

Notices

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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.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

Committee on Regulation

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of a public meeting of the Committee on Regulation of the Assembly of the Administrative Conference of the United States (ACUS). The meeting will involve discussion of research conducted by Professor Wendy E. Wagner for ACUS's "Science in the Administrative Process" project. The committee will meet via a virtual, online Web forum extending over a period of approximately six weeks. Committee members will discuss Professor Wagner's research by posting comments to the forum and reading comments submitted to the forum by other persons. The public may participate by submitting comments electronically or by mail or fax.

DATES: The Web forum will be opened to both members of the Committee on Regulation and the public for submission and viewing of comments on November 2, 2011 at 9 a.m. The forum will remain open for submission of comments until December 15, 2011 at 5 p.m., unless it is announced on the forum Web site that the discussion has been completed earlier. After the period for receipt of comments has ended, the forum will remain available for viewing but will not accept additional comments.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will have no physical location. It will take place via an online discussion forum on the Administrative Conference Web site, which can be accessed at: <http://www.acus.gov/forum/>. The public may submit comments either electronically through the forum Web site or by mail or fax addressed to the Designated Federal Officer.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Reeve T. Bull, Designated Federal Officer for the Committee on Regulation, ACUS, 1120 20th Street, NW., Suite 706 South, Washington, DC 20036; Telephone 202-480-2080; Fax 202-386-7190.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Professor Wendy E. Wagner of the University of Texas Law School is conducting research for the ACUS project on "Science in the Administrative Process." Previously, she presented a proposed outline to the Committee on Regulation and received feedback. Professor Wagner subsequently prepared a revised outline, and the purpose of this meeting is to enable committee discussion and feedback regarding the revised outline. The revised outline discusses Professor Wagner's research relating to (1) the transparency of agencies' reporting of their scientific research and (2) whether agencies allow scientists conducting research on their behalf to express dissenting viewpoints. The revised outline and any other documents associated with the committee meeting will be made available on the project Web page prior to the commencement of the committee meeting.

The committee will meet via a virtual, online Web forum extending over a period of approximately six weeks. See 41 CFR 102-3.140(e) (permitting meetings conducted "in whole or part by * * * the Internet"). Committee members will discuss Professor Wagner's research by posting comments to the forum and reading comments submitted to the forum by other members of the committee and the public. All comments will be reviewed prior to posting by the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) acting as forum moderator. This virtual meeting will enable the committee to discuss the committee's business using modern communications tools in an open and transparent fashion.

The public will be able to view all comments on the forum. The public may also participate by submitting comments either electronically or by mail or fax via the contact information provided above. The DFO will review all comments received, both online and through other means of submission. The DFO will post all public comments received, excepting those that contain trade secret or other confidential

information, or that are obscene, libelous, threatening, unrelated to the topic being discussed, or otherwise evidently inappropriate for posting. When submitting comments, please bear in mind that, because the Web forum will be moderated, it may take some time for comments to appear on the forum, particularly for comments submitted outside business hours.

The Web forum will be opened to both members of the Committee on Regulation and the public for submission and viewing of comments beginning on November 2, 2011 at 9 a.m. The forum will remain open for submission of comments until December 15, 2011 at 5 p.m., unless it is announced that the discussion has been completed earlier. Any earlier closing date will be announced on both the forum Web page and on the "Science in the Administrative Process" project page at least one week in advance. After the period for receipt of comments has ended, the forum will remain available for viewing but will not accept additional comments.

Complete details regarding the committee's online meeting, related research documents, and how to participate in the discussion (including information about accessing and navigating the Web forum and submitting comments for the committee's consideration) can be found on the "Science in the Administrative Process" project Web page on the ACUS Web site. Go to <http://www.acus.gov> and click on Research -> Conference Projects -> Science in the Administrative Process, or go directly to the following address: <http://www.acus.gov/research/the-conference-current-projects/science-in-the-administrative-process/>.

Dated: October 12, 2011.

Jonathan R. Siegel,

Director of Research & Policy.

[FR Doc. 2011-26848 Filed 10-17-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6110-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

October 12, 2011.

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 the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Rural Housing Service

Title: 7 CFR part 1901–E, Civil Rights Compliance Requirements.

OMB Control Number: 0575–0018.

Summary of Collection: Rural Development (RD) is required to provide Federal financial assistance through its farmer, housing, and community and business programs on an equal opportunity basis. The laws implemented in 7 CFR part 1901–E, require the recipients of Rural Development's Federal financial assistance to collect various types of information by race, color, and national origin.

Need and Use of the Information: RD will use the information to monitor a recipient's compliance with the civil rights laws, and to determine whether or not service and benefits are being provided to beneficiaries on an equal opportunity basis. This information is made available to USDA officials,

officials of other Federal agencies and to Congress for reporting purposes. Without the required information, RD and its recipient will lack the necessary documentation to demonstrate that their programs are being administered in a nondiscriminatory manner and in full compliance with the civil rights laws.

Description of Respondents:

Individuals or households; not-for-profit institutions; business or other for-profit; farms; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 27,000.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 560,276.

Charlene Parker,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2011–26812 Filed 10–17–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–XT–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Notice of Intent to Request Revision and Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) to request revision and extension of a currently approved information collection, the Field Crops Objective Yield Surveys. Revision to burden hours may be needed due to changes in the size of the target population, sampling design, and/or questionnaire length.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by December 19, 2011 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number 0535–0088, by any of the following methods:

- *E-mail:* ombofficer@nass.usda.gov.

Include docket number above in the subject line of the message.

- *Fax:* (202) 720–6396.

- *Mail:* Mail any paper, disk, or CD-ROM submissions to: David Hancock, NASS Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 5336 South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250–2024.

- *Hand Delivery/Courier:* Hand deliver to: David Hancock, NASS Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of

Agriculture, Room 5336 South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250–2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Joseph T. Reilly, Associate Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, (202) 720–4333.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Field Crops Objective Yield.

OMB Control Number: 0535–0088.

Expiration Date of Approval: February 29, 2012.

Type of Request: To revise and extend a currently approved information collection for a period of three years.

Abstract: The primary objective of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is to collect, prepare and issue State and national estimates of crop and livestock production, prices and disposition as well as economic statistics, farm numbers, land values, on-farm pesticide usage, pest crop management practices, as well as the Census of Agriculture. The Field Crops Objective Yield Surveys objectively predicts yields for corn, cotton, potatoes, soybeans, and wheat. Sample fields are randomly selected for these crops, plots are laid out, and periodic counts and measurements are taken and then used to forecast production during the growing season. Production forecasts are published in USDA Crop Production reports.

Authority: These data will be collected under the authority of 7 U.S.C. 2204(a). Individually identifiable data collected under this authority are governed by Section 1770 of the Food Security Act of 1985 as amended, 7 U.S.C. 2276, which requires USDA to afford strict confidentiality to non-aggregated data provided by respondents. This Notice is submitted in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*) and Office of Management and Budget regulations at 5 CFR part 1320. NASS also complies with OMB Implementation Guidance, “Implementation Guidance for Title V of the E-Government Act, Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (CIPSEA),” **Federal Register**, Vol. 72, No. 115, June 15, 2007, p. 33362.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average between 20 and 30 minutes per respondent.

Respondents: Farmers, ranchers, or farm managers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 8,000.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 2,900 hours.