group-term life insurance contracts, and the Plans will pay no more than adequate consideration for the insurance. Verizon, Verizon Wireless and/or EIC will not profit from the reinsurance arrangement at the expense of the Plans or the Affected Participants. Also, the Affected Participants are afforded insurance protection from Prudential at competitive rates arrived at through arm’s-length negotiations. Prudential is rated “A+” by the A. M. Best Company, whose insurance ratings are widely used in financial and regulatory circles. Prudential has assets in excess of $667 billion. Prudential will continue to have the ultimate responsibility in the event of loss to pay insurance benefits to the employee’s beneficiary. The Applicants represent that EIC is a sound, viable company which is dependent upon insurance customers that are unrelated to itself and its affiliates for premium revenue.

7. The Applicants represent that the proposed reinsurance transaction will meet all of the conditions of PTE 79–41 covering direct insurance transactions:

(a) EIC is a party in interest with respect to the Plans (within the meaning of section 3(14)(G) of the Act) by reason of stock affiliation with Verizon and Verizon Wireless, which maintain the Plans.

(b) EIC is licensed to do business in the State of Vermont.

(c) EIC has undergone an examination by an independent certified public accountant for its fiscal year ending December 31, 2009.

(d) EIC has received a Certificate of Authority from its domiciliary State (as defined in Act section 3(10)), the State of Vermont, which has neither been revoked nor suspended.

(e) The Plans will pay no more than adequate consideration for the insurance. The proposed transaction will not in any way affect the cost to the insureds of the group-term life insurance transaction.

(f) No commissions, costs or other expenses will be paid with respect to the acquisition of reinsurance by Prudential from EIC.

(g) For each taxable year of EIC, the “gross premiums and annuity considerations received” in that taxable year for group life and health insurance (both direct insurance and reinsurance) for all employee benefit plans (and their employers) with respect to which EIC is a party in interest by reason of a relationship to such employer described in section 3(14)(E) or (G) of the Act will not exceed 50% of the “gross premiums and annuity considerations received” by EIC from all lines of insurance in that taxable year. All of the premium income of EIC comes from reinsurance. EIC has received no premiums for the group-term life insurance in the past.

8. In summary, the Applicants represent that the proposed transaction will meet the criteria of section 408(a) of the Act because: (a) Plan participants and beneficiaries are afforded insurance protection by Prudential, an “A+” rated group insurer, at competitive market rates arrived at through arm’s-length negotiations; (b) EIC is a sound, viable insurance company which does a substantial amount of public business outside its affiliated group of companies; and (c) each of the protections provided to the Plans and the Affected Participants and their beneficiaries by PTE 79–41 will be met under the proposed reinsurance transaction.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gary H. Lefkowitz of the Department, telephone (202) 693–8546. (This is not a toll-free number.)

General Information

The attention of interested persons is directed to the following:

(1) The fact that a transaction is the subject of an exemption under section 408(a) of the Act and/or section 4975(c)(2) of the Code does not relieve a fiduciary or other party in interest or disqualified person from certain other provisions of the Act and/or the Code, including any prohibited transaction provisions to which the exemption does not apply and the general fiduciary responsibility provisions of section 404 of the Act, which, among other things, require a fiduciary to discharge his duties respecting the plan solely in the interest of the participants and beneficiaries of the plan and in a prudent fashion in accordance with section 404(a)(1)(b) of the Act; nor does it affect the requirement of section 401(a) of the Code that the plan must operate for the exclusive benefit of the employees of the employer maintaining the plan and their beneficiaries;

(2) Before an exemption may be granted under section 408(a) of the Act and/or section 4975(c)(2) of the Code, the Department must find that the exemption is administratively feasible, in the interests of the plan and of its participants and beneficiaries, and protective of the rights of participants and beneficiaries of the plan;

(3) The proposed exemptions, if granted, will be supplemental to, and not in derogation of, any other provisions of the Act and/or the Code, including statutory or administrative exemptions and transitional rules. Furthermore, the fact that a transaction is subject to an administrative or statutory exemption is not dispositive of whether the transaction is in fact a prohibited transaction; and

(4) The proposed exemptions, if granted, will be subject to the express condition that the material facts and representations contained in each application are true and complete, and that each application accurately describes all material terms of the transaction which is the subject of the exemption.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 2nd day of May, 2011.

