

Location: Horizon Ballroom, The Ronald Reagan Building, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington DC 20004.

Purpose

The Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid (ACVFA) brings together USAID and private voluntary organization officials, representatives from universities, international nongovernment organizations, U.S. businesses, and government, multilateral, and private organizations to foster understanding, communication, and cooperation in the area of foreign aid.

Agenda

USAID leadership will make opening remarks, followed by a presentation and discussion on the principles, benchmarks, and programs that the Agency is considering to support countries along their development journey to self-reliance and long-term prosperity. The full meeting agenda will be forthcoming on the ACVFA website at <http://www.usaid.gov/who-we-are/organization/advisory-committee>.

Stakeholders

The meeting is free and open to the public. Persons wishing to attend should register online at <http://www.usaid.gov/who-we-are/organization/advisory-committee>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jessica Klein, acvfa@usaid.gov or 202-712-5856.

Dated: December 18, 2017.

Jessica Klein,

Acting Executive Director, U.S. Agency for International Development.

[FR Doc. 2017-28152 Filed 12-28-17; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Notice of Request for Extension or Renewal of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (OASCR) to request a renewal of a currently approved information collection. OASCR will use the information collected to collect the race, ethnicity, and gender (REG) of all

program applicants and participants by county and State.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by February 27, 2018 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights/Office of Compliance, Policy, and Training invites interested persons to submit comments on this notice. Comments may be submitted by one of the following methods:

☐ *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* This website provides the ability to type short comments directly into the comment field on this web page or attach a file for lengthier comments. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the on-line instructions at that site for submitting comments.

☐ *Mail, including CD-ROMs, etc.:* Send to Docket Clerk, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-3700, Mailstop 9401.

☐ *Hand- or courier-delivered submittals:* Deliver to 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-3700, Mailstop 9401.

Instructions: All items submitted by mail or electronic mail must include the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights/Office of Compliance, Policy, and Training, Docket No. 0503-0022, Comments received in response to this docket will be made available for public inspection and posted without change, including any personal information, to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Docket: For access to background documents or comments received, go to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights/Office of Compliance, Policy, and Training, Docket Room at 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-3700, Mailstop 9401, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Contact Anna G. Stroman, Deputy Director, Office of Compliance, Policy, and Training, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250, (202) 205-5953 or Anna.Stroman@ascr.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: 7 CFR part 15 subpart D—Data Collection Requirement.

OMB Number: OMB No. 0503-0022.

Expiration Date of Approval: January 31, 2018.

Type of Request: Extension or renewal of the USDA 7 CFR part 15 subpart D—Data Collection Requirement Form.

Abstract: Currently, Section 14006 of the 2008 Farm Bill requires the

Secretary of Agriculture to annually compile for each county and State in the United States program application and participation rate data regarding socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers for each program of USDA that serves agricultural producers or landowners. This requirement only applies to FSA, NRCS, RD, and RMA. These four agencies use the voluntary data collection form approved by OMB that is attached as a cover page to the application forms for programs that provide services to agriculture producers, farmers and ranchers. In addition, all remaining USDA agencies with conducted programs (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and Foreign Agricultural Service) were required to develop a strategy for collecting voluntary REG data from individuals for their respective federally conducted programs by utilizing the same OMB approved form. Applicants and program participants of these programs and activities provide this data on a voluntary basis. These strategies will be reviewed and approved by OASCR, who will also provide oversight and monitoring of the collection of this data through its compliance activities.

If the REG data is not collected on applicants and participants in USDA federally conducted programs, USDA will not be able to collect and report demographic data on its applicants and program participants. In addition, USDA would not be able to determine if programs and services are reaching and meeting the needs of the public, beneficiaries, partners, and other stakeholders based on demographic data.

Failure to collect this information will also have a negative impact on USDA's outreach and compliance activities. This could result in an inability to equitably deliver programs and services to applicants and producers, and ultimately an inability to hold the agencies accountable.

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

Respondents: Producers, applicants, and USDA customers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,190.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 68 hours.

Comments are invited on: (1) 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; (2) 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; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Anna G. Stroman, Deputy Director, Office of Compliance, Policy, and Training, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights. All comments received will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the same address.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Winona Lake Scott,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights.

[FR Doc. 2017-27448 Filed 12-28-17; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Amendment of the Land Management Plan for Santa Fe National Forest

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of the opportunity to object to the Forest Plan Amendment for Geothermal Leasing on the Santa Fe National Forest prior to approval of Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Santa Fe National Forest Geothermal Leasing Project.

