

## (2) Working Groups' Reports

(a) Task Statement 30, concerning utilizing military sea service for STCW certifications;

(b) Task Statement 51, concerning minimum standard of competence on tanker safety;

(c) Task Statement 55, concerning recommendations to develop a voluntary training program for deck and engine department entry level mariners on domestic and seagoing vessels;

(d) Task Statement 57, concerning a national training program for operational and management level officers including integration of the STCW Code into the USCG license examination process; and

(e) Other task statements which may have been adopted for discussion and action.

## (3) Other items to be discussed:

(a) Standing Committee—Prevention Through People.

(b) Briefings concerning on-going projects of interest to MERPAC.

(c) Other items brought up for discussion by the committee or the public.

**Procedural**

All meetings are open to the public. Please note that the meetings may adjourn early if all business is finished. At the Chair's discretion, members of the public may make oral presentations during the meetings. If you would like to make an oral presentation at a meeting, please notify Mr. Gould no later than August 30, 2006. Written material for distribution at a meeting should reach the Coast Guard no later than August 30, 2006. If you would like a copy of your material distributed to each member of the committee or subcommittee in advance of the meeting, please submit 25 copies to Mr. Gould no later than August 30, 2006.

**Information on Services for Individuals With Disabilities**

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance at the meetings, contact Mr. Gould as soon as possible.

Dated: July 27, 2006.

**J.G. Lantz,**

*Director of National and International Standards, Assistant Commandant for Prevention.*

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**BILLING CODE 4910-15-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

[Docket No. FR-5091-N-01]

**Notice of Proposed Information; Collection: Comment Request; Maintenance Wage Rate Recommendation, and Maintenance Wage Survey; and Report of Additional Classification and Wage Rate**

**AGENCY:** Office of Departmental Operations and Coordination, Office of Labor Relations, HUD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The proposed information collection requirement described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Department is soliciting public comments on the subject proposal.

**DATES:** *Comments Due Date:* October 2, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB Control Number and should be sent to: Lillian Deitzer, Reports Management Officer, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW., L'Enfant Plaza Building, Room 8001, Washington, DC 20410 or [Lillian\\_L\\_Deitzer@hud.gov](mailto:Lillian_L_Deitzer@hud.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jade Banks, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of Labor Relations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20410, telephone (202) 708-0370, Ext. 5475 (this is not a toll-free number) for copies of the proposed forms and other available information.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department is submitting the proposed information collection to OMB for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended).

This Notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information to: (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond; including

the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

This Notice also lists the following information:

*Title of Proposal:* Maintenance Wage Rate Recommendation; Maintenance Wage Survey; Report of Additional Classification and Wage Rate.

*OMB Control Number, if applicable:* 2501-0011.

*Description of the need for the information and proposed use:* Public housing agencies (PHAs), Tribally-designated housing entities (TDHEs), and the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL) are required to ensure that maintenance laborers and mechanics employed in the operation of HUD-assisted low-income or affordable housing are paid no less than prevailing wages that are determined or adopted by HUD (section 12(a), U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended; sections 104(b) and 805(b) of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, as amended). Except that, TDHEs may, at their discretion, implement tribally determined prevailing maintenance wage rates which would apply in place of HUD-determined or -adopted wage rates.

HUD determines or adopts a schedule of prevailing maintenance wage rates for each PHA, TDHE (except for those TDHEs that implement tribally-determined prevailing wage rates), and the DHHL, annually, coinciding with the agency's fiscal year. In order to ensure that the wage rates are reflective of current economic conditions, HUD requests that each PHA, TDHE and the DHHL submit a recommendation of prevailing wage rates for HUD consideration. PHA, TDHE, and DHHL recommendations may be based on a wide variety of economic indicators including, at the discretion of the PHA, TDHE, or DHHL, the results of a wage survey that the PHA, TDHE or DHHL may conduct of maintenance employers in their operating jurisdiction. In addition, HUD may conduct a maintenance wage rate survey in the absence of a PHA/TDHE/DHHL recommendation or to evaluate a recommendation that has been provided by a PHA, TDHE or DHHL.