Ivan Strasfeld,
Director of Exemption Determinations, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor.

[FR Doc. 2011–10999 Filed 5–4–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–29–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Proposed Information Collection for Growing America Through Entrepreneurship (GATE) II Evaluation; Comment Request

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor (Department), 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 on a new data collection for the GATE II Evaluation. A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addressee section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee section below on or before July 5, 2011.
That is, unlike the first Project GATE services targeted at entrepreneurs, Project GATE in helping individuals develop businesses, Project GATE promoted both workforce and economic development. Project GATE was an experimental design demonstration that investigated the impact of providing entrepreneurship training services to individuals interested in starting or growing a business. The cornerstone of the evaluation was random assignment. A total of 4,198 applicants to GATE were randomly assigned to either a program group or a control group. The project was implemented in both rural and urban locations in Maine, Pennsylvania, and Minnesota from 2002 to 2009.

In Project GATE, treatment group members were offered an assessment of their business needs, classroom training, one-on-one technical assistance, and assistance in applying for business financing. A telephone survey of participants and control group members was conducted to collect three waves of data at approximately six months after random assignment, 18 months after random assignment, and 60 months after random assignment. A process evaluation as well as an impact evaluation of the effectiveness of the GATE model were conducted utilizing site visits, surveys, and administrative data.

The early impacts of Project GATE services were reported to ETA in July 2008 (Benus, J., McConnell, S., Bellotti, J., Shen, T., Fortson, K., & Kahvecioglu, D. “Growing America Through Entrepreneurship: Findings from the Evaluation of Project GATE” U. S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, 2008). The positive findings in this report led the Department to issue a Solicitation for Grant Applications (SGA) for States to implement the GATE model of entrepreneurship services targeted at older and rural WIA dislocated workers. That is, unlike the first Project GATE demonstration, which was available to all applicants, services under this new demonstration (known as GATE II) were targeted towards dislocated workers.

An evaluation of the GATE II grants is necessary for policymakers and program developers to determine whether the model can be successfully implemented for dislocated workers. A follow-up survey, as envisioned in the GATE II evaluation design, is the only way to collect information on self-employment experiences, receipt of microenterprise services, and household income. GATE II will be evaluated using an experimental design. Individuals that submitted an application for GATE II in each site and who met minimal eligibility criteria are being randomly assigned to either a program group or a control group. Members of the program group are eligible to receive GATE II services, while members of the control group are not eligible to receive GATE II services, although they will not be prohibited from receiving self-employment services from other sources.

As noted above, unlike the first Project GATE demonstration, which was available to all applicants, services under GATE II are targeted towards WIA dislocated workers. In June 2008, grants were awarded to implement GATE II in four states—Alabama, Minnesota, North Carolina, and Virginia. Two states, Alabama and North Carolina, were selected to target services to dislocated workers in rural areas, while the two other States, Minnesota and Virginia, were selected to target dislocated workers 45 years old and older.

The evaluation will address the following key questions:

1. What are the impacts of GATE II on participants’ labor market and self-employment outcomes?
2. Does the program increase the use of self-employment services?
3. Does the program lead to an increase in the completion of business plans and applications and receipt of loans?
4. Does the program increase the likelihood of self-employment?
5. Does the program promote employment and other aspects of economic development?
6. Does the program increase employment, earnings, and satisfaction with employment and reduce the receipt of Unemployment Insurance (UI) and public assistance?
7. Is GATE II effective in rural areas and for older workers?
8. Does the effectiveness of the program vary by population subgroup?

