

information collection requirement stems from passage of Public Law 104–127, on April 4, 1996, which amended section 331(b) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1921 *et seq.*) to extend to RUS the Secretary of Agriculture's authority to settle debts with respect to loans made or guaranteed by RUS. Only those electric borrowers that are unable to fully repay their debts to the Government and who apply to RUS for relief will be affected by this information collection.

The collection will require only that information which is essential for determining: The need for debt settlement; the amount of relief that is needed; the amount of debt that can be repaid; the scheduling of debt repayment; and, the range of opportunities for enhancing the amount of debt that can be recovered. The information to be collected will be similar to that which any prudent lender would require to determine whether debt settlement is required and the amount of relief that is needed. Since the need for relief is expected to vary substantially from case to case, so will the required information collection.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting for this collection of information is estimated to average 1,000 hours per response.

Respondents: Not-for-profit institutions and other businesses.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1.
Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 1,000 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Rebecca Hunt, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis at (202) 205–3660. FAX: (202) 720–8435.

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: September 18, 2015.

Brandon McBride,

Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.

[FR Doc. 2015–24225 Filed 9–23–15; 8:45 am]

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CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

Sunshine Act Meeting

TIME AND DATE: September 30, 2015, 6:00 p.m. CDT.

PLACE: Hilton Americas—Houston, 1600 Lamar Street, Houston, Texas 77010

STATUS: Open to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: The Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) will convene a public meeting on September 30, 2015, starting at 6:00 p.m. CDT at the Hilton Americas—Houston, 1600 Lamar Street, Houston, Texas 77010. The Board will discuss its investigation of the incident at the DuPont LaPorte facility that claimed four lives. CSB Staff will present interim findings and proposed recommendations for the Board's review and approval.

Additional Information

The meeting is free and open to the public. If you require a translator or interpreter, please notify the individual listed below as the "Contact Person for Further Information," at least three business days prior to the meeting.

This meeting will be webcast for those who cannot attend in person. Please visit www.csb.gov for access to the live webcast.

The CSB is an independent federal agency charged with investigating accidents and hazards that result, or may result, in the catastrophic release of extremely hazardous substances. The agency's Board Members are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. CSB investigations look into all aspects of chemical accidents and hazards, including physical causes such as equipment failure as well as inadequacies in regulations, industry standards, and safety management systems.

Public Comment

The time provided for public statements will depend upon the number of people who wish to speak. Speakers should assume that their presentations will be limited to five minutes or less, but commenters may submit written statements for the record.

Contact Person for Further Information

Shauna Lawhorne, Public Affairs Specialist, public@csb.gov or (202) 384–2839. Further information about this public meeting can be found on the CSB Web site at: www.csb.gov.

Dated: September 21, 2015.

Kara Wenzel,

Acting General Counsel, Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board.

[FR Doc. 2015–24386 Filed 9–22–15; 11:15 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

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

Agency: U.S. Census Bureau.

Title: Service Annual Survey (SAS).

OMB Control Number: 0607–0422.

Form Number(s): There are 162 individual collection instruments in the SAS, each having its own form number.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Number of Respondents: 82,240.

Average Hours per Response: 3.73063 hours.

Burden Hours: 306,807.

Needs and Uses: Over 50 percent of all economic activity is accounted for by "services" defined to exclude retail and wholesale trade. The U.S. Census Bureau currently measures the total output of most of these service industries annually in the Service Annual Survey (SAS). This survey currently covers all or some of: Utilities; Transportation and Warehousing; Information; Finance and Insurance; Real Estate and Rental and Leasing; Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services; Administration and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services; Educational Services; Health Care and Social Assistance; Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation; and Other Services as defined by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Beginning with survey year 2016, which will be mailed in January 2017, Accommodation and Food Services will also be collected as part of the SAS. Previously the accommodation and food services industry was collected as part of the Annual Retail Trade Survey (ARTS), OMB number 0607–0013. The reason is that under the NAICS structure, the Accommodation and Food Services sector is classified under services rather than retail.

Estimates from the SAS are essential to a better understanding and higher quality estimates of economic growth, real output, prices, and productivity for our nation's economy. A broad spectrum of government and private stakeholders use these estimates in analyzing business and economic sectors; developing statistics on services; forecasting economic growth; and compiling data on productivity, prices, and the gross domestic product

(GDP). In addition, trade and professional organizations use these estimates to analyze industry trends, benchmark their own statistical programs, and develop forecasts. Private businesses use these estimates to measure market share, analyze business potential, and plan investments. Comprehensive, comparative annual data on the services sector are not available from any other source.

