can minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate

¹⁰ Pub. L. No. 106-554, 114 Stat. 2763 (codified as amended in scattered sections of 7 U.S.C.).

¹¹ A copy of the study may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at: www.cftc.gov/files/opa/opaintermediarystudy.pdf.

¹² See Commission rule 170.5; see also section 17(b)(7) of the Act.

technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.
DATES: Submit comments on or before May 16, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (MVA), 1800 F Street, NW., Room 4035, Washington, DC 20405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rhonda Cundiff, Acquisition Policy Division, GSA, 501-0044.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Purpose

This FAR requirement concerning small disadvantaged procurement credit programs implements the Department of Justice proposal to reform affirmative action in Federal procurement, which was designed to ensure compliance with the constitutional standards established by the Supreme Court. The credits include price evaluation factor targets and certifications.

B. Annual Reporting Burden

Number of Respondents: 20,340.
Responses Per Respondent: 8.97.
Total Responses: 183,257.
Average Burden Hours Per Response: 2.09.

Total Burden Hours: 383,007.
Obtaining Copies of Proposals: Requesters may obtain a copy of the information collection documents from the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (MVA), Room 4035, Washington, DC 20405, telephone (202) 501-4755. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0150, Small Disadvantaged Business Procurement Credit Programs, in all correspondence.

Dated: March 11, 2003.

Laura G. Smith,

Director, Acquisition Policy Division.

[FR Doc. 03-6252 Filed 3-14-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[OMB Control No. 9000-0149]

Federal Acquisition Regulation; Information Collection; Subcontract Consent

AGENCIES: Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of request for public comments regarding an extension to an existing OMB clearance (9000-0149).

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Secretariat will be submitting to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension of a currently approved information collection requirement concerning Subcontract Consent. This OMB Clearance expires on July 31, 2003.

Public comments are particularly invited on: Whether this collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the FAR, and whether it will have practical utility; whether our estimate of the public burden of this collection of information is accurate, and based on valid assumptions and methodology; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways in which we can minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Submit comments on or before May 16, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments including suggestions for reducing this burden to the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (MVA), Room 4035, 1800 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rhonda Cundiff, Acquisition Policy Division, GSA (202) 501-0044.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Purpose

The objective to consent to subcontract, as discussed in FAR part 44, is to evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness with which the contractor spends Government funds, and complies with Government policy when subcontracting. The consent package provides the administrative contracting officer a basis for granting, or withholding consent to subcontract.

B. Annual Reporting Burden

Number of Respondents: 4,252.
Responses Per Respondent: 3.61.
Total Responses: 15,349.
Average Burden Hours Per Response: .87.

Total Burden Hours: 13,353.
Obtaining Copies of Proposals: Requesters may obtain a copy of the information collection documents from

the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (MVA), Room 4035, 1800 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20405, telephone (202) 501-4755. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0149, Subcontract Consent, in all correspondence.

Dated: March 10, 2003.

Laura G. Smith,

Director, Acquisition Policy Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before April 17, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Lauren Wittenberg, Acting Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the Internet address Lauren_Wittenberg@omb.eop.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and