Addressing these questions will involve conducting process and impact analyses. The process evaluation is based on information collected during two rounds of site visits to each site, during which detailed information will be collected on the implementation of the program from interviews with program staff, observations of services, and focus groups with program participants. Data will also be collected using a Participant Tracking System developed specifically for the study. The impact evaluation will involve comparing outcomes of members of the program group with outcomes of members of the control group. Data on these outcomes will be collected from UI benefit records and quarterly wage records, and a follow-up survey that will occur approximately 18 months after random assignment.

II. Review Focus

The Department 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 follow-up survey, which is the subject of this notice, will be conducted by telephone approximately 18 months following random assignment. The survey will collect data unavailable from administrative records. The survey is designed to collect detailed information about sample members’ participation and experiences in receiving self-employment services, their experiences starting a business, their experiences in jobs working for someone else, their receipt of public assistance, and some background data on their socio-economic and demographic characteristics. It is also designed to collect their experiences in self-employment and developing small
businesses, their experiences in jobs working for someone else, and their income and receipt of public assistance. 

Type of Review: New

Agency: Employment and Training Administration 
Title: Partnership for Self-Sufficiency: Growing America Through Entrepreneurship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total respondents</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Total responses</th>
<th>Average time per respondent</th>
<th>Burden (hours)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GATE II FOLLOW–UP SURVEY</td>
<td>1,584</td>
<td>Once</td>
<td>1,584</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
<td>792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: April 29, 2011.

Jane Oates, Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training Administration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Hector.Rodriguez-Luccioni@nrc.gov.

Federal Rulemaking Website: Public comments and supporting materials related to this notice can be found at http://www.regulations.gov by searching on Docket ID: NRC–2010–0018.

Telephone: (301) 251–7685; fax number: (301) 251–7422; e-mail: Hector.Rodriguez-Luccioni@nrc.gov.

Supplementary Information:

I. Introduction

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing a revision to an existing guide in the agency’s “Regulatory Guide” series. This series was developed to describe and make available to the public information such as methods that are acceptable to the NRC staff for implementing specific parts of the agency’s regulations, techniques that the staff uses in evaluating specific problems or postulated accidents, and data that the staff needs in its review of applications for permits and licenses.

Revision 2 of Regulatory Guide 8.18, “Information Relevant to Ensuring that Occupational Radiation Exposures at Medical Institutions will be As Low As is Reasonably Achievable,” was issued with a temporary identification as Draft Regulatory Guide, DG–8037.

This guide is directed specifically toward medical licensees and recommends methods that the staff of the NRC considers acceptable to maintain occupational exposures as low as is reasonably achievable (ALARA) in medical institutions. In a medical institution, certain persons other than employees are exposed to radiation from licensed radioactive material. These persons include visitors and patients other than those being treated with radioactive material. This guide addresses the protection of these individuals. The content of this guide is also applicable to veterinary medical institutions, insofar as specific diagnostic or therapeutic procedures are performed. Similar protection practices are applicable for keeping employee and visitor exposures ALARA, whether the patients are animal or human.

II. Further Information

In January 2010, DG–8037 was published with a public comment period of 60 days from the issuance of the guide. The public comment period closed on March 19, 2010.

You can access publicly available documents related to this notice using the following methods:

NRC’s Public Document Room (PDR): The public may examine and copy (for a fee) publicly available documents at the NRC’s PDR, Room O1 F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

NRC’s Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS): Publicly available documents created or received at the NRC are available electronically at the NRC’s Electronic Reading Room at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/. From this page, the public can gain entry into ADAMS, which provides text and image files of NRC’s public documents (http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html).

If you do not have access to ADAMS or if there are problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, contact the NRC’s PDR reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, 301–415–4737, or by e-mail to pdr.resource@nrc.gov. The regulatory analysis may be found under ADAMS Accession Number ML102350467 and the staff’s responses to the public comments received are located under Accession Number ML102350474.

Federal Rulemaking Website: Public comments and supporting materials related to this notice can be found at http://www.regulations.gov by searching on Docket ID: NRC–2010–0018.