

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

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

September 20, 2006.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments regarding (a) Whether the 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 including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (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 should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8681.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to

the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Rural Housing Service

Title: 7 CFR 1940-G, Environmental Program.

OMB Control Number: 0575-0094.

Summary of Collection: The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires Federal agencies prior to the approval of proposed actions to consider the potential environmental impacts of these actions. Consequently, for the agencies to comply with NEPA, it is necessary to have information on the types of environmental resources on site or in the vicinity that might impact the proposed action. Also, information is required on the nature of the project selected by the applicant.

Need and Use of the Information: The agency will collect environmental data using form RD 1940-20, *Request for Environmental Information*. Having all activities and environmental information on the proposed project site will enable the Agency official to determine the magnitude of the potential environmental impacts and whether the project is controversial for environmental reasons. The agency failure to collect environmental information would result in a violation of NEPA. Thus, the agency would have no basis to support a decision regarding the need for an environmental impact statement.

Description of Respondents: Farms; individuals or households; business or other for-profit; not-for-profit institutions; State, local or tribal government.

Number of Respondents: 4,539.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 27,499.

Charlene Parker,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 06-8214 Filed 9-25-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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September 20, 2006.

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Food and Nutrition Service

Title: Federal Collection Methods for Food Stamp Program Recipient Claims.

OMB Control Number: 0584-0446.

Summary of Collection: The Debt Collection Improvement (DCIA), Food Stamp Act (FSA) and the Privacy Acts require that State agencies advise debtors of the intended referral to the Treasury Offset Program (TOP). TOP is a method used to collect debts owed for over-issued food stamp recipient claims. TOP offers debtors an opportunity to repay the claim, and an opportunity to request a review of the validity of the collection action.

Need and Use of the Information: The information collected is used to operate Federal offset. State agencies collect this information to offset debts as a result of over-issuance of Food Stamp benefits that become delinquent claims. Without the information, compliance with the DCIA would not be possible and departmental participation in TOP would be jeopardized.

Description of Respondents: State, local, or tribal government; individual or households.

Number of Respondents: 380,053.

Frequency of Responses: Recordkeeping; reporting: on occasion; annually.

Total Burden Hours: 69,451.

Food and Nutrition Service

Title: Supplemental form for collecting taxpayer identifying numbers.

OMB Control Number: 0584-0501.

Summary of Collection: Section 31001(y) of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-134) requires all Federal agencies to obtain taxpayer identifying number (TINs) from all individuals and entities they do business with, and to furnish the TIN whenever a request for payment is submitted to Federal payment officials. A taxpayer identifying number can be either a Social Security Number or an Employer Identification Number. The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) will collect information using form FNS-711.

Need and Use of the Information: FNS will collect taxpayer identify numbers from individuals and entities receiving payments directly from the agency under any of the various nutrition and nutrition education programs administered by the Agency. The information is collected at the time of program application, and is only collected once unless an entity renews its application or reapplies for program participation. If the information were not collected, FNS would be unable to include taxpayer identifying numbers with each certified request for payment.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; individuals or households; not-for-profit institutions.

Number of Respondents: 800.

Frequency of Responses: Report: on occasion; other (at time of app.).

Total Burden Hours: 66.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 06-8215 Filed 9-25-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[No. FV-06-18]

Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) Inviting Applications for the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP)

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) announces the availability of approximately \$7 million in block grant funds to enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops. State departments of agriculture interested in obtaining grant program funds are invited to submit applications to USDA. State departments of agriculture, meaning agencies, commissions, or departments of a State government responsible for agriculture within the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, are eligible to apply. State departments of agriculture are encouraged to involve industry groups, academia, and community-based organizations in the development of applications and the administration of projects.

DATES: Applications must be postmarked not later than October 11, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Applications may be sent to: SCBGP, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 0235, Room 2077 South Building, Washington, DC 20250-0235.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Trista Etzig, (202) 690-4942, or Margaret Irby, (202) 720-3209, e-mail: Sblockgrants@usda.gov or your State department of agriculture listed on the SCBGP Web site at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/fv/>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: SCBGP is authorized under section 101 of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (7 U.S.C. 1621 note) and is implemented under 7 CFR part 1290 [Docket No. FV06-1290-1 FR]. The SCBGP assists State departments of agriculture in enhancing the competitiveness of U.S. specialty crops. Specialty crops are defined as fruits and vegetables, dried fruit, tree nuts, and nursery crops (including floriculture). Examples of enhancing the competitiveness of specialty crops include, but are not limited to: Research, promotion, marketing, nutrition, trade enhancement, food safety, food security, plant health

programs, education, "buy local" programs, increased consumption, increased innovation, improved efficiency and reduced costs of distribution systems, environmental concerns and conservation, product development, and developing cooperatives.

Each interested State department of agriculture is to submit an application anytime before October 11, 2007 to the USDA contact noted in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. AMS will process the application after the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, 7 CFR part 1290, becomes effective on October 11, 2006. States that do not apply for or do not request all available funding during the specified grant application period will forfeit all or that portion of available funding not requested for that application year. AMS will work with State departments of agriculture and provide assistance as necessary.

Additional details about the SCBGP application process for all applicants are available at the SCBGP Web site: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/fv/>.

To be eligible for a grant, each State department of agriculture's application shall be clear and succinct and include the following documentation satisfactory to AMS.

(a) Completed applications must include an SF-424 "Application for Federal Assistance".

(b) Completed applications must also include one State plan to show how grant funds will be utilized to enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops. SCBGP grant funds will be awarded for projects of up to 3 years duration. The state plan shall include the following:

(1) *Cover page.* Include the lead agency for administering the plan and an abstract of 200 words or less for each proposed project.

(2) *Project purpose.* Clearly state the specific issue, problem, interest, or need to be addressed. Explain why each project is important and timely.

(3) *Potential Impact.* Discuss the number of people or operations affected, the intended beneficiaries of each project, and/or potential economic impact if such data are available and relevant to the project(s).

(4) *Financial Feasibility.* For each project, provide budget estimates for the total project cost. Indicate what percentage of the budget covers administrative costs. Administrative costs should not exceed 10 percent of any proposed budget. Provide a justification if administrative costs are higher than 10 percent.

(5) *Expected Measurable Outcomes.* Describe at least two discrete,