Annual Services Report is the collection instrument for the SAS. The key inquiries for the SAS are total revenue, total expenses, and general expense detail items. For some sectors, we also collect revenue detail items that are specific to a particular industry. The availability of these data greatly improves the quality of the intermediate-inputs and value-added estimates in BEA's annual input-output and GDP by industry accounts.

A new sample will be introduced with the 2016 SAS survey year. In order to link estimates from the new and prior samples, we will be asking companies to provide data for 2016 and 2015. The 2017 SAS and subsequent years will request one year of data until a new sample is once again introduced.

The estimates produced in the SAS are critical to the accurate measurement of total economic activity.

- The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), the primary Federal user, uses the estimates to develop the national income and product accounts, compile benchmark and annual input-output tables, and compute GDP by industry.
- The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) uses the estimates as inputs to its Producer Price Indexes and in developing productivity measurements.
- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) use the estimates for program planning and development of the National Health Expenditure Accounts.
- The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) uses the estimates to assess the impact of regulatory policies.
- International agencies use the estimates to compare total domestic output to changing international activity.
- Private industry also uses the estimates as a tool for marketing analysis.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit, Not-for-profit institutions, Federal Government.

Frequency: Annually.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Title 13, United States Code, Sections 131 and 182 authorize the collection. Sections 224 and 225 make reporting mandatory.

This information collection request may be viewed at www.reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov or fax to (202) 395-5806.

Sheleen Dumas,

PRA Lead, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2015-24214 Filed 9-23-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

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

Agency: U.S. Census Bureau.

Title: 2015 Management and Organizational Practices Survey.

OMB Control Number: 0607-0963.

Form Number(s): MP-10002.

Type of Request: Reinstatement, with change, of an expired collection.

Number of Respondents: 50,000.

Average Hours per Response: 45 minutes.

Burden Hours: 37,500.

Needs and Uses: The Census Bureau is requesting clearance for the 2015 Management and Organizational Practices Survey (MOPS). This survey will utilize the Annual Survey of Manufactures (ASM) survey panel collecting information on management and organizational practices at the establishment level. Data obtained from the survey will allow us to estimate a firm's stock of management and organizational assets, specifically the use of establishment performance data, such as production targets in decision-making and the prevalence of decentralized decision rights. The results will provide information on investments in management and organizational practices thus providing a better understanding of the benefits from these investments when measured in terms of firm productivity or firm market value.

The MOPS was first collected in 2010, and no subsequent MOPS have been collected. The 2010 MOPS results had the significant benefit of being linked to the Census Bureau's data sets on plant

level outcomes. Since every establishment in the MOPS sample is also in the ASM, the results of MOPS 2010 were linked with certainty to annual performance data at the plant level, including outcomes on sales, shipments, payroll, employment, inventories, capital expenditure, and more for the period 2009-2013. Furthermore, the existence of the Longitudinal Business Dataset (LBD) enables future longitudinal research on establishment-level management practices and allows researchers to link MOPS data to the Manufacturing component of the quinquennial Economic Census (sent to all manufacturers with paid employees for years ending in '2' or '7').

Understanding the determinants of productivity growth is essential to understanding the dynamics of the U.S. economy. The MOPS provides information on whether the large and persistent differences in productivity across establishments (even within the same industry) are partly driven by differences in management and organizational practices. In addition to increasing our understanding of the dynamics of the economy, MOPS data provides policymakers with some guidance while they attempt to raise aggregate productivity levels. Policymakers, such as the Federal Reserve Board and the Department of Commerce can use MOPS data to gain a greater understanding of the current state and evolution of management and organizational practices, which can in turn aid the policymakers in forecasting future productivity growth.

The MOPS provides information on differences in manufacturing management and organizational practices by region, industry, and firm size. Since the MOPS data are also connected with annual performance data, the MOPS results directly aid policy discussion about the potential impact of programs. As a result, the MOPS data are also particularly important for understanding what policymakers can do to assist U.S. manufacturing companies as they react to a changing economy.

Further, the 2015 MOPS include two new modules that were not included in the 2010 MOPS. Reflecting the increasing use of data to make production decisions, the MOPS expanded the information collected on this subject (relative to 2010) into a module on "Data and Decisions Making". Understanding the characteristics of businesses that rely upon data in making decisions helps businesses and policymakers understand the decision-making process