

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

Farm Service Agency

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Rural Utilities Service

Notice of Request for Reinstatement of Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service, Farm Service Agency, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, and Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Agencies' intention to reinstate the information collection in support of the program for 7 CFR 1901-K.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by November 22, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sandra Barnett, Rural Development, Budget Division, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., STOP 0722, Washington, DC. 20250-0722; Telephone (202) 692-0143.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: 7 CFR 1901 K, subpart K, "Certificates of Beneficial Ownership and Insured Notes."

OMB Number: 0575-0064.

Type of Request: Reinstatement of an Information Collection.

Abstract: The mandate of Rural Development and the Farm Service Agency is to serve as a temporary lender to rural America. In doing so, Rural Development and the Farm Service Agency make three basic types of loans. They are farm ownership and farm operating loans, home ownership and repair loans and community facility and water system loans. These loans are

funded through the Congressional appropriations process.

They were formerly funded through mechanisms such as the sale of Certificates of Beneficial Ownership (CBO) to private investors and the Federal Financing Bank (FFB). A CBO is a debt instrument that allows Rural Development and the Farm Service Agency to sell, to investors, CBO's secured by loan assets and receive cash from the purchaser. Rural Development and the Farm Service Agency agree to pay interest annually on the CBO and to buy back the CBO after a certain period, usually 5 to 20 years. Until 1974, Rural Development and the Farm Service Agency sold CBO's to the public and, the Federal Financing Bank (FFB). The FFB is part of the U.S. Treasury that was created to buy CBO's from government agencies. Today, Rural Development and the Farm Service Agency no longer sell CBO's to the public or to the FFB but rely instead on Federal appropriations. However, some of the CBO's are still outstanding.

The policy for servicing of outstanding CBO's and insured notes held by investors is found in the regulation, 7 CFR 1901-K. These investors who transfer, sell, or request replacement of their insured notes or CBO's are required to prepare or submit data to Rural Development and the Farm Service Agency so that the appropriate changes can be made in the applicable records. Rural Development and the Farm Service Agency should also be notified in the event of the death of a holder of an insured note or CBO.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.6 hours per response.

Respondents: Individuals or households, business or other for-profit, non-profit institutions, and small businesses or organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 98.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 62 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Barbara Williams, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Support Services Division at (202) 692-0045.

Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the Agencies including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agencies' 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 Barbara Williams, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Support Services Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, STOP 0742, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-0742. 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 11, 1998.

Jan E. Shadburn,

Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

Dated: August 7, 1998.

Richard O. Newman,

Acting Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

Dated: August 13, 1998.

Dayton J. Watkins,

Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

Dated: August 20, 1998.

Christopher A. McLean,

Acting Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.

[FR Doc. 98-25367 Filed 9-22-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XT-U

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Export Administration

President's Export Council Subcommittee on Export Administration; Notice of Partially Closed Meeting

A partially closed meeting of the President's Export Council Subcommittee on Export

Administration (PECSEA) will be held October 7, 1998, 9:00 a.m., at the U.S. Department of Commerce, Herbert C. Hoover Building, Room 4832, 14th Street between Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues, N.W., Washington, D.C. The Subcommittee provides advice on matters pertinent to those portions of the Export Administration Act, as amended, that deal with United States policies of encouraging trade with all countries with which the United States has diplomatic or trading relations and of controlling trade for national security and foreign policy reasons.

Public Session

1. Opening remarks by the Chairman.
2. Presentation of papers or comments by the public.
3. Update on Administration export control initiatives.
4. Task Force reports.

Closed Session

5. Discussion of matters properly classified under Executive Order 12958, dealing with the U.S. export control program and strategic criteria related thereto.

The General Session of the meeting is open to the public and a limited number of seats will be available. Reservations are not required. To the extent time permits, members of the public may present oral statements to the Committee. Written statements may be submitted at any time before or after the meeting. However, to facilitate distribution of public presentation materials to the Committee members, the Committee suggests that public presentation materials or comments be forwarded at least one week before the meeting to the address listed below: Ms. Lee Ann Carpenter, Advisory Committees MS: 3886C, Bureau of Export Administration, 15th St. & Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20230.

