

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

Forest Service

Olympic Provincial Interagency Executive Committee (PIEC), Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting (field trip).

SUMMARY: The Olympic PIEC Advisory Committee will meet on August 12, 1999. The meeting will be limited to a one day field trip on the Quinault Ranger District in conjunction with the President's NW Forest Plan Implementation monitoring. The Advisory Committee will meet with the monitoring team on August 12th following the monitoring teams field work to review with them their findings. The schedule is as follows: Meet at the Quinault Ranger Station in Quinault on August 12 at 9:30 a.m. The committee will travel by vehicles to several sites in the Matheny watershed. The field trip will conclude approximately 2:30 p.m. All Olympic Province Advisory Committee Meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct questions regarding this meeting to Ken Eldredge, Province Liaison, USDA, Olympic National Forest Headquarters, 1835 Black Lake Blvd. Olympia, WA 98512-5623, (360) 956-2323 or Dale Hom, Forest Supervisor, at (360) 956-2301.

Dated: July 9, 1999.

Dale Hom,

Forest Supervisor, Olympic National Forest.

[FR Doc. 18134 Filed 7-15-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

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 annual certifications of nonprofit agencies serving people who are blind or who have other severe disabilities (Forms 403 and 404).

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before September 14, 1999.

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, NW, 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.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Committee has two annual certification forms, one for nonprofit agencies serving people who are blind and one for nonprofit agencies primarily serving people who have other severe disabilities. The information included on the forms is required to ensure that nonprofit agencies participating in the Committee's program continue to meet the requirements of 41 USC 46-48c.

The form has been modified to request that the previously reported

JWOD direct labor hours be broken down into two separate categories: those generated from services, and those generated from products. The form has also been revised so that previously reported non-JWOD sales are broken down to show any sales from other Federal Government contracts separately.

Beverly L. Milkman,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 99-18199 Filed 7-15-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6353-01-P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

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

ACTION: Proposed Collection; Comment Request.

TITLE: Nonprofit Agency Responsibilities.

SUMMARY: The Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled has submitted an Information Collection Request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520). This notice solicits comments on requirements relating to the record keeping requirements of nonprofit agencies serving people who are blind or severely disabled.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before August 16, 1999.

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, NW, Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503. Requests for information 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.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Committee imposes record keeping requirements on nonprofit agencies serving people who are blind or severely disabled. The requirements are for records of direct labor hours performed for the nonprofit agency by each worker and are for files which document the disability and competitive employability of each worker. Such records and files are required to ensure that nonprofit agencies seeking to participate in the Committee's program meet the requirements of 41 U.S.C. 46-48c.

Beverly L. Milkman,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 99-18194 Filed 7-15-99; 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 commodity previously furnished by such agencies.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 16, 1999.

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: On March 26, April 16, May 14, 21, and 28, and June 4, 1999, the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notices (64 FR 14687, 18877, 26360, 27752, 28971, 28972 and 29992) of proposed additions to and deletion from the Procurement List:

Additions

The Following Comments Pertain to Gloves, Patient Examining

Comments were received from a private company both directly and through a Member of Congress who urged consideration of the company's comments. The company claimed that

addition of the patient examining gloves to the Procurement List would violate the antitrust laws and affect a large number of businesses, contrary to the Regulatory Flexibility Act certification in the **Federal Register** notice of proposed addition of the gloves to the Procurement List. The company proposed that the nonprofit agency employing blind people which will provide the gloves to the Government be given a bid preference in a competitive procurement instead of being made a mandatory procurement source. The antitrust laws are designed to prevent restraint of trade in the commercial marketplace. It is the Committee's understanding that the Government is immune from suit under the antitrust laws for actions taken in its sovereign capacity, such as procurement of goods and services for its own use. This addition to the Procurement List concerns just such a procurement. Also, Congress specifically authorized this type of sole-source procurement to benefit people with blindness and other severe disabilities when it passed the Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Act.

Prior to its standardization of its patient examining glove procurements on the type offered by the nonprofit agency which will provide them under the Procurement List, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) did not buy a single type of glove on a nationwide basis, as it is now doing. The nonprofit agency which will provide the gloves under the Procurement List is also the only contractor which VA has had for the new nationwide requirement. Under Committee regulations, the nonprofit agency is the contractor on whom impact of the Procurement List addition would be assessed. We are not aware of the possible impact on any other companies in any detail, and the commenting company has provided no information on which the Committee could base an impact determination. It should also be noted that the Regulatory Flexibility Act certification concerned impact on a substantial number of small entities. As just noted, the Committee is aware of only one affected small entity in this case, the nonprofit agency, although the commenting company may also be in this category. To the extent this comment represents an objection by the company to losing the possibility of selling examining gloves to VA, it should be noted that VA permits the purchase of the gloves through distributors as well as directly from the nonprofit agency, so the commenting company may be able to mitigate its losses by entering into a distribution agreement with the nonprofit agency.

In enacting the JWOD Act, Congress did not provide for the type of competitive bid preference the commenting company advocated. Consequently, the Committee is unable to accommodate the company's idea, even if it considered such an approach a desirable way of accomplishing its statutory mission of creating jobs for people who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

The Following Material Pertains to All of the Items Being Added to the Procurement List

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 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 will not 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.

Accordingly, the following commodities and services are hereby added to the Procurement List:

Commodities

Fiberboard Half Size MM Trays and Sleeves
 PSIN 3916B (Tray)
 PSIN 3916C (Sleeves)
 Gloves, Patient Examining
 6515-01-461-3208
 6515-01-461-3209
 6515-01-455-5293
 6515-01-461-8271
 6515-01-455-5281
 6515-01-455-2778
 6515-01-455-2782
 6515-01-461-8414
 6515-01-455-2768