

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.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Information Collection Activity; Comment Request

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended), the USDA Rural Utilities Service (RUS) invites comments on this information collection for which RUS intends to request approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by February 26, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michele L. Brooks, Director, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, USDA, Rural Utilities Service, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., STOP 1522, Room 5162 South Building, Washington, DC 20250-1522. *Telephone:* (202) 690-1078. *Fax:* (202) 720-8435. *E-mail:* michele.brooks@wdc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) regulation (5 CFR 1320) implementing provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) requires that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)). This notice identifies an information collection that RUS is submitting to OMB for extension.

Comments are invited on: (a) 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; (b) 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; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (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. Comments may be sent to: Michele L. Brooks, Director, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, USDA, Rural Utilities Service, STOP 1522, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1522. *Fax:* (202) 720-8435. *E-mail:* michele.brooks@wdc.usda.gov.

Title: Pre-loan Procedures and Requirements for Telecommunications Programs.

OMB Control Number: 0572-0079.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The burden required by this collection consists of information that will allow the Agency to determine an applicant's eligibility to borrow from the Agency under the terms of the Rural Electrification Act (RE Act) of 1936 as amended (7 U.S.C. 912). This information is also used by the Agency to determine that the Government's security for loans made by the Agency is reasonably adequate and that the loans will be repaid within the time agreed.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 9.17 hours per response.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit; not-for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 50.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 8.12.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 3,721.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Gale Richardson, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, at (202) 720-0992, *Fax:* (202) 720-8435. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: December 22, 2009.

Jonathan Adelstein,

Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.

[FR Doc. E9-30660 Filed 12-24-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2009-0006]

Notice of Availability of a Bovine Brucellosis Program Concept Paper

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability and request for comments; reopening of comment period.

SUMMARY: We are reopening the comment period for our notice that made a concept paper describing a new direction for the bovine brucellosis program available for public comment. This action will allow interested persons additional time to prepare and submit comments.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before January 4, 2010.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to (<http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main?main=DocketDetail&d=APHIS-2009-0006>) to submit or view comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically.

- Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery: Please send two copies of your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2009-0006, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. APHIS-2009-0006.

Reading Room: You may read any comments that we receive on this docket in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 690-2817 before coming.

Other Information: Additional information about APHIS and its programs is available on the Internet at (<http://www.aphis.usda.gov>).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Lee Ann Thomas, Director, Ruminant Health Programs, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 43, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 734-6954.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 5, 2009, we published in the **Federal Register** (74 FR 51115-51116, Docket No. APHIS-2009-0006) a notice that made a concept paper describing a new direction for the bovine brucellosis program available for public review and comment.

Comments on the notice were required to be received on or before December 4, 2009. We are reopening the comment period on Docket No. APHIS-2009-0006 for an additional 30 days ending January 4, 2010. This action will allow interested persons additional time to prepare and submit comments. We will also consider all comments received between December 4, 2009, and the date of this notice.

Done in Washington, DC, this 16th day of December 2009.

Kevin Shea

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. E9-30684 Filed 12-24-09; 12:40 pm]

BILLING CODE: 3410-34-S

to pminarik@usccr.gov. Persons who desire additional information should contact Dr. Peter Minarik, Regional Director, at (404) 562-7000 or 800-877-8339 for individuals who are deaf, hearing impaired, and/or have speech disabilities or by e-mail to pminarik@usccr.gov.

Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least ten (10) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

Records generated from this meeting may be inspected and reproduced at the Southern Regional Office, as they become available, both before and after the meeting. Persons interested in the work of this advisory committee are advised to go to the Commission's Web site, www.usccr.gov, or to contact the Southern Regional Office at the above e-mail or street address.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission and FACA.

Dated in Washington, DC, December 22, 2009.

Peter Minarik,

*Acting Chief, Regional Programs
Coordination United States Commission on Civil Rights.*

[FR Doc. E9-30722 Filed 12-24-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-02-P

and submit the information to the USPTO.

Needs and Uses: The USPTO is required by 35 U.S.C. 131 and 151 to examine applications and, when appropriate, allow applications and issue them as patents. Chapter 30 of Title 35 U.S.C. provides that any person at any time may file a request for reexamination by the USPTO of any claim of a patent on the basis of prior art patents or printed publications. Once initiated, the reexamination proceedings under Chapter 30 are substantially *ex parte* and do not permit input from third parties. Chapter 31 of Title 35 U.S.C. provides for *inter partes* reexamination allowing third parties to participate throughout the reexamination proceeding. The rules outlining *ex parte* and *inter partes* reexaminations are found at 37 CFR 1.510-1.570 and 1.902-1.997.

Information requirements related to patent reexaminations are currently covered under OMB Control Number 0651-0033, along with other requirements related to patent issue fees and reissue applications. The USPTO is proposing to move the following items that are under 0651-0033 into a new information collection for Patent Reexaminations: Request for *Ex Parte* Reexamination Transmittal Form; Request for *Inter Partes* Reexamination Transmittal Form; Petition to Review the Refusal to Grant *Ex Parte* Reexamination; Petition to Review the Refusal to Grant *Inter Partes* Reexamination; and Petition to Request Extension of Time in *Ex Parte* or *Inter Partes* Reexamination.

The USPTO is also proposing to include additional items related to patent reexaminations in this new information collection: Request for *Ex Parte* Reexamination; Request for *Inter Partes* Reexamination; Patent Owner's 37 CFR 1.530 Statement; Third Party Requester's 37 CFR 1.535 Reply; Amendment in *Ex Parte* or *Inter Partes* Reexamination; Third Party Requester's 37 CFR 1.947 Comments in *Inter Partes* Reexamination; Response to Final Rejection in *Ex Parte* Reexamination; Patent Owner's 37 CFR 1.951 Response in *Inter Partes* Reexamination; and Third Party Requester's 37 CFR 1.951 Comments in *Inter Partes* Reexamination. These additional items are existing information requirements that previously were not fully covered by an information collection and are now being included in order to more accurately reflect the burden on the public for submitting requests related to patent reexaminations.

The public uses this information collection to request reexamination

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Florida Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission), and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), that a planning meeting of the Florida Advisory Committee (Committee) to the Commission will convene at 1:30 p.m. and adjourn at approximately 4 p.m. on Thursday, January 28, 2010, at the West Tampa Library, 2312 West Union Street, Tampa, Florida, 33607. The purpose of the meeting is for the Committee to receive a briefing from experts on educational resources provided to children of migrant workers.

Members of the public are entitled to submit written comments; the comments must be received in the Southern Regional Office of the Commission by February 28, 2010. The address is 61 Forsyth St., SW., Suite 18T40, Atlanta, Georgia, 30303. Persons wishing to e-mail comments may do so

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) 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).

Agency: United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

Title: Patent Reexaminations.

Form Number(s): PTO/SB/57 and PTO/SB/58.

Agency Approval Number: 0651-00XX.

Type of Request: New collection.

Burden: 161,128 hours annually.

Number of Respondents: 5,124 responses per year.

Average Hours per Response: The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 18 minutes (0.30 hours) to 148 hours to gather the necessary information, prepare the appropriate form or other documents,