In order to assist PHAs, TDHEs and the DHHL to submit prevailing wage rate recommendations and, if they choose, to conduct and evaluate the results of a maintenance wage survey, and to assist HUD personnel in the conduct and evaluation of a maintenance wage survey, HUD proposes to institute three forms: Maintenance Wage Rate

Recommendation; Maintenance Wage Rate Survey Summary; and a Survey of Maintenance Wage Rates. PHA, TDHE or DHHL submission of a recommendation is highly encouraged by HUD. In the absence of an agency recommendation, HUD will issue a prevailing wage rate schedule based upon its own actions, which may include a maintenance wage survey conducted by HUD. Participation in any maintenance wage survey conducted by a PHA, TDHE, DHHL, or HUD, is voluntary on the part of maintenance employers. Maintenance wage rate recommendations, survey summaries and survey responses must be retained by PHAs, TDHEs, the DHHL, and HUD to document compliance with the statutory labor standards provisions.

Agencies, contractors and subcontractors engaged on HUD-assisted construction and maintenance projects subject to Federal labor standards must pay no less than the wages determined to be prevailing by the Secretary of Labor (for construction work) or determined to be prevailing by the Secretary of HUD (for maintenance work) to all laborers and mechanics engaged on such work. Occasionally, the applicable wage decision schedule does not contain a prevailing wage rate for all classifications of work needed to complete the project. In such cases, the employer that will utilize the classification(s) missing from the wage decision must propose a wage rate for such classification(s) for the consideration of the Department of Labor (DOL) or HUD, as the case may

be. The employer must submit its request in writing; there is no form specified or required for employer submissions. HUD and local agencies that administer HUD-assisted projects use the form HUD-4230A to record and submit employer additional classification and wage rate requests to DOL, when DOL approval is required.

*Agency form numbers, if applicable:* To be assigned for Maintenance Wage Rate Recommendation, Maintenance Wage Survey Summary, and Survey of Maintenance Wage Rates; HUD-4230A for Report of Additional Classification and Wage Rate.

*Estimation of the total numbers of hours needed to prepare the information collection including number of respondents, frequency of response, and hours of response:*

Item	Number of respondents	Amount of time required (hours)	Total time required/annum (hours)
Maintenance Wage Recommendation .....	3,392	4	13,568
Survey Summary .....	1,696	4	6,784
Survey Form Agency Evaluation .....	20,352	8	162,816
Survey Form Employer Response .....	20,352	4	81,408
Recordkeeping .....	3,392	1	3,392
Additional Classification and Wage Rate .....	700	2	1,400
Recordkeeping .....	700	1	700
<b>Total Annual Burden .....</b>			<b>270,068</b>

*Status of the proposed information collection:* This is a revision of a currently approved collection.

**Authority:** The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C., Chapter 35, as amended.

Dated: July 21, 2006.

**Inez Banks-Dubose,**  
Director, Office of Departmental Operations and Coordination.

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**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

[Docket No. FR-4917-N-08]

**Mortgage and Loan Insurance Programs Under the National Housing Act—Debenture Interest Rates**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner, HUD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces changes in the interest rates to be paid on debentures issued with respect to a loan or mortgage insured by the Federal Housing Administration under the provisions of the National Housing Act

(the Act). The interest rate for debentures issued under section 221(g)(4) of the Act during the 6-month period beginning July 1, 2006, is 5¾ percent. The interest rate for debentures issued under any other provision of the Act is the rate in effect on the date that the commitment to insure the loan or mortgage was issued, or the date that the loan or mortgage was endorsed (or initially endorsed if there are two or more endorsements) for insurance, whichever rate is higher. The interest rate for debentures issued under these other provisions with respect to a loan or mortgage committed or endorsed during the 6-month period beginning July 1, 2006, is 5⅜ percent. However, as a result of an amendment to section 224 of the Act, if an insurance claim relating to a mortgage insured under sections 203 or 234 of the Act and endorsed for insurance after January 23, 2004, is paid in cash, the debenture interest rate for purposes of calculating a claim shall be the monthly average yield, for the month in which the default on the mortgage occurred, on United States Treasury Securities adjusted to a constant maturity of 10 years.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** L. Richard Keyser, Department of Housing

and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Room 2232, Washington, DC 20410-8000; telephone (202) 755-7500 (this is not a toll-free number). Individuals with speech or hearing impairments may access this number through TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 224 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715o) provides that debentures issued under the Act with respect to an insured loan or mortgage (except for debentures issued pursuant to section 221(g)(4) of the Act) will bear interest at the rate in effect on the date the commitment to insure the loan or mortgage was issued, or the date the loan or mortgage was endorsed (or initially endorsed if there are two or more endorsements) for insurance, whichever rate is higher. This provision is implemented in HUD's regulations at 24 CFR 203.405, 203.479, 207.259(e)(6), and 220.830. These regulatory provisions state that the applicable rates of interest will be published twice each year as a notice in the **Federal Register**.

Section 224 further provides that the interest rate on these debentures will be set from time to time by the Secretary