

Furthermore, under the training requirements in § 172.704(a)(2), each hazmat employee must be provided function-specific training concerning requirements of the HMR, and exemptions or special permits issued under subchapter A of Title 49 that are specifically applicable to the functions the employee performs.

Non-compliance with SP package requirements has serious safety consequences. PHMSA seeks to encourage compliance by aggressively enforcing SP safety standards and increasing its awareness and outreach efforts.

Accordingly, PHMSA is publishing this safety notice to further promote awareness of the ongoing safety concern and ensure that industry is aware of its responsibilities associated with the offering and transportation of hazardous materials in SP packaging, the current regulatory requirements applicable to such transportation, and that regulatory violations will be prosecuted to the maximum extent permitted under the law.

Persons who violate the HMR may be subject to significant civil penalties and/or criminal fines and imprisonment. Maximum civil penalties may be imposed of up to \$55,000 per violation or \$110,000 per violation if a death, serious illness, or severe injury occurs to a person or substantial destruction of property. Potential criminal penalties include fines of up to \$500,000 and/or ten years in jail.

More detailed information on the requirements in the HMR governing the offering and transportation of SP packages is available on DOT's Hazmat Safety Web site: <http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat>. The HMR are also accessible through PHMSA's Web site, and answers to specific questions may be obtained from the Hazardous Materials Information Center at 1-800-467-4922 (in Washington, DC, call 202-366-4488).

III. Recommended Action

PHMSA recommends that industry institute quality control measures to identify and properly handle DOT SP packages and packages containing hazardous materials in general:

(1) Shippers and carriers should stress the importance of recognizing an SP package to their employees. The importance of recognizing an SP package should be given the same level of attention as when they determine whether a packaging specification meets a UN standard or DOT specification. This is especially important to those operations that re-ship packages.

(2) Once a person has identified a DOT SP package, that person should obtain a current copy of the SP and review it for applicable requirements. Copies of SPs may be obtained from PHMSA's Web site at: <http://phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat/regs/sp-a/special-permits>. The person should also review the HMR requirements applicable to SP packages.

(3) Shippers and carriers should evaluate hazardous materials training programs and communication protocols in their operations with respect to recognizing and handling SP packages to ensure that the subject is discussed and included during knowledge testing. Any person performing a function required by an SP or shipping an SP package is required to receive "function-specific" training of the requirements contained in each special permit.

(4) Third-party hazardous materials or dangerous goods instructors, consultants, and others, should review their training programs to ensure that the subject of SP packages is discussed and included during knowledge testing.

(5) Shippers should implement or review existing pre-shipment procedures to ensure that a particular packaging is prepared as authorized by an SP and/or the HMR and that all communication requirements have been met.

These recommendations are not exclusive; we hope that industry representatives will use the information provided herein, together with any other available information, to consider other reasonable measures they believe appropriate to increase awareness of DOT SPs and their responsibility in the handling and transporting such packages.

Issued in Washington, DC on August 24, 2011.

Magdy El-Sibaie,

Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety.

[FR Doc. 2011-22110 Filed 8-29-11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

August 24, 2011.

The Department of the Treasury will submit the following public information collection requirement to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 on or after the date of publication of this notice. A copy of the submission may be obtained by

contacting the Treasury Departmental Office Clearance Officer listed. Comments regarding this information collection should be addressed to the OMB reviewer listed and to the Treasury PRA Clearance Officer, Department of the Treasury, 1750 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Suite 11010, Washington, DC 20220.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before September 29, 2011 to be assured of consideration.

Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC)

OMB Number: 1505-0198.

Type of Review: Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

Title: Requirement to Report Information About the Shipment of Rough Diamonds.

Abstract: The information collection is needed to monitor the integrity of international rough diamond shipments.

Respondents: Private Sector: Businesses or other for-profits.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,750.

Departmental Office Clearance Officer: James Earl, DO/Office of Foreign Assets Control, 1500 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Rm. 5205, Washington, DC 20220; (202) 622-1947

OMB Reviewer: Shagufta Ahmed, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503; (202) 395-7873.

Dawn D. Wolfgang,

Treasury PRA Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2011-22061 Filed 8-29-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-25-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 8308

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13(44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Form 8308, Report of a Sale or Exchange of Certain Partnership Interests.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before October 31, 2011 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Yvette B. Lawrence, Internal Revenue Service, room 6129, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form(s) and instructions should be directed to Joel Goldberger, (202) 622-6665, Internal Revenue Service, room 6129, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224, or through the internet to Joel.P.Goldberger@irs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Report of a Sale or Exchange of Certain Partnership Interests.

OMB Number: 1545-0941.

Form Number: 8308.

Abstract: Form 8308 is an information return that gives the IRS the names of the parties involved in an exchange of a partnership interest under Internal Revenue Code section 751(a). It is also used by the partnership as a statement to the transferor and transferee. It alerts the transferor that a portion of the gain on the sale of a partnership interest may be ordinary income.

Current Actions: There are no changes being made to Form 8308 at this time.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations, individuals, and farms.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 200,000.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 7 hrs., 18 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,460,000.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the

agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (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 respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: August 16, 2011.

Gerald Shields,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2011-22043 Filed 8-29-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0594]

Agency Information Collection (Election To Apply Selected Reserve Services to either Montgomery GI Bill-Active Duty or to the Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve) Activity Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3521), this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, will submit the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden; it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before September 29, 2011.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information through <http://www.Regulations.gov> or to VA's OMB Desk Officer, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-7316. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0594" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Denise McLamb, Enterprise Records Service (005R1B), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, (202) 461-

7485, FAX (202) 461-0966 or e-mail denise.mclamb@va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0594."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Election to Apply Selected Reserve Services to Either Montgomery GI Bill-Active Duty or to the Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0594.

Type of Review: Extension of a previously approved collection.

Abstract: Reservist who participant in the Montgomery GI Bill—Active Duty and served on active duty for two years followed by six years in the Selected Reserve must elect to apply the selected reserved credit either toward the Montgomery GI Bill-Active Duty or toward the Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve benefits. Reservists must make this election in writing, which will take effect when the individual either negotiates a check or receives education benefits via direct deposit or electronic funds transfer under the program elected. VA uses the election to determine which benefit is payable based on the individual's Selected Reserve service.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on June 8, 2011, at page 33416.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 2,667 hours.

Estimated Average Burden per Respondent: 20 minutes.

Frequency of Response: One time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 8,000.

Dated: August 24, 2011.

By direction of the Secretary.

Denise McLamb,

Program Analyst, Enterprise Records Service.

[FR Doc. 2011-22018 Filed 8-29-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0621]

Agency Information Collection (National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) Regulations) Activity Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.