

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-7011-N-31]

30-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Pay for Success Pilot Applicant Requirements

AGENCY: Office of the Chief Information Officer, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: HUD has submitted the proposed information collection requirement described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act. The purpose of this notice is to allow for an additional 30 days of public comment.

DATES: *Comments Due Date:* September 9, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB Control Number and should be sent to: HUD Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503; fax: 202-395-5806. Email: OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Colette Pollard, Reports Management Officer, QDAM, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW, Washington, DC 20410; email Colette.Pollard@hud.gov or telephone 202-402-3400. Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number through TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. This is not a toll-free number. Copies of available documents submitted to OMB may be obtained from Ms. Pollard.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice informs the public that HUD has submitted to OMB a request for approval of the information collection described in Section A. The **Federal Register** notice that solicited public comment on the information collection for a period of 60 days was published on May 8, 2018 at 84 FR 20157.

A. Overview of Information Collection

Title of Information Collection: Pay for Success Pilot Application Requirements.

OMB Approval Number: 2502-0613.

Type of Request: This is a revision of a currently approved collection.

Form Number: HUD-2530, SF 424 family of forms, HUD-2880, HUD-424-CBW, HUD-9250, Certification of Owner Eligibility, Cooperative Agreement, Site-Specific Environmental

Review (Part 1 of 2), and Office of Multifamily Housing Pay for Success Program Narrative Template.

- Form HUD-2530, Previous Participation Certification, is completed by the Intermediary. The Intermediary submits the form to HUD via grants.gov as part of the application package for the PFS pilot. The type of information collected includes the Intermediary's (principals) Name, Address, Social Number/IRS Employee Number, Signature, etc. The form is required to provide HUD with a certified report of all previous participation in HUD multifamily housing projects by those parties making application and is used by HUD to determine eligibility to participate in Multifamily programs.

- ***SF-424 family of forms (SF-424A-D, as applicable), Application for Federal Assistance and Assurances, is completed by the Intermediary. The Intermediary submits this family of forms to HUD via grants.gov as part of the application for the PFS pilot. The type of information collected includes the Intermediary's Name, EIN/TIN, Address, Email address, etc. This family of forms is required for use as a cover sheet for submission of preapplications and applications and related information under discretionary programs. Applicants are required to submit this family of forms to HUD as part of the application package for the PFS pilot.

- Form HUD-2880, Applicant/Recipient Disclosure/Update Report, is completed by the Intermediary. The Intermediary submits the form to HUD via grants.gov as part of the application package for the PFS pilot. The type of information collected includes the Intermediary's Name, address, phone number, social security number and EIN, etc. The Intermediary is required to submit this form in order to provide accountability and integrity in the provision of assistance that is administered by HUD.

- Form HUD 424-CBW (excel spreadsheet), Detailed Budget Worksheet, is completed by the Intermediary. The Intermediary submits this form to HUD via email or US mail for approval. The type of information collected includes a detailed description of budget as it pertains to each participating property. The Intermediary submits this form to HUD in program phases for completion of the retrofits in all participating properties in the PFS program.

- Form HUD-9250, Funds Authorization, is completed by the Owner. The Owner submits this form by email or by US mail to HUD for approval. The type of information

collected includes Owner's name, address, mortgagee, etc. Owners are required to submit this form to HUD to request withdrawal from the Reserve for Replacements or Residual Receipts Funds.

- Certification of Owner Eligibility, Owner must complete this form to be eligible to participate in the Pay for Success pilot. Owner submits certification to HUD for approval via email or by US mail. The type of information collected includes Owner's name, iREMS number, address, signature, etc. Owners must provide a certification to HUD that they and the property meet HUD eligibility requirements in order to be able to participate in the Pilot.

- Cooperative Agreement is administered by HUD's Office of Multifamily Housing Programs, which will have oversight of the Intermediaries, ensuring compliance with all included provisions and authorizing payments when and if required conditions are met. The type of information collected includes Date agreement was entered with Intermediary, total of units HUD awarded intermediary, signature and HUD official. The form is submitted to HUD/Intermediary via email or by US mail.

- Site-Specific Environment Review (Part 1 of 2), this form should be used only to initiate site-specific reviews for individual HUD-assisted properties undertaking energy and water conservation retrofits under the Multifamily Energy and Water Conservation Pay for Success Pilot. Intermediary completes the form and any relevant documents for each site identified to participate in the PFS Pilot and submits it to HUD to upload in the HUD Environmental Review Online System (HEROS).

