

Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points.

I am the responsible official for this environmental impact statement. My address is Lolo National Forest, Building 24—Fort Missoula, Missoula, MT 59804

Dated: August 13, 1998.

Dallas J. Emch,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 98-22508 Filed 8-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Information Collection Activity; Comment Request

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended), the Rural Utilities Service's (RUS) invites comments on these information collections for which RUS intends to request approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by October 20, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr., Director, Program Development & Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., STOP 1522, Room 4034 South Building, Washington, D.C. 20250-1522. Telephone: (202) 720-0736. FAX: (202) 720-4120.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) regulation (5 CFR 1320) implementing provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) require that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)).

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether this 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 burden 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 may be sent to: F. Lamont Heppe, Jr., Director, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Stop 1522, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-1522. FAX: (202) 720-4120.

Background

The Rural Electrification Act of 1936, as amended, 7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.* (RE Act) authorizes RUS to make and guarantee loans for electric facilities to serve rural consumers. Most loans are fully amortized over a period of 35 years and are secured by a lien on the borrower's assets.

- **Title:** RUS Loan Prepayments and Related Reporting Burdens.

OMB Control Number: 0572-0088.

Type of Request: Extension of a previously approved information collection, with change.

Abstract: Title 7 CFR Part 1786 establishes policies and procedures mandated by legislation. This part deals with the prepayment of certain loans held by the Federal Financing Bank (FFB), a wholly-owned government instrumentality under the supervision of the Secretary of the Treasury, and guaranteed by RUS.

This regulation sets forth policy and procedures implementing section 306(A) of the RE Act which permits an RUS-financed electric or telephone system to prepay an FFB loan (or any loan advance thereunder) by paying the outstanding principal balance due on the loan (or advance).

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 hours per response.

Respondents: Small business or organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 25.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 4.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 90 hours.

- **Title:** Wholesale Contracts for the Purchase and Sale of Electric Power.

OMB Control Number: 0572-0089.

Type of Request: Reinstatement of a previously approved information collection, with change.

Abstract: Most RUS financed electric systems are cooperatives and are organized in a two-tiered structure. Retail customers are members of the distribution system that brings electricity to their homes and business. Distribution cooperatives, in turn, are members of power supply cooperatives, also known as generation and transmission cooperatives (G&T's) that

generate or purchase power and transmit the power to the distribution systems.

For a distribution system a lien on the borrower's assets generally represents adequate security. However, since most G&T revenues flow from its distribution members, RUS requires, as a condition of a loan or loan guarantee to a G&T that its distribution members enter into a long-term requirements wholesale power contract to purchase their power from the G&T at rates that cover all the G&T's expenses, including debt service and margins.

RUS Form 444 is the standard form of the wholesale power contract. Most borrowers adapt this form to meet their specific needs. The contract is prepared and executed by the G&T and each member and by RUS.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 6 hours per response.

Respondents: Small business or organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 150

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 900 hours.

- **Title:** Electric System Construction Policies and Procedures.

OMB Control Number: 0572-0107.

Type of Request: Reinstatement of a previously approved information collection, with change.

Abstract: In order to facilitate the programmatic interest of the RE Act, and, in order to assure that loans made or guaranteed by RUS are adequately secured, RUS, as a secured lender, as established certain standards and specifications for materials, equipment, and the construction of electric systems. The use of standard forms, construction contracts, and procurement procedures helps assure RUS that appropriate standards and specifications are maintained, RUS' loan security is not adversely affected; and the loan and loan guarantee funds are used effectively and for the intended purposes. The following are RUS forms included in this package: 168b, 168c, 180, 181, 187, 198, 200, 201, 203, 213, 224, 231, 238, 251, 254, 257, 307, 764, 786, 790, 792, 792a-c, 830, and 831.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 hours per response.

Respondents: Small business or organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 870.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 629 hours.

Copies of this information collection, and related forms and instructions, can be obtained from Dawn Wolfgang, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, phone: (202) 720-0812, fax: (202) 720-4120, e-mail: wolfgan@rus.usda.gov.

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: August 13, 1998.

Christopher A. McLean,

Deputy Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.

[FR Doc. 98-22485 Filed 8-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

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

ACTION: Proposed Collection; Comment Request.

SUMMARY: The Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, and to allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on requirements relating to the initial certification of nonprofit agencies serving people who are blind (Form 401) and to the annual certification of nonprofit agencies serving people with severe disabilities (Form 404).

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before October 20, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to: Daniel Werfel, Desk Officer for the Committee for Purchase, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, N.W., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503. Requests for information, including copies of the form and supporting documentation, should be directed to: Beverly L. Milkman,

Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Gateway 3, Suite 310, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202-4302, (703) 603-7740.

Title: Initial Certification-Qualified Nonprofit Agency Serving People Who Are Blind (Form 401).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Committee has an initial certification form for nonprofit agencies serving people who are blind. The information included on the form is required to ensure that nonprofit agencies seeking to participate in the Committee's program meet the requirements of 41 U.S.C. 46-48c.

TITLE: Annual Certification-Qualified Nonprofit Agency Serving People with Severe Disabilities (Form 404).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Committee has an annual certification form for nonprofit agencies serving people who have severe disabilities. The information included on the form is required to ensure that nonprofit agencies participating in the Committee's program meet the requirements of 41 U.S.C. 46-48c.

Dated: August 14, 1998.

G. John Heyer,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 98-22538 Filed 8-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6353-01-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 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: September 21, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Gateway 3, Suite 310, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-4302.

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 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 services to the Government.

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

3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the 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 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 services have been proposed for addition to Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agencies listed:

Base Supply Center, 934th Airlift Wing ARS, Minneapolis, Minnesota

NPA: Associated Industries for the Blind, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Base Supply Center, Naval Air Station, Meridian, Mississippi

NPA: Mississippi Industries for the Blind, Jackson, Mississippi

Grounds Maintenance

U.S. Post Office, Linda Vista Station, 6882

Linda Vista Road, San Diego, California

NPA: Job Options, Inc. San Diego, California

Grounds Maintenance

U.S. Post Office, Mission Gorge Station, 4740

Mission Gorge Place, San Diego, California

NPA: Job Options, Inc., San Diego, California

Janitorial/Custodial

Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse, 501

5th Street, Sacramento, California

NPA: Crossroads Rehabilitation Systems, Inc. Sacramento, California