A notice of Determination to close meetings, or portions of meetings, of the Subcommittee to the public on the basis of 5 U.S.C. 522(c)(1) was approved October 16, 1997, in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. A copy of the Notice of Determination is available for public inspection and copying in the Central Reference and Records Inspection Facility, Room 6020, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. For further information, contact Ms. Lee Ann Carpenter on (202) 482-2583.

Dated: September 17, 1998.

Iain S. Baird,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Administration.

[FR Doc. 98-25418 Filed 9-22-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-33-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Export Administration

National Defense Stockpile Market Impact Committee Request for Public Comments

AGENCY: Office of Strategic Industries and Economic Security, Bureau of Export Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of request for public comment on the potential market impact of proposed disposals of excess commodities currently held in the National Defense Stockpile under the Fiscal Year 2000 Annual Materials Plan (AMP) and revisions to commodities proposed for disposal under the FY 1999 AMP.

SUMMARY: This notice is to advise the public that the National Defense Stockpile Market Impact Committee (co-chaired by the Departments of Commerce and State) is seeking public comment on the potential market impact of proposed disposals of excess materials from the National Defense Stockpile as set forth in Attachment 1 to this notice.

DATES: Comments must be received by October 23, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to Richard V. Meyers, Co-Chair, Stockpile Market Impact Committee, Office of Strategic Industries and Economic Security, Room 3876, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; FAX (202) 501-0657.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard V. Meyers, Office of Strategic Industries and Economic Security, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-3634; or Stephen H. Muller, Office of International Energy and Commodity Policy, U.S. Department of State, (202) 647-3423; co-chairs of the National Defense Stockpile Market Impact Committee.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the authority of the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act of 1979, as amended, (50 U.S.C. 98 *et seq.*), the Department of Defense (DOD), as National Defense Stockpile Manager, maintains a stockpile of strategic and critical materials to supply the military,

industrial, and essential civilian needs of the United States for national defense. Section 3314 of the Fiscal Year (FY) 1993 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) (50 U.S.C. 98h-1) formally established a Market Impact Committee (the Committee) to "advise the National Defense Stockpile Manager on the projected domestic and foreign economic effects of all acquisitions and disposals of materials from the stockpile. . . ." The Committee must also balance market impact concerns with the statutory requirement to protect the Government against avoidable loss.

The Committee is comprised of representatives from the Departments of Commerce, State, Agriculture, Defense, Energy, Interior, Treasury and the Federal Emergency Management Agency and is co-chaired by the Departments of Commerce and State. The FY 1993 NDAA directs the Committee to "consult from time to time with representatives of producers, processors and consumers of the types of materials stored in the stockpile."

The proposed FY 2000 AMP and revisions to the FY 1999 AMP have not been prepared in final form, as the Committee is now considering Defense's Stockpile material disposal levels as listed in Attachment 1. The AMP materials listed in bold in Attachment 1 cannot be sold until Congress has approved their disposal. The Committee is seeking public comment on the potential market impact of the sale of these materials in the event that Congress does grant such disposal authority.

The attached AMP listing includes the proposed maximum disposal quantity for each material. These quantities are not sales target disposal quantities. They are only a statement of the proposed maximum disposal quantity of each material that may be sold in a particular fiscal year. The quantity of each material that will actually be offered for sale will depend on the market for the material at the time as well as on the quantity of material approved for disposal by Congress.

The Committee requests that interested parties provide written comments, supporting data and documentation, and any other relevant information on the potential market impact of the sale of these commodities. Although comments in response to this Notice must be received by October 23, 1998 to ensure full consideration by the Committee, interested parties are encouraged to submit additional comments and supporting information at any time thereafter to keep the Committee informed as to the market