

# Notices

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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:** Rural Housing Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Proposed collection; comments requested.

**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 Section 502 Rural Housing Demonstration Program.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by December 2, 1997 to be assured of consideration.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gloria L. Denson, Loan Specialist, Single Family Housing Processing Division, RHS, U. S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 0783, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250, Telephone (202) 720-1487.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Section 502 Rural Housing Demonstration Program.

*OMB Number:* 0575-0114.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* January 31, 1998.

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

*Abstract:* Under Section 506(b), RHS may provide loans for innovative housing units and systems which do not meet existing published standards, rules, regulations, or policies. The intended effect is to increase the availability of affordable rural housing for low-income families, through innovative designs and systems.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information

is estimated to average 80 hours to complete the questionnaire including additional material, specifications and blueprints.

*Respondents:* Business or other for-profit institutions.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 15.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 12,000 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Tracy Gillin, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, at (202) 690-1065.

*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' 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 Tracy Gillin, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, STOP 0743, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-0743. 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: September 26, 1997.

**Jan E. Shadburn,**

*Administrator, Rural Housing Service.*

[FR Doc. 97-26215 Filed 10-2-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XV-P

## COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

### Procurement List; Proposed Additions and Deletions

**AGENCY:** Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

**ACTION:** Proposed additions to and deletions from Procurement List.

**SUMMARY:** The Committee has received proposals to add to the Procurement List commodities and services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and to delete commodities previously furnished by such agencies.

**COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE:** November 3, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Square 3, Suite 403, 1735 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-3461.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Beverly Milkman (703) 603-7740.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 47(a)(2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the possible impact of the proposed actions.

### Additions

If the Committee approves the proposed addition, all entities of the Federal Government (except as otherwise indicated) will be required to procure the commodities and services listed below from nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities. I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the commodities and services to the Government.

2. The action does not appear to have a severe economic impact on current contractors for the commodities and services.

3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the commodities and services to the Government.

4. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the commodities and services proposed for addition to the Procurement List. Comments on this certification are invited. Commenters should identify the statement(s) underlying the certification on which they are providing additional information. The following commodities and services have been proposed for addition to Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agencies listed:

#### *Commodities*

Knives, Miscellaneous Kitchen

7340-00-197-1271

7340-00-197-1274

7340-00-205-3335

7340-00-223-7771

7340-00-488-7950

7340-00-680-2758

NPA: Suburban Adult Services, Inc.,  
Sardinia, New York

Bag, Contamination

8105-01-352-1390

8105-01-352-1391

NPA: Portland Habilitation Center, Inc.,  
Portland, Oregon

#### *Services*

Carpet Replacement, National Gallery of Art,  
6th & Constitution Avenue, NW,  
Washington, DC

NPA: National Association of Concerned  
Veterans, Washington, DC

#### *Janitorial/Custodial*

U.S. Army Reserve Center, Moffett Field,  
California

NPA: VTF Services, Palo Alto, California  
Operation of Postal Service Center, Luke Air  
Force Base, Arizona

NPA: Arizona Industries for the Blind,  
Phoenix, Arizona

#### **Deletions**

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities.

2. The action does not appear to have a severe economic impact on future contractors for the commodities.

3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the commodities to the Government.

4. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-

O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the commodities proposed for deletion from the Procurement List.

The following commodities have been proposed for deletion from the Procurement List:

Cover, Mattress

7210-00-241-9718

7210-00-067-7969

**Beverly L. Milkman,**

*Executive Director.*

[FR Doc. 97-26327 Filed 10-2-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6353-01-P

### **COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED**

#### **Procurement List; Additions and Deletion**

**AGENCY:** Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

**ACTION:** Additions to and deletion from the Procurement List.

**SUMMARY:** This action adds to the Procurement List commodities and services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and deletes from the Procurement List a service previously furnished by such agencies.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** November 3, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Square 3, Suite 403, 1735 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-3461.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Beverly Milkman, (703) 603-7740.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On February 14, June 27, July 25, August 1 and 15, 1997, the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notices (62 FR 6946, 34686, 40049, 41339 and 43698) of proposed additions to and deletion from the Procurement List:

#### **Additions**

*The Following Comments Pertain to Laundry/Dry Cleaning Service, Quantico, VA*

Comments were received from the current contractor in response to a Committee request for sales data. The contractor indicated that addition of this service to the Procurement List would have a severe impact on the subsidiary which is performing the service but would not result in the economic collapse of the parent company. The contractor also claimed that the addition

would have a severe impact on two subcontractors involved in performing the service, and would require the contractor to terminate several employees.

The Committee looks at impact on the entire corporate structure of a contractor when it makes its assessment of the impact a Procurement List addition will have, not just the subsidiary that performs the service. In this case, that impact is far below the level which the Committee considers to be severe adverse impact.

The contractor indicated that its activities in the contract are limited to pickup and delivery of laundry and dry cleaning and performing administrative functions, while the actual laundering and dry cleaning operations are provided, respectively, by two subcontractors. The contractor provided data for the two subcontractors to indicate that impact of the addition on them would be severe.

The nonprofit agency will be performing all the functions of the current contractor and its laundry subcontractor. It will be subcontracting the dry cleaning to the current dry cleaning subcontractor initially, and that contractor will continue to have the opportunity to bid on subcontracts for dry cleaning, so the addition will not have a severe adverse impact on that subcontractor. The percentage of sales which the current laundry subcontractor will lose because of the Procurement List addition does not rise to the level which the Committee normally considers to be severe adverse impact.

The unemployment rate for people with severe disabilities exceeds 65 percent, which is far above the rate for most other people in this country. Consequently, the Committee believes that any loss of employment by the current contractor's employees is outweighed by the jobs which will be created for people with severe disabilities. In addition, given the scope of the project, the Committee does not believe that the number of employees mentioned by the current contractor will be displaced as a direct result of the Committee's action.

After consideration of the material presented to it concerning capability of qualified nonprofit agencies to provide the commodities and services and impact of the additions on the current or most recent contractors, the Committee has determined that the commodities and services listed below are suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 46-48c and 41 CFR 51-2.4.

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a