

inhibition of gene activation. As part of the evaluation, EPA requested the development and review of proposed minimum performance criteria that future methods of these types should achieve, in light of the performance of existing methods.

For both the receptor binding and transcriptional activation assays, the Panel will evaluate the extent to which the validation and acceptance criteria outlined in the ICCVAM Report have been addressed. The Panel will be asked to provide conclusions and recommendations regarding the usefulness and limitations of various ER and AR binding and/or transcriptional activation assays, and the adequacy of proposed technically feasible minimum performance criteria that these types of assays should achieve. Finally, the Panel will address whether and what additional test method development and validation efforts might further enhance and/or characterize the usefulness of specific *in vitro* ER and AR binding and/or transcriptional activation assays.

NICEATM is preparing background review documents on ER and AR binding and transcriptional activation testing methods that will contain comprehensive summaries of available data and related information characterizing the current validation status of these assays. The Panel will evaluate the background review documents, which will also be made available to the public.

The Peer Review Panel meeting is anticipated to take place in early 2002. Meeting information, including date and location, and public availability of the background review documents will be announced in a future **Federal Register** notice that will also be posted on the ICCVAM/NICEATM website (<http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov>).

#### **Request for Nominations of Experts to Serve on the Panel**

NICEATM invites nominations of scientists with relevant knowledge and experience who might be considered for the independent Peer Review Panel. Areas of expertise that may be relevant include, but are not limited to, endocrinology, reproductive toxicology, cellular biology, molecular genetics and biostatistics. Each nomination should include the person's name, affiliation, contact information (i.e., mailing address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address), and a brief summary of relevant experience and qualifications. Nominations should be sent to NICEATM by mail, fax or e-mail within 60 days of the publication date of this notice. Correspondence should be directed to Dr. William S. Stokes,

Director, NTP Interagency Center for the Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods, NIEHS, 79 T.W. Alexander Drive, MD EC-17, P.O. Box 12233, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709; telephone: 919-541-7997; fax: 919-541-0947; e-mail: [iccvam@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:iccvam@niehs.nih.gov).

#### **Request for Data**

NICEATM welcomes data from completed studies using or evaluating ER and AR binding and/or transcriptional activation assays, and information about ongoing or planned studies using these methods. Information should address applicable aspects of the validation and regulatory acceptance criteria provided in the ICCVAM Report. Where possible, data and information should adhere to the guidance provided in NIH Publication 99-4496, Evaluation of the Validation Status of Toxicological Methods: General Guidelines for Submissions to ICCVAM (<http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov/subguide.htm>). Both documents are available by request from NICEATM at the address provided above. Information and data should be submitted within 60 days of the publication date of this notice to ensure adequate consideration during preparation of the background review documents for the Panel. Correspondence should be sent by mail, fax or e-mail to Dr. William S. Stokes (contact information is provided in the previous section of this notice).

#### **Background Information on ICCVAM and NICEATM**

ICCVAM was established in 1997 to coordinate cross-agency issues relating to the validation, acceptance, and national/international harmonization of toxicological testing methods. Composed of representatives from fifteen Federal regulatory and research agencies that use or generate toxicological information, ICCVAM promotes the scientific validation and regulatory acceptance of toxicological test methods that enhance agencies' ability to make decisions on health risks, while refining, reducing, and replacing animal use wherever possible. ICCVAM was authorized as a permanent Federal committee on December 19, 2000 through passage of the ICCVAM Authorization Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106-545, available at <http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov/PL106545.htm>). NICEATM provides operational and scientific support for ICCVAM and ICCVAM-related activities. NICEATM and ICCVAM work collaboratively to develop, validate, and achieve regulatory acceptance of new and

improved test methods applicable to the needs of Federal agencies.

Additional information about ICCVAM and NICEATM can be found at the following website: <http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov>.

Dated: March 9, 2001.

