

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**Employment and Training
Administration****Proposed Collection; Comment
Request****ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) (44 U.S.C. 3506 (C)(2)(A)). This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed 24 month extension, with change, of the Employment Service Program Reporting System from the current end date of June 30, 2000 to a new end date of June 30, 2002.

A copy of the previously approved information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section below on or before May 9, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Timothy F. Sullivan, Office of Workforce Security, U.S. Employment Service, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Room N-4464, Washington, DC 20210, (202-219-5257—not a toll free number) and internet address: tsullivan@doleta.gov and/or FAX: (202)-208-5844).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Background**

Information on basic labor exchange services is necessary to assure that the States are complying with legal requirements of the Wagner-Peyser Act, as amended by the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998. Program data items are required from States reporting to the Department of Labor as part of other information in order to determine if the States are complying

with the basic labor exchange requirements.

Information regarding employment and training services provided to veterans by State public employment services agencies must be collected by the Department of Labor to satisfy legislative requirements, as follows: (a) To report annually to Congress on specific services (38 U.S.C. 2007(c) and 2012(c)); (b) to establish administrative controls (38 U.S.C. 2007 (b)); and (c) for administrative purposes. These data are reported on the VETS 200 A and B, the VETS 300, and the Manager's Report.

II. Review Focus

The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate 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;
- Evaluate 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;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- 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, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

III. Current Actions

The Department is requesting an extension of the Employment Service Program Reporting System with changes to data elements, definitions, reporting instructions and/or reporting requirements from the current end date of June 30, 2000 to a new end date of June 30, 2002.

The Veterans' Employment and Training Service is requesting the collection of data for Campaign Veterans which are veterans who served on active duty in the United States armed forces during a war on in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge or expeditionary medal has been authorized. The Secretary of Labor is required under WIA to collect this information. This data collection will replace information currently collected on the ETA-9002A under the Service Members Occupation Conversion and Training Act (SMOCTA) (P.L. 102-484).

In light of WIA and in response to the requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993, the national call for government programs to be more accountable and results oriented, the Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA), Office of Workforce Security, United States Employment Service (USES) will begin steps to establish performance measures for the public labor exchange program in conjunction with WIA activities and One-Stop delivery system implementation.

The United States Employment Service will work cooperatively with States and other stakeholders to develop program specific performance measures which will be released for comment at a later date.

The proposed measures are a starting point for development of comprehensive measures for the labor exchange function of the One-Stop delivery system. It is the Department's intent to use the comments received to develop performance measures for implementation on July 1, 2001.

The effort to finalize the performance measures, to identify the data elements needed to produce the performance measures and to define specific changes to the ETA reporting requirements will take several months to accomplish.

In consideration of these issues, the Department is requesting an extension, with change, of the Employment Service Program Reporting System from the current end date of June 30, 2000 to a new end date of June 30, 2002.

This is a request for OMB approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)) to extend collection of the Employment Service Program Reporting System data previously approved and assigned OMB Control No. 1205-0240 and the data reporting for the ETA-9002A,B and C including the data reporting for the VETS 200 A and B, the VETS 300, and the Manager's Report on services to veterans and record keeping.

Type of Review: Extension with change.

Agency: Employment and Training Administration.

Title: Employment Service Program Reporting System.

OMB Number: 1205-0240.

Total Respondents: 54 States and territories.

Estimated Burden Hours: 7213.

Reports	Respondents	Frequency	Total responses	Average time per response (hours)	Burden (hours)
USES Rpt.	54	Quarterly	216	2.75	594
VETS Rpt.	54	Quarterly	216	.25	54
USES Rec.	54	Annually	54	12.00	648
VETS 200A	54	Quarterly	216	.85	184
VETS 200B	54	Quarterly	216	.85	184
VETS 300	54	Quarterly	216	1.00	216
Mgt. Report	1600	Quarterly	6400	.83	5333
Totals	7534	7213

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): 0.
Total Burden Cost (operating/maintaining): 0.

Comments submitted in response to this comment request will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 6, 2000.

Grace A. Kilbane,

Administrator, Office of Workforce Security.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Job Corps: Final Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the New Job Corps Center Located on Schoolland Woods Road (the Former Ladd Center) in Exeter, RI

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Final Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the New Job Corps Center to be located on Schoolland Woods Road (the former Ladd Center) in Exeter, Rhode Island.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR Part 1500-08) implementing procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Job Corps gives final notice of the proposed construction of a new Job Corps Center on Schoolland Woods Road (the former Ladd Center), Exeter, Rhode Island, and that this construction will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment. In accordance with 29 CFR 11.11(d) and 40 CFR 1501.4(e)(2), a preliminary FONSI for the new Exeter Job Corps Center was published in the October 14, 1999 **Federal Register** (64 FR 55754-55755). Copies of the

environmental assessment (EA) were made available to all interested parties, and two organizations submitted comments on the EA and FONSI. ETA has reviewed all comments submitted, and has issued an addendum to the EA correcting factual errors identified during the public review and comment period. ETA has determined that the issues and concerns raised during the public comment period do not affect the conclusions of the EA or the finding of no significant impact. This notice serves as the Final Finding of No Significant Impact for construction of the new Exeter Job Corps Center to be located on Schoolland Woods Road (the former Ladd Center) in Exeter, Rhode Island.

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 10, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Copies of the EA, the addendum to the EA, or comments submitted by interested parties can be obtained by contacting Michael O'Malley, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room N-4659, Washington, DC, 20210, (202) 219-5468 ext 115 (this is not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On October 14, 1999, the ETA published an environmental assessment (EA) and a preliminary finding of no significant impact (FONSI) for construction of a new Job Corps Center on approximately 19.65 acres located on Schoolland Woods Road in Exeter, Rhode Island. The proposed project parcel is located within the former Ladd Center, an approximately 270 acre facility which served as an institution for the care and rehabilitation of the developmentally disabled. The project includes renovation of two existing buildings and construction of three new buildings on the proposed property parcel, which will be leased by the Department of Labor from the State of Rhode Island for a term of 50 years. The Exeter Job Corps Center will provide training and support for 200 resident

students. The EA prepared by the ETA concluded that the construction of a new Job Corps Center at the proposed property parcel would have no significant negative impacts on the natural, cultural, or social environment in the surrounding community. Due to the adaptability of the existing structures on the site, the lack of alternative construction sites, and the absence of any identified adverse environmental impacts from locating a Job Corps Center at the subject property, the "Continue Construction as Proposed" alternative was selected, and a finding of no significant impact was made. Although the Department of Labor's NEPA compliance procedures do not require a public comment period for an environmental assessment that results in a finding of no significant impact, the ETA voluntarily published the FONSI for the Exeter Job Corps Center as a preliminary finding, and provided a 30-day public comment period.

Discussion of Public Comments and Interagency Review

The ETA received written comments from three public agencies: (1) the Town Council for the Town of Exeter, Rhode Island; (2) the Planning Board for the Town of Exeter, Rhode Island; and (3) the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region I, Rhode Island Program. All three agencies disagreed with the ETA's finding of no significant impact, and offered comments on the EA.

Comments From the Town of Exeter Town Council

The Town of Exeter Town Council provided twelve specific comments and/or questions regarding the EA prepared by the DOL. The first comment was that the format of the EA appeared to be based on the ASTM standard for Phase I environmental site assessments (ESA), and the Town Council questioned whether the EA was prepared primarily to relieve the ETA of CERCLA liability and to provide a boilerplate for a finding of no significant