- Office of Multifamily Housing Pay for Success Program Narrative Template is completed by the Intermediary and is submitted to HUD via grants.gov. The type of information collected includes the Intermediary's name, EIN, organization name, etc. The narrative template is provided to Applicants under the Pay for Success Pilot program and will be evaluated by HUD.

Description of the need for the information and proposed use: Title LXXXI of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (Pub. L. 114-94) authorizes the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to establish a demonstration program under which the Secretary may execute budget-neutral, performance-based agreements in fiscal years 2016 through 2019 that result in a reduction in energy

or water costs. The legislation authorizes HUD to implement this pilot in up to 20,000 units of multifamily buildings participating in the project-based rental assistance (PBRA) program under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937; supportive housing for the elderly program operating under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959; and supportive housing for persons with disabilities under section 811(d)(2) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act. The Statute authorizes HUD to execute performance-based agreements in fiscal years 2016 through 2019 covering up to 20,000 units in eligible properties. HUD is responsible for submitting annual program evaluation reports to Congress for the duration of the Pilot.

HUD is authorized under this legislation to establish a competitive process for selecting one or more qualified applicants to serve as Intermediaries who will, per agreements with HUD, be responsible for initiating and managing an energy and water conservation retrofit program at eligible properties. For the purpose of this program, applicants are defined as entities applying to participate. The documents that are the subject of this notice are those used by applicants applying to participate in this program. This information will allow applicants to submit their proposal and for the government to evaluate this information.

I. ****Application.* The applicants responding to the NOFA will need to submit the before the prescribed deadline all standard forms including Previous Participation Certification (Form 2530), SF-424 family of forms, and Form HUD-2880; responses to the NOFA's rating factors describing the applicant's qualifications and proposed approach to all aspects of program implementation; and an Executive Summary of no more than four pages.

II. *Project Initiation.* Once selected, Intermediaries will enter into a Cooperative Agreement with HUD for each property they will be retrofitting under the program which will provide for performance-based payments by HUD based on the savings realized by HUD after the retrofit has been completed. Intermediaries will also be required to submit a copy of an executed PFS Contracts with each property owner that will be attached to the Cooperative and serve to identify the specific units being affected by the retrofit. Within 30 days of entering into each Cooperative Agreement, an Intermediary will submit to HUD a Work Plan consisting of a description of

all documentary deliverables and due dates related to that Agreement and a proposed approach to periodic consultation with HUD for the purposes of oversight. The Intermediary will also submit a request for approval for the Independent Evaluator that will be validating key information submitted to HUD by the Intermediary over the course of the Cooperative Agreement. Each participating property owner will submit to HUD a Certification of Eligibility and a written agreement to replace equipment installed under the PFS Pilot only with equipment of like or better efficiency.

III. *Retrofit implementation.* Before a retrofit is implemented, the Intermediary will to develop and submit (with support from the property owner) a Site-specific Environmental Review form with the following information: High-level description of the project's scope of work; whether the property lies within a Coastal Barrier Resource unit; whether the property lies within a floodplain and proof of any required flood insurance policies; whether the project will destroy or modify a wetland; previous uses of the site and other evidence of contamination on or near the site; and whether any historic preservation policies apply to the site or the building(s). Intermediaries intending to use property-level reserve funds to pay for no more than half of the hard costs associated with the retrofit must submit a Scope of Work for the retrofit and a Reserve Analysis demonstrating that the retrofit will leave the property in as good or better financial shape as it would otherwise have been. The property owner must submit a Funds Authorization Form (HUD-9250) to request HUD's approval to use funds for this purpose.

IV. *Retrofit completion.* When the retrofit is completed, the Intermediary will submit a Certification of Retrofit Completion with the following information: A list of installed measures with cost information; weather- and occupancy-normalized pre-retrofit consumption baselines for each affected tenant- and owner-paid utility, and all component data used to calculate those baselines, including utility consumption, rates, utility allowances, and climatic and occupancy data, and the calculation methodology used; weather- and occupancy-normalized post-retrofit consumption projections for each affected tenant- and owner-paid utility, and all component data used to calculate those baselines, including utility consumption, rates, utility allowances, and climatic and occupancy data, and the calculation methodology used; recalculated pre-retrofit baseline

utility allowances and post-retrofit utility allowances for each unit size/type; recalculated pre-retrofit baseline owner rental subsidy and post-retrofit owner renter for each unit size/type; and post-retrofit per-unit annual savings to HUD relative to pre-retrofit baseline.

