

response bias, the protocols for data collection, and any testing procedures that were or will be undertaken prior fielding the study. Depending on the degree of influence the results are likely to have, such collections may still be eligible for submission for other generic mechanisms that are designed to yield quantitative results.

The Digital Government Strategy released by the White House in May 2012 drives agencies to have a more customer-centric focus. Because of this, GSA anticipates an increase in requests to use this generic clearance as the plan states that: A customer-centric principle charges us to do several things: Conduct research to understand the customer's business, needs and desires; "make content more broadly available and accessible and present it through multiple channels in a program- and device-agnostic way; make content more accurate and understandable by maintaining plain language and content freshness standards; and offer easy paths for feedback to ensure we continually improve service delivery. The customer-centric principle holds true whether our customers are internal (e.g., the civilian and military federal workforce in both classified and unclassified environments) or external (e.g., individual citizens, businesses, research organizations, and state, local, and tribal governments)."

B. Discussion and Analysis

A notice was published in the **Federal Register** at 77 FR 74191 on December 13, 2012. Two respondents submitted public comments on the extension of the previously approved information collection. One comment was not in scope of this collection. The analysis of the public comments is summarized as follows:

Comment: The respondent commented that the extension of the information collection would violate the fundamental purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act because of the burden it puts on the entity submitting the information and the agency collecting the information.

Response: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), agencies can request OMB approval of an existing information collection. The PRA requires that agencies use the **Federal Register** notice and comment process, to extend OMB's approval, at least every three years. This extension, to a previously approved information collection, pertains to a Paperwork Reduction Act Generic Clearance (also known as Fast Track Process). Generic Clearance Information Collection Requests (ICRs) provide a significantly

streamlined process by which agencies may obtain OMB's approval for particular information collections—voluntary, low-burden, and uncontroversial collections. Generic ICRs are a useful way for agencies to meet the obligations of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 while eliminating unnecessary burdens and delays. They can be used for a number of information collections, including methodological testing, customer satisfaction surveys, focus groups, contests, and Web site satisfaction surveys. Therefore the extension of this information collection actually serves the purpose of reducing the burden on the entity submitting the information and the agency collecting the information.

Comment: The respondent commented that the agency did not accurately estimate the public burden an extension of the information collection requirement would create, and that the agency's methodology for calculating it is insufficient and does not reflect the total burden. The respondent indicated that the Agency's estimate of 145,534 respondents, average burden estimate of 3.82 minutes, and the total burden hours estimated by the Agency of 9,314 appear understated.

Response: Serious consideration is given, during the open comment period, to all comments received and adjustments are made to the paperwork burden estimate based on considerations provided by the public. The burden is prepared taking into consideration the necessary criteria in OMB guidance for estimating the paperwork burden put on the entity submitting the information. Specific to the approved use of a generic clearance, the collections are low-burden for respondents (based on considerations of total burden hours, total number of respondents, or burden-hours per respondent) and are low-cost for both the respondents and the Federal Government. If this among other conditions is not met, the Agency will submit an information collection request to OMB for approval through the normal PRA process. Careful consideration went into assessing the estimated burden hours for this collection, and it is determined that an upward adjustment is not required at this time.

Comment: The respondent commented that the collective burden of compliance with information collection requirement greatly exceeds the agency's estimate and outweighs any potential utility of the extension.

Response: The Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) was designed to improve the quality and use of Federal information to strengthen decision-making, accountability, and openness in government and society. A key criteria for using the Fast Track Process for data collection is when participation by respondents is voluntary, not mandatory. The collective burden does not outweigh the utility of the extension.

Comment: The respondent commented that the government's response to the Paperwork Reduction Act Waiver of FAR case 2009 is instructive on the total burden for respondents.

Response: The details of that particular FAR case are not specifically relevant to this notice.

C. Annual Reporting Burden

Below we provide GSA's projected average estimates for the next three years:

Affected Public: Individuals and households, businesses and organizations, State, Local or Tribal Government.

Average Expected Annual Number of Activities: 48.

Respondents: 145,534.

