

methylphenidate hydrochloride in male or female F344/N rats receiving 100, 500, or 1,000 ppm. There was some evidence of carcinogenic activity in male and female B6C3F₁ mice, based on the occurrence of hepatocellular neoplasms.

Treatment of female rats with methylphenidate hydrochloride was associated with a decrease in the incidence of mammary gland fibroadenomas. Administration of methylphenidate hydrochloride to male and female mice resulted in increased incidence of eosinophilic foci in the liver.

Questions or comments about the Technical Report should be directed to Central Data Management at P.O. Box 12233, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 or telephone (919) 541-3419.

Copies of *Toxicology and Carcinogenesis Studies of Methylphenidate Hydrochloride* (CAS No. 298-59-9) (TR-439) are available without charge from Central Data Management, NIEHS, MD E1-02, P.O. Box 12233, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709; telephone (919) 541-3419.

Dated: March 27, 1996.

Kenneth Olden,

Director, National Toxicology Program.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-3917-N-69]

Government National Mortgage Association; Notice of Proposed Information Collection for Public Comment

AGENCY: Government National Mortgage Association, 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: May 8, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments must be received within seven (7) days from the date of this Notice. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB Control Number and should be sent to: Joseph F. Lackey, Jr., OMB Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kay F. Weaver, Reports Management Officer, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, Southwest, Washington, DC 20410, telephone (202) 708-0050. This is not a toll-free number. Copies of the proposed forms and other available documents submitted to OMB may be obtained from Ms. Weaver.

The 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: Application for Approval—FHA Lender and/or Ginnie Mae Mortgage-Backed Securities Issuer.

OMB Control Number: 2503-0012

Description of the need for the information and proposed use: This form is used by mortgage lenders who wish to apply to become a FHA-approved lender or loan correspondent under Title I and/or Title II program and/or an approved issuer with Ginnie Mae. The form requires lenders to provide specific information about their mortgage lending operations, business background and experience. It sets out the information FHA/Ginnie Mae requires to determine if the applicant meets FHA/Ginnie Mae eligibility requirements.

Agency form numbers: HUD 11702/92001.

Members of affected public: Business or other for-profit and the Federal Government.

Respondents: FHA-1800; Ginnie Mae-50.

Frequency of response: one time application.

Reporting Burden:

	Number of re- spond- ents	×	Fre- quency of re- sponses	×	Hours per response	=	Burden hours
FHA	1800		1		.50		900
Ginnie Mae	50		1		.75		38

¹ The NTP uses five categories of evidence of carcinogenic activity observed in each animal study: two categories for positive results ("clear

evidence" and "some evidence"), one category for uncertain findings ("equivocal evidence"), one category for no observable effect ("no evidence"),

and one category for studies that cannot be evaluated because of major flaws ("inadequate study").

Total Estimated Burden Hours: 938.
Status: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Contact: Sonya K. Suarez, HUD, (202) 708-2884; Joseph F. Lackey, Jr., OMB, (202) 395-7316.

The Department has submitted the proposal for the collection of information to OMB for emergency review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). May 2, 1996 is requested for OMB approval.

Authority: Section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended.

Dated: April 24, 1996.

David S. Cristy,

Director, IRM Policy and Management Division.

[FR Doc. 96-10688 Filed 4-30-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Environmental Policy Act Revised Implementing Procedures

AGENCY: Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of proposed revised procedures for the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service).

SUMMARY: This notice announces proposed revised procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) within the Fish and Wildlife Service. The proposed revisions will update the agency's procedures, originally published in 1984, based on changing trends, laws, and public concerns. Most importantly, the revisions reflect new initiatives and Congressional mandates for the Service, particularly involving new authorities for land acquisition activities, expansion of grant programs and other private land activities, and increased Endangered Species Act permit and recovery activities. The revisions provide information on being a cooperating agency with other Federal agencies; early coordination techniques for streamlining the NEPA process with other Federal agencies, the States, and the private sector; and integrating the NEPA process with other environmental laws and executive orders.

DATES: Comments must be received no later than June 17, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to Jamie Clark, Assistant Director for Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Room 3024, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington D.C. 20240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Don Peterson, Environmental Coordinator, Fish and Wildlife Service, at (703) 358-2183.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Service's existing procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act appear in Appendix 1 to Chapter 6, Part 516, of the Departmental Manual (516 DM 6, Appendix 1). These procedures are consistent with the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA. These procedures were previously published in the Federal Register on July 1, 1982 (47 FR 28841), and were incorporated into the Departmental Manual on April 30, 1984.

The revisions proposed in this notice will update organizational changes in the Service (Section 1.1); provide general Service NEPA guidance (Section 1.2); update guidance to State, local, and private applicants for permits and Federal assistance provided through Service-administered programs (Section 1.3); update and expand the categorical exclusions to reflect increased responsibilities, including the implementation of several new programs (Section 1.4); add a new section that identifies actions normally requiring an environmental assessment (EA) (Section 1.5); and revise the list of major actions normally requiring the development of an environmental impact statement (EIS) (Section 1.6). The major changes in the revisions are listed below.

Section 1.1 NEPA Responsibility

This section is updated to reflect the current organizational structure of the Service. The Division of Habitat Conservation provides internal control for ensuring compliance with NEPA, including developing and conducting specialized NEPA training courses for Service personnel. The revisions provide greater flexibility to the Regional Directors for coordinating the management of NEPA compliance responsibilities with all program areas in the Region.

1.2 General Service Guidance

This new section lists Service NEPA guidance documents. These documents include information on being a cooperating agency with other Federal agencies, early coordination techniques for streamlining the NEPA process, and integrating the NEPA process and documents with other environmental laws and executive orders to reduce duplication.

Section 1.3 Guidance to Applicants

This section is updated to reflect new laws, regulations, and changes in internal procedures for providing permits and Federal assistance to applicants. Most importantly, this section recognizes new authorities for land acquisition and technical assistance activities, and expansion of grant programs and other activities for State, local, and private entities. Since 1984, new grant and technical assistance programs were established, including the North American Wetlands Conservation Act; Food Security Act of 1985; Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990; Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act of 1990; Coastal Wetlands Planning Protection and Restoration Act; and Clean Vessel Act of 1992. This section is reorganized to more clearly provide applicants with addresses on how to obtain information, where to request funds and assistance, and how to assist the Service in NEPA compliance matters.

Section 1.4 Categorical Exclusions

Numerous revisions are made in this section to reflect changing laws and program activities. Additional general language is inserted at the beginning of the section to clarify what constitutes a categorical exclusion, and the exceptions to categorical exclusions. When an exception is applicable (such as a high degree of controversy over environmental effects), the proposed action would require the preparation of an EA or EIS. Major revisions to the categorical exclusions are indicated below.

A(4). The phrase "continuance of essentially the existing land use is planned" is deleted and replaced by the phrase "continuance of or minor modifications to the existing land use is planned" to recognize that land acquisition actions often involve small parcels that result in a change in land use (such as from a soybean field to a wet meadow) that routinely have no or negligible environmental effects. Small land acquisition actions are increasing due to a number of factors, primarily the increasing unavailability of large parcels. Following acquisition of land, if large wetlands restoration developments are planned, such as the construction of major dikes and water control structures, an EA or EIS would be prepared.

B(3). The existing categorical exclusion for small construction activities is revised to clarify that it includes new construction in unimproved areas as well as the