V. *Performance payments.*

Intermediaries will submit Invoices for Performance Payments concurrent with each property's annual rent adjustment cycle for the remainder of the period of performance of the Cooperative Agreement pertaining to that property. Invoices will include thorough documentation of all calculations contributing to the calculation of the amount being invoiced (as provided in the work plan) as well as a written certification by the Independent Evaluator that the performance payment has been calculated according to the methodology contained in the Cooperative Agreement; no adverse changes to the qualifications of the Independent Evaluator have occurred since the last submission from the Independent Evaluator; and no conflict of interest or apparent conflict of interest exists with the Intermediary or with respect to any property or Owner which would preclude the Independent Evaluator from performing its obligations in a truly independent manner. In the event of a change in the physical structure of a property during the period of performance which materially impacts utility usage, the Owner and the Intermediary will mutually agree upon an equitable modification of the pre-retrofit baseline for Owner-paid utility and/or of the pre-retrofit baseline of tenant utility allowances to reflect the impact of the change on utility usage and notify HUD of the change. In the event that the Intermediary wishes to assign performance payments to a third party, the Intermediary must submit to HUD a written request for approval.

VI. *Other program administration requirements.* Beginning with the execution of their first cooperative agreement with HUD, Intermediaries will submit quarterly reports regarding the status of all properties for which work under the PFS Pilot is unfinished, including the work that has been completed, the work that remains the anticipated projected completion date. If at any point it becomes necessary to replace a partner entity performing one or more core functions program administration functions (project management, capital sources, oversight of SOW development and retrofit implementation, and/or invoicing HUD), the Intermediary must collect and submit evidence from the proposed

replacement partner entity similar to the qualifications detailed for the original partner entity in the Intermediary's initial application. As this is pilot program and HUD is responsible for submitting annual program evaluation reports to Congress, Intermediaries may be required to work with a program evaluation team and provide relevant information, possibly including (but not limited to) information pertaining to retrofit implementation, program administration, post-retrofit behavioral interventions, and certain fees. Intermediaries may be asked to clarify or provide additional context for previously submitted information, including additional details on their sources and uses of funds.

Respondents: Entities applying to be Intermediaries under this program, selected Intermediaries.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 15.

Estimated Number of Responses: 1,000.

Frequency of Response: 66.67.

Average Hours per Response: 4.40.

Total Estimated Burdens: 4,401.

B. Solicitation of Public Comment

This notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affected parties concerning the collection of information described in Section A on the following:

(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;

(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 through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

HUD encourages interested parties to submit comment in response to these questions.

C. Authority

Section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35.

Dated: July 29, 2019.

Colette Pollard,

*Department Reports Management Officer,
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2019-17095 Filed 8-8-19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-67-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-HQ-ES-2018-N146; FF09E41000 190
FXES111609C0000; OMB Control Number
1018-New]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Policy Regarding Voluntary Prelisting Conservation Actions

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service,
Interior.

ACTION: Notice of information collection;
request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service, we), are proposing a new information collection in use without an OMB Control Number.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before October 8, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Send your comments on the information collection request (ICR) by mail to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, MS: BPHC, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803 (mail); or by email to Info_Coll@fws.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number 1018-VPCA in the subject line of your comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request additional information about this ICR, contact Madonna L. Baucum, Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, by email at Info_Coll@fws.gov, or by telephone at (703) 358-2503.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we provide the general public and other Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

We are soliciting comments on the proposed ICR that is described below. We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is the collection necessary to the proper functions of the Service; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Service enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the

Service minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Abstract: The Service is charged with implementing the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). The goal of the Act is to provide a means to conserve the ecosystems upon which listed species depend and a program for listed species conservation. Through our Candidate Conservation program, we encourage the public to take conservation actions for species prior to them being listed under the Act. Doing so may result in precluding the need to list a species, may result in listing a species as threatened instead of endangered, or, if a species becomes listed, may provide the basis for its recovery and eventual removal from the protections of the Act.

This policy gives landowners, government agencies, and others incentives to carry out voluntary conservation actions for unlisted species. It allows the use of any benefits to the species from voluntary conservation actions undertaken prior to listing under the Act—by the person who undertook such actions or by third parties—to mitigate or offset the detrimental effects of other actions undertaken after listing. The policy requires participating States to track the voluntary conservation actions and provide this information to us on an annual basis. We require this information in order to provide the entities that have taken the conservation actions with proper credit that can later be used to mitigate for any detrimental actions they take after the species is listed.

We plan to collect the following information:

- Description of the prelisting conservation action being taken.
- Location of the action (does not include a specific address).