

Dated: November 17, 2009.

**Julie Paradis,**

*Administrator.*

[FR Doc. E9-28475 Filed 11-27-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Utilities Service

#### Information Collection Activity; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended), the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) invites comments on this information collection for which RUS intends to request approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by January 29, 2010.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Michele Brooks, Director, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, United States Department of Agriculture, 400 Independence Ave., SW., STOP 1522, Room 5170 South Building, Washington, DC 20250-1522.  
*Telephone:* (202) 690-1078. *FAX:* (202) 720-8435.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) regulation (5 CFR 1320) implementing provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) requires that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)). This notice identifies an information collection that RUS is submitting to OMB for extension.

Comments are invited on: (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's 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: Richard C. Annan, Acting Director, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 5170, STOP 1522, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-1522. FAX: (202) 720-4120.

*Title:* Wholesale Contracts for the Purchase and Sale of Electric Power.

*OMB Control Number:* 0572-0089.

*Type of Request:* Revision of a currently approved information collection.

*Abstract:* Most RUS financed electric systems are cooperatives and are organized in a two-tiered structure. Retail customers are members of the distribution system that brings electricity to their homes and business. Distribution cooperatives, in turn, are members of power supply cooperatives, also known as generation and transmission cooperatives (G&T's) that generate or purchase power and transmit the power to the distribution systems.

For a distribution system a lien on the borrower's assets generally represents adequate security. However, since most G&T revenues flow from its distribution members, RUS requires, as a condition of a loan or loan guarantee to a G&T that long-term requirements wholesale power contract to purchase their power from the G&T at rates that cover all the G&T's expenses, including debt service and margins. RUS Form 444 is the standard form of the wholesale power contract. Most borrowers adapt this form to meet their specific needs. The contract is prepared and executed by the G&T and each member and by RUS.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 6 hours per response.

*Respondents:* Small business or other for-profit; not-for-profit organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 102.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 612 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from MaryPat Daskal, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, at (202) 720-7853; FAX: (202) 720-7853.

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: November 23, 2009.

**Jonathan Adelstein,**

*Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.*

[FR Doc. E9-28476 Filed 11-27-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Foreign Agricultural Service

#### Notice of Request for Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection

**AGENCY:** Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces that the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) intends to request a revision to a currently approved information collection procedure for the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers program as described in 7 CFR part 1580.

**DATES:** Comments should be received on or before January 29, 2010 to be assured consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Mail or deliver comments to the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers Staff, Import Policies and Export Reporting Division, Office of Trade Programs, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 1021, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1021, or telephone at (202) 720-0638.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers Staff, at the address above, or telephone at (202) 720-0638, or e-mail at [tradeadjustment@fas.usda.gov](mailto:tradeadjustment@fas.usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers.

*OMB Number:* 0551-0040.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* February 28, 2010.

*Type of Request:* Revision to currently approved information collection.

*Abstract:* The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 reauthorizes and modifies the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) for Farmers program as established by Subtitle C of Title I of the Trade Act of 2002, which amended the Trade Act of 1974. Under this program, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides technical assistance and cash benefits to eligible producers of raw agricultural commodities and fishermen when the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Administrator determines that increased imports of raw agricultural

commodities, aquaculture products, or wild-caught aquatic species (jointly referred to as "agricultural commodities") have contributed importantly to a greater than 15 percent decrease in the national average price, or quantity of production, or value of production, or cash receipts for the agricultural commodity specified in the certified petition compared to the average of the three preceding marketing years. The regulation 7 CFR part 1580 established the procedure by which producers of raw agricultural commodities and fishermen can petition (form FAS-930 or a reasonable substitute) for certification of eligibility and apply for technical assistance and cash payments. To receive consideration for TAA for Farmers certification, petitioners must supply the information required by 7 CFR 1580.201. Once a petition has been certified, individuals covered by the certification must apply for TAA for Farmers benefits in accordance with 7 CFR 1580.301. The specific information required on an application (form FSA-229) must be collected from those who wish to receive program benefits. The number of respondents has doubled since the original Paperwork Reduction Act information collection procedure was filed in August 2003. The revision to this information collection is to decrease the total estimated burden hours from 14,000 to 8,750 hours based on changes to previous program eligibility requirements.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 1,250.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Estimated Burden of Hours per Response:* 7 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 8,750 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Tamoria Thompson-Hall, the Agency Information Collection Coordinator, at (202) 690-1690.

#### Request for Comments

The public is invited to submit comments and suggestions to the above address regarding the accuracy of the burden, estimate, ways to minimize the burden, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, or any other aspect of this collection of information. Comments on the issues covered by the Paperwork Reduction Act are most useful to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) if received within 30 days of publication of the Notice and Request for Comments, but must be submitted no

later than 60 days from the date of publication to be assured of consideration. 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. Persons with disabilities who require an alternative means for communication of information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

Dated: November 17, 2009.

**Michael V. Michener,**

*Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.*

[FR Doc. E9-28502 Filed 11-27-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-10-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce (DOC) will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the emergency provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

*Agency:* Office of the Secretary, Office of Administrative Services.

*Title:* DOC National Environmental Policy Act Environmental Questionnaire and Checklist.

*OMB Control Number:* None.

*Form Number(s):* CD-593.

*Type of Request:* Emergency submission.

*Number of Respondents:* 200.

*Average Hours Per Response:* 2.

*Burden Hours:* 400.

*Needs and Uses:* The Department of Commerce (DOC) requests an emergency review of a new information collection request for the DOC National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Questionnaire and Checklist (EQC). This emergency review will facilitate the execution of projects authorized under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and other DOC projects. The EQC was developed to assist DOC in complying with NEPA by facilitating the collection of data concerning potential environmental impacts, streamlining the collection of that data, and maintaining consistency in quality and quantity of information received.

The EQC will allow DOC reviewers to rapidly review infrastructure projects, facilitate in evaluating the potential environmental impacts of a project, and help in determining the appropriate level of documentation (Categorical Exclusion, Environmental Assessment,

or Environmental Impact Statement) necessary to comply with NEPA.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations; Not-for-profit institutions; Individuals or households.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Required to retain or obtain benefits.

*OMB Desk Officer:* Nicholas Fraser, (202) 395-5855.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0266, Department of Commerce, Room 7845, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at [dHynek@doc.gov](mailto:dHynek@doc.gov)).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent by December 7, 2009 to Nicholas Fraser, OMB Desk Officer, FAX number (202) 395-5806 or via the Internet at [Nicholas\\_A\\_Fraser@omb.eop.gov](mailto:Nicholas_A_Fraser@omb.eop.gov).

Dated: November 24, 2009.

**Gwellnar Banks,**

*Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. E9-28518 Filed 11-27-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-NW-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XT14**

### Endangered Species; File No. 1556

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance of permit modification.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, USA (CNMI), Division of Fish and Wildlife, [Sylvan Igisomar, responsible official] P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950 has been issued a modification to scientific research Permit No. 1556-01.

**ADDRESSES:** The modification and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301) 713-2289; fax (301) 713-0376; and Pacific Islands Region, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Rm 1110, Honolulu, HI