SUMMARY: The Santa Fe National Forest, located in New Mexico, prepared a significant, programmatic forest plan amendment to allow geothermal leasing to accompany its Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and a Draft Record of Decision (ROD) for Geothermal Leasing. This notice is to inform the public that a 60-day period is being initiated where individuals or entities with specific concerns on the Santa Fe's Forest Plan Amendment for Geothermal Leasing may file an objection for a Forest Service review prior to the approval of the Record of Decision for Geothermal Leasing.

DATES: The Santa Fe's Forest Plan Amendment for Geothermal Leasing,

FEIS, Draft ROD, and other supporting information, will be available for review at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/santafe/landmanagement/projects> starting December 29, 2017.

A legal notice of the initiation of the 60-day objection period is also being published in the Santa Fe National Forest's newspaper of record, which is the *Albuquerque Journal*. The date of the publication of the legal notice in the *Albuquerque Journal* will determine the actual date of initiation of the 60-day objection period. A copy of the legal notice that is published in the *Albuquerque Journal* will be posted on the website listed above.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Santa Fe's Forest Plan Amendment for Geothermal Leasing on Santa Fe National Forest, the FEIS, and the Draft ROD can be obtained online at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/santafe/landmanagement/projects>; or by visiting or mailing a request to the Forest Supervisor's Office at the following location:

- 11 Forest Lane, Santa Fe, NM 87508 (Telephone: 505-438-5443).

Objections must be submitted to the Reviewing Officer:

- Regional Forester, USDA-Forest Service, ATTN: Objection Reviewing Officer, 333 Broadway Blvd. SE, Albuquerque, NM 87102 (Fax: 505-842-3173).

Objections may be submitted electronically at objections-southwestern-regional-office@fs.fed.us.

Note that the office hours for submitting a hand-delivered objection are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays. Electronic objections must be submitted in a commonly used format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf) or Microsoft Word® (.doc or .docx).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Larry Gore, Geologist, Santa Fe National Forest at 575-289-3264, ext. 2149.

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. (Eastern time), Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Forest Service, Southwestern Region, Santa Fe National Forest, prepared a Forest Plan Amendment for Geothermal Leasing. This notice is to inform the public that a 60-day period is being initiated where individuals or entities with specific concerns on the Santa Fe's Forest Plan Amendment for Geothermal Leasing may file an objection for a Forest Service review prior to the approval of the ROD for the Final Environmental

Impact Statement for the Geothermal Leasing Project.

The publication date of the legal notice in the Santa Fe National Forest's newspaper of record, the *Albuquerque Journal*, will initiate the 60-day objection period and is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an objection (36 CFR 219.16 and 219.52). An electronic scan of the notice with the publication date will be posted on the Santa Fe National Forest's website at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/santafe/landmanagement/projects>.

The objection process under 36 CFR 219 subpart B, provides an opportunity for members of the public who have participated in the planning process for the Forest Plan Amendment for Geothermal Leasing on Santa Fe National Forest to have any unresolved concerns reviewed by the Forest Service prior to a final decision by the Responsible Official. Only those who provided substantive formal comments during opportunities for public comment during the planning process are eligible to file an objection. Regulations at 36 CFR 219.62 define substantive formal comments as:

"Written comments submitted to, or oral comments recorded by, the responsible official or his designee during an opportunity for public participation provided during the planning process, and attributed to the individual or entity providing them. Comments are considered substantive when they are within the scope of the proposal, are specific to the proposal, have a direct relationship to the proposal, and include supporting reasons for the responsible official to consider."

How To File an Objection

The Forest Service will accept mailed, emailed, faxed, and hand-delivered objections concerning the Santa Fe's Forest Plan Amendment for Geothermal Leasing for 60 calendar days following the date of the publication of the legal notice of this objection period in the newspaper of record, the *Albuquerque Journal*. It is the responsibility of the objector to ensure that the Reviewing Officer receives the objection in a timely manner. The regulations prohibit extending the length of the objection filing period.

Objections must be submitted to the Reviewing Officer, who will be the Regional Forester for the Southwestern Region, at the address shown in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

An objection must include the following (36 CFR 219.54(c)):

- (1) The objector's name and address along with a telephone number or email address if available—in cases where no identifiable name is attached to an