Annual Responses: 48,511.

Frequency of Response: 1.

Average Minutes per Response: 3.82.

Burden hours: 9,314.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget control number.

Dated: April 5, 2013.

Casey Coleman,

Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2013–08656 Filed 4–11–13; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

[Document Identifier: HHS–OS–19201–60D]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Public Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of the Secretary (OS), Department of Health and Human Services, announces plans

to submit an Information Collection Request (ICR), described below, to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The ICR is for extending the use of the approved information collection assigned OMB control number 0990–0001, which expires on September 30, 2013. Prior to submitting the ICR to OMB, OS seeks comments from the public regarding the burden estimate, below, or any other aspect of the ICR.

DATES: Comments on the ICR must be received on or before June 11, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments to *Information.Collection.Clarance@hhs.gov* or by calling (202) 690–6162.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Information Collection Clearance staff, *Information.Collection.Clarance@hhs.gov* or (202) 690–6162.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: When submitting comments or requesting

information, please include the document identifier HHS–OS–19201–60D for reference.

Information Collection Request Title: Application for waiver of the two-year foreign residence requirement of the Exchange Visitor Program.

OMB No.: 0990–0001.

Abstract: The J-1 visa is an exchange visa which carries a two-year return home requirement. The Department uses form HHS 426 and supplementary information sheets Supplement A—Research and Supplement B—Clinical Care to make a determination, in accordance with its published regulations, as to whether or not to recommend waiver of the two-year foreign residence requirement to the Department of State.

Need and Proposed Use of the Information: Required as part of the application process to collect basic information such as name, address,

family status, sponsor and current visa information.

Likely Respondents: Research scientists and research facilities.

Burden Statement: Burden in this context means the time expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, disclose or provide the information requested. This includes the time needed to review instructions, to develop, acquire, install and utilize technology and systems for the purpose of collecting, validating and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information, to train personnel and to be able to respond to a collection of information, to search data sources, to complete and review the collection of information, and to transmit or otherwise disclose the information. The total annual burden hours estimated for this ICR are summarized in the table below.

TOTAL ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN—HOURS

Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden per response (in hours)	Total burden hours
HHS 426	80	80	2	160
Total				160

OS specifically requests comments on (1) the necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions, (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden, (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected, and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

Keith A. Tucker,
Information Collection Clearance Officer.
[FR Doc. 2013–08635 Filed 4–11–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4150–38–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Final Effect of Designation of a Class of Employees for Addition to the Special Exposure Cohort

AGENCY: National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: HHS gives notice concerning the final effect of the HHS decision to designate a class of employees from the Joslyn Manufacturing and Supply Company in Fort Wayne, Indiana, as an addition to the Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000. On March 6, 2013, as provided for under 42 U.S.C. § 7384q(b), the Secretary of HHS designated the following class of employees as an addition to the SEC:

All Atomic Weapons Employees who worked for Joslyn Manufacturing and Supply Company at the covered facility in Fort Wayne, Indiana, from March 1, 1943, through December 31, 1947, for a number of work days aggregating at least 250 work days, occurring either solely under this employment, or in combination with work days within the parameters established for one or more other classes of employees included in the Special Exposure Cohort.

This designation became effective on April 5, 2013, as provided for under 42 U.S.C. 7384l(14)(C). Hence, beginning on April 5, 2013, members of this class of employees, defined as reported in this notice, became members of the SEC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stuart L. Hinnefeld, Director, Division of Compensation Analysis and Support,

NIOSH, 4676 Columbia Parkway, MS C–46, Cincinnati, OH 45226, Telephone 877–222–7570. Information requests can also be submitted by email to *DCAS@CDC.GOV*.

John Howard,
Director, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

[FR Doc. 2013–08607 Filed 4–11–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163–19–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Final Effect of Designation of a Class of Employees for Addition to the Special Exposure Cohort

AGENCY: National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: HHS gives notice concerning the final effect of the HHS decision to designate a class of employees from the Battelle Laboratories King Avenue facility in Columbus, Ohio, as an addition to the Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) under the Energy Employees