

L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing final regulation, LR-189-80 (TD 7927), Amortization of Reforestation Expenditures (§§ 1.194-2 and 1.194-4).

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before February 17, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, Room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection should be directed to Carol Savage, (202) 622-3945, Internal Revenue Service, room 5569, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Amortization of Reforestation Expenditures.

*OMB Number:* 1545-0735.

*Regulation Project Number:* LR-189-80.

*Abstract:* Internal Revenue Code section 194 allows taxpayers to elect to amortize certain reforestation expenditures over a 7-year period if the expenditures meet certain requirements. The regulations implement this election provision and allow the IRS to determine if the election is proper and allowable.

*Current Actions:* There is no change to this existing regulation.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households, business or other for-profit organizations, and farms.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 12,000.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent:* 30 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 6,001.

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: December 10, 1997.

**Garrick R. Shear,**

*IRS Reports Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 97-32965 Filed 12-17-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-U

**DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY**

**Internal Revenue Service**

**Notice of Renewal of the Charter of the Information Reporting Program Advisory Committee**

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), this announcement serves as notice that the Department of the Treasury and the General Services Administration's Committee Management Secretariat have renewed the charter of the Information Reporting Program Advisory Committee (IRPAC) for a two-year period beginning on November 7, 1997. As the services of IRPAC are expected to be needed for an indefinite period of time, no termination date has been established which is less than two years from this date.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In 1991 the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) established IRPAC in response to a recommendation made by the United States Congress. The primary purpose of IRPAC is to provide an organized public forum for discussion of relevant information reporting issues between the officials of the IRS and representatives of the payer community. IRPAC offers constructive observations about current or proposed policies, programs, and procedures and, when necessary, suggests ways to improve the operation of the Information Reporting Program (IRP). IRPAC reports to the

National Director, Office of Specialty Taxes, who is the executive responsible for information reporting payer compliance. IRPAC is instrumental in providing advice to enhance the IR Program. Increasing participation by external stakeholders in the planning and improvement of the tax system will help achieve the goals of increasing voluntary compliance, reducing burden, and improving customer service. IRPAC is currently comprised of 18 representatives from various segments of the information reporting payer community and one member from the Social Security Administration. IRPAC members are not paid for their time or services, but consistent with Federal regulations, they are reimbursed for their travel and lodging expenses to attend two or three meetings each year.

**DATES:** The request for renewal of the charter was signed by the Secretary of the Treasury on November 7, 1997. Official approval from the General Service Administration's Committee Management Secretariat was obtained on the same day. This charter renewal will expire in two years.

**ADDRESSES:** Questions or concerns should be directed to Ms. Kate LaBuda at IRS, Office of Payer Compliance, CP:EX:ST:PC, Room 2013, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Questions or concerns will also be taken over the telephone. Call Ms. Kate LaBuda at 202-622-3404 (not a toll-free number).

Dated: December 12, 1997.

**Kate LaBuda,**

*(Acting) Director, Office of Payer Compliance, Office of Specialty Taxes.*

[FR Doc. 97-32961 Filed 12-17-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

**UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY**

**Women's Leadership Training Program for Central and Eastern Europe; Request for Proposals**

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Citizen Exchanges of the United States Information Agency's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition for an assistance award. Public and private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in IRS regulation 26 CFR 1.501(c) may apply to develop training programs that offer leadership training skills to women in Albania, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia,