DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

October 4, 2010.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Comments regarding (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (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 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 should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), OIRA Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395–5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250–7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720–8681.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Rural Utilities Service

Title: Broadband Initiatives Program—Rural Libraries, Technical Assistance and Satellite Grants. OMB Control Number: 0572–0145. Summary of Collection: The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 appropriated $2.5 billion of budget authority for establishing the Broadband Initiatives Program (BIP) which may extend loans, grants, and loan/grant combinations to facilitate broadband deployment in rural areas. In its second and final Notice of Funds Availability, Rural Utilities Service (RUS) created three new categories for funding, Rural Libraries, Technical Assistance and Satellite grants. This information collection consists of the required reporting requirements for the BIP for Rural Libraries, Technical Assistance and Satellite Grants.

Need and Use of the Information: Each applicant for a grant will complete one application form. RUS will use the information collected from the application form to evaluate whether an applicant is eligible for funding. RUS also intends to use information collected from the application form to evaluate the applicant’s progress toward completion of the objectives for which the funding was obtained.

Recipients of grants will need to submit a detailed list of all projects or activities for which Recovery Act funds were expended or obligated, including (a) the name of the project or activity; (b) a description of the project or activity; (c) an evaluation of the completion status of the project or activity; (d) an estimate of the number of jobs created and the number of jobs retained by the project or activity; and (e) for infrastructure investments made by State and local governments, the purpose, total cost, and rationale of the agency for funding the infrastructure investment with Recovery Act funds. In addition, detailed information on any subcontracts or sub-grants awarded by the Awardee to include the data elements required to comply with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 22.

Frequency of Responses: Recordkeeping: Reporting: On occasion; Quarterly.

Total Burden Hours: 246.

Charlene Parker, Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[PR Doc. 2010–25311 Filed 10–6–10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Agricultural Technical Advisory Committees for Trade in Tobacco, Cotton, Peanuts and Planting Seeds, and Grains, Feed and Oilseeds; Restructure and Realignment

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given that the Secretary of Agriculture (Secretary), in coordination with the United States Trade Representative (USTR), is considering modifying the existing structure of both the Agricultural Technical Advisory Committees (ATAC) for Trade in Tobacco, Cotton, Peanuts and Planting Seeds (TCPFS) and in Grains, Feed and Oilseeds (GFO). The Secretary is also soliciting comments as to whether or not there are current interests not adequately represented in the Agricultural Trade Advisory Committee System.

DATES: Comments are due on or before November 8, 2010. The proposed changes will become effective upon the renewal of charters for the Agricultural Technical Advisory Committees for Trade scheduled to occur in mid-2011. At that time new members will also be added to the committees.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Inquiries or comments regarding: (a) The changes to the GFO and TCPFS committee structures or (b) whether or not there are currently interests not adequately represented in the Agricultural Trade Advisory Committee System, may be sent by electronic mail to Lorie.Fitzsimmons@fas.usda.gov and Steffon.Brown@fas.usda.gov. Comments submitted via U.S. mail should be

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

Notice and request for comments on those who are to respond, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (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 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 should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), OIRA Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395–5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250–7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720–8681.

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addressed to: The Office of Negotiations and Agreements, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), USDA, Stop 1040, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250, or by fax to (202) 720–0340. The Office of Negotiations and Agreements may be reached by telephone at (202) 720–6219, with inquiries directed to Lorie Fitzsimmons and Steffon Brown.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Introduction

The ATACs are authorized by sections 135(c)(1) and (2) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (Pub. L. 93–618, 19 U.S.C. 2155). The purpose of these committees is to advise the Secretary and the USTR concerning agricultural trade policy. The committees are intended to ensure that representative elements of the private sector have an opportunity to express their views to the U.S. government.

Proposed Committee Changes

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. II), FAS gives notice that the Secretary and USTR are considering removing representation of the planting seeds industry from the Tobacco, Cotton, Peanuts and Planting Seeds (TCP) ATAC and adding representation of the planting seeds sector to the Grains, Feed and Oilseeds (GFO) ATAC. The justification for this structural change is that many of the issues that the GFO committee addresses, such as genetically modified organisms, new technologies and international negotiations, are common within the U.S. planting seeds industry. The proposed changes will result in the Tobacco, Cotton and Peanuts (TCP) ATAC and the Grains, Feed, Oilseeds, and Planting Seeds (GFOPS) ATAC.

Background

In 1974, Congress established a private sector advisory committee system to ensure that U.S. trade policy and negotiating objectives adequately reflect U.S. commercial and economic interests. The private sector advisory committee system currently consists of three tiers:

- The President’s Advisory Committee on Trade and Policy Negotiations;
- Five general policy advisory committees, including the Agricultural Policy Advisory Committee; and,
- Twenty-eight technical advisory committees, including the ATACs.

As to the technical advisory committees, Section 135(c)(2) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 215) provides that: The President shall establish such sectoral or functional advisory committees as may be appropriate. Such committees shall, insofar as is practicable, be representative of all industry, labor, agricultural, or service interests (including small business interests) in the sector or functional areas concerned. In organizing such committees, USTR and the Secretaries of Commerce, Labor, Agriculture, the Treasury, or other executive departments, as appropriate, shall—
  (A) Consult with interested private organizations; and
  (B) take into account such factors as—
    (i) patterns of actual and potential competition between United States industry and agriculture and foreign enterprise in international trade,
    (ii) the character of the nontariff barriers and other distortions affecting such competition,
    (iii) the necessity for reasonable limits on the number of such advisory committees,
    (iv) the necessity that each committee be reasonably limited in size, and
    (v) in the case of each sectoral committee, that the product lines covered by each committee be reasonably related.

USTR and USDA are seeking comments regarding whether all appropriate interest in the sectors represented by the ATACs are being represented by the current membership of the ATACs, and if not, what additional interest should be represented.

Requirements for Submission: Public comments via e-mail should be addressed to Lorie.Fitzsimmons@fas.usda.gov and Steffon.Brown@fas.usda.gov. Comments submitted via U.S. mail should be addressed to: The Office of Negotiations and Agreements, FAS, USDA, Stop 1040, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250.


Suzanne Hale,
Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.
[FR Doc. 2010–25473 Filed 10–5–10; 4:15 pm]
BILLING CODE 3105–10–P

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).


Title: Drivers’ Awareness of and Response to Significant Weather Events and the Correlation of Weather to Road Impacts.

OMB Control Number: None.

Type of Request: Regular submission (request for approval of a new information collection).

Number of Respondents: 1,200.

Average Hours per Response: 6 minutes.

Burden Hours: 120.

Needs and Uses: This project is a joint effort of the University of Utah (U of U), NOAA’s National Weather Service (NWS), the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), and NorthWest Weathernet (NWN) to investigate and understand the relationship between meteorological phenomena and road conditions, as well as public understanding and response to available forecast information. The events which impact the Salt Lake City metro area during the winter of 2010–2011 will be examined. Through the administration