

set trade quotas and tariffs. State universities and agriculture departments also use data from this survey. The Fruits, Nuts, and Specialty Crops program has approval from OMB for a 3-year period. NASS intends to request that the survey be approved for another 3 years.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 17 minutes per response.

Respondents: Individual Job Applicants.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 53,000.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 15,000 hours.

Copies of this information collection and related instructions can be obtained without charge from Larry Gambrell, the Agency OMB Clearance Officer, at (202) 720-5778.

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 will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency'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, such as through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to: Larry Gambrell, Agency OMB Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Room 4162 South Building, Washington, DC 20250-2000. 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.

Signed at Washington, DC, January 14, 1998.

Rich Allen,

Acting Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

[FR Doc. 98-1302 Filed 1-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

National Sheep Industry Improvement Center; Notice of Annual Board of Directors Meeting

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of annual board meeting.

SUMMARY: The Board of Directors of the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center announces that it will hold its annual Board of Directors meeting. The meeting will be held over 2 days in the Washington, DC area.

DATES: The meeting dates are:

1. February 11, 1998, 7:00 p.m. to 10 p.m., Arlington, VA.
2. February 12, 1998, 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 pm, Washington, DC.

ADDRESSES: The meeting locations are:

1. Arlington, VA—Holiday Inn Westpark, 1900 N. Ft. Meyer Drive, Arlington, VA (Call hotel, 703/807-2000, for conference room number).
2. Washington, DC—USDA South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, Room 3107.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Thomas Stafford, Director, Cooperative Marketing Division, Cooperative Services, RBS, USDA, Stop 3252, Room 4204, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-3252, telephone (202) 690-0368. (This is not a toll free number.) E-mail: thomas.stafford@usda.gov. The Federal Information Relay service on 1-800-877-8339 may be used by TDD users.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This board meeting will serve as the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center's annual meeting.

Background

In response to challenges facing the sheep and goat industries, the 1996 Farm Bill established the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center to assist and strengthen the U.S. sheep and goat industries through projects and assistance financed through the Center's revolving fund. The Center will manage a revolving fund of up to \$50 million in Federal funds to facilitate the production and marketing of sheep and goats, and their products.

Treasury has deposited the initial \$20 million into the Center's fund. This fund is capped at \$50 million Federal funds—where authorization was provided for an additional \$30 million in appropriated funds. After 10 years or upon receipt of \$50 million in Federal funds to the revolving fund, the Center and its activities shall be privatized and

no additional Federal funds shall be used to carry out the activities of the Center.

The Center is managed by a nine member (7 voting and 2 nonvoting members), non-compensated board. The seven voting members were chosen by the Secretary of Agriculture from the sheep and goat industries and the two non-voting members from the USDA are the Under Secretary for Rural Development and the Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics. The Board of Directors may use the monies in the fund to make grants, and intermediate and long-term loans, contracts, cooperative repayable agreements, or cooperative agreements in accordance with an annual strategic plan submitted to the Secretary of Agriculture. Funds may be used to participate with Federal and State agencies, other public and private funding sources, and in regional efforts. Funding activities include providing security for, or making principal or interest payments on, revenue or general obligation bond issues, accruing interest, guaranteeing or purchasing insurance for local obligations, and selling acquired assets or loans.

Purposes of the Center

The purposes of the Center are to:

(1) Promote strategic development activities and collaborative efforts by private and State entities to maximize the impact of Federal assistance to strengthen and enhance production and marketing of sheep or goat products in the United States;

(2) Optimize the use of available human capital and resources within the sheep or goat industries;

(3) Provide assistance to meet the needs of the sheep or goat industry for infrastructure development, business development, production, resource development, and market and environmental research;

(4) Advance activities that empower and build the capacity of the United States sheep or goat industry to design unique responses to the special needs of the sheep or goat industries on both a regional and national basis; and

(5) Adopt flexible and innovative approaches to solving the long-term needs of the United States sheep and goat industries.

Board Meetings

The Board meetings are open to the public.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 2008j, Pub.L. 104-130.

Dated: January 9, 1998.

Dayton J. Watkins,

Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

[FR Doc. 98-1310 Filed 1-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XY-U

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Export Administration

Written Assurances for Exports of Technical Data Under General License GTDR (to be Renamed, "Written Assurances for Exports of Technical Data Under License Exception TSR")

ACTION: Proposed collection; 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 March 23, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental 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 Stephen Baker, Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., room 6877, Washington, DC 20230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

U.S. exporters are required to receive letters of assurance from their foreign importers stating that they will not export or reexport technical data to destinations outlined in the E.A.R. unless they have received prior authorization from BXA.

II. Method of Collection

Submitted in written form.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0694-0023.

Form Number: n/a.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Individuals, businesses or other for-profit and not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 226.

Estimated Time Per Response: 30 minutes per response.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 117.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$0 (no capital expenditures are required).

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 will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: January 13, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 98-1348 Filed 1-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DT-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Export Administration

Report of Requests for Restrictive Trade Practice or Boycott—Single or Multiple Transactions

ACTION: Proposed collection; 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 March 23, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental 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 Stephen Baker, Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, room 6877, Washington, DC 20230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The information obtained from this collection authorization is used to carefully and accurately monitor requests for participation in foreign boycotts against countries friendly to the U.S. which are received by U.S. persons. The information is also used to identify trends in such boycott activity and to assist in carrying out U.S. policy of opposition to such boycotts.

II. Method of Collection

Submitted in writing on forms.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0694-0012.

Form Number: BXA 621-P or BXA 6051-P.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Individuals, businesses or other for-profit and not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,574.

Estimated Time Per Response: 1 to 1.5 hours per response.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 3,306.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$0 (no capital expenditures are required).

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 will also become a matter of public record.