**Samuel H. Wilson,**

*Deputy Director, National Toxicology Program.*

[FR Doc. 01-7228 Filed 3-22-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

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## **DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

[Docket No. FR-4660-N-01]

### **Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Comment Request; Mortgage Review Board**

**AGENCY:** Enforcement Center, HUD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The proposed information collection requirement described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Department is soliciting public comments on the subject proposal.

**DATES:** *Comments Due Date:* May 22, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB Control Number (2502-0450) should be sent to: Jack Kinkaid, Secretary to the Mortgage Review Board (MRB), Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW., Portals Building, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20410.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jack Kinkaid, Secretary to the MRB, VD, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20410; e-mail [Jack\\_D\\_Kinkaid@HUD.gov](mailto:Jack_D_Kinkaid@HUD.gov); telephone (202) 708-3041 (this is not a toll-free number) for copies of the proposed forms and other available information.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department will submit the proposed information collection to OMB for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35, as amended).

This Notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affecting agencies concerning the proposed collection of information to: (1) Evaluate 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; (2) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond; including through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of response.

This Notice also lists the following information:

*Title of Proposal:* Mortgagee Review Board.

*OMB Control Number, if applicable:* 2502-0450.

*Description of the need for the information and proposed use:* Sec. 202(c) of the HUD Reform Act of 1989 established a Mortgagee Review Board to impose administrative sanctions and civil money penalties against HUD approved mortgagees that violate the Department's requirements. The Mortgagee Review Board issues a Notice of Violation to mortgagees that have violated Departmental regulations. The Notice of Violation states the specific violations that have been alleged and gives mortgagees 30 days to provide a written response. The mortgagee may include a settlement proposal in their response. The Mortgagee Review Board then makes a determination on the case, taking into consideration any response received from the mortgagee. Mortgagees may appeal administrative sanctions or civil money penalties imposed by the Mortgagee Review Board.

*Agency form numbers, if applicable:* None.

*Members of affected public:* Business or other for-profit.

*Estimation of the total burden:* Number of hours needed to prepare the information collection is 2,440; number of respondents is 61, annual frequency of response is 1, and the hours per response is 40.

*Status of the proposed information collection:* Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

**Authority:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended.

Dated: March 7, 2001.

**John J. Coonts,**

*Associate Director, Enforcement Center.*

[FR Doc. 01-7177 Filed 3-22-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4210-01-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-4652-N-08]

### Notice of Proposed Information Collection for Public Comment for the Periodical Estimate for Partial Payment and Related Schedules

**AGENCY:** Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, HUD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The proposed information collection requirement described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Department is soliciting public comments on the subject proposal.

**DATES:** *Comments Due Date:* May 22, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB Control number and should be sent to: Mildred M. Hamman, Reports Liaison Officer, Public and Indian Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW., Room 4238, Washington, DC 20410-5000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mildred M. Hamman, (202) 708-3642, extension 4128, for copies of the proposed forms and other available documents. (This is not a toll-free number).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department will submit the proposed information collection to OMB for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended).

This Notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed

collection of information to: (1) Evaluate 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; (2) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

This Notice also lists the following information:

*Title of Proposal:* Periodical Estimated for Partial Payment and Related Schedules.

*OMB Control Number:* 2577-0025.

*Description of the Need for the Information and Proposed Use:* Housing Agencies (HAs) are responsible for contract administration for project development. The contractor/subcontractor reports details and summaries on payments, change orders, and schedule of materials stored for the project. The information is used to make sure that the total development cost are kept at the lowest possible cost and consistent with HUD construction requirements.

*Agency Form Number:* HUD-51001, HUD-51002, HUD-51003, HUD-51004.

*Members of Affected Public:* State or Local Government.

*Estimation of the Total Number of Hours Needed to Prepare the Information Collection Including Number of Respondents, Frequency of Response, and Hours of Response:* 10,150 (145 projects × 70) responses; forms are submitted when requesting payments; average 2 hours per response; 20,155 total reporting burden.

*Status of the Proposed Information Collection:* Extension, without change.

**Authority:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended.

Dated: March 16, 2001.

**Gloria Cousar,**

*Acting General Deputy, Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing.*

**BILLING CODE 4210-33-M**