

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

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

December 19, 2019.

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 are requested regarding: 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; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and 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 regarding this information collection received by January 27, 2020 will be considered. Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20502. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: [OIRA\\_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV](mailto:OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV) or fax (202) 395–5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250–7602. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720–8958.

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 Business Cooperative Service

*Title:* Rural Cooperative Development Grants—7 CFR 4284–F.

*OMB Control Number:* 0570–0006.

*Summary of Collection:* Section 310B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (as amended) (Pub. L. 107–171) authorizes the Rural Cooperative Development Grants (RCDG) program. The program is administered through State Rural Development Offices on behalf of the Rural Business Cooperative Service (RBS). The primary objective of the program is to improve the economic condition of rural areas through cooperative development. Grant funds are awarded on a competitive basis non-profit corporations or institutions of higher education, based on specific selection criteria.

*Need and Use of the Information:* Information is collected by RBS and Rural Development State and Area office staff, as delegated, from applicants and grantees. RBS will use the information collected to evaluate the applicant's ability to carry out the purposes of the program. Grantees are required to submit financial status and performance reports to confirm funds are being expended as approved and requests for advance or reimbursement to request payment. If this information were not collected, RBS cannot be assured that the applicants meet the statutory requirements for eligibility, that it is awarding funds to qualified applicants, and that grantees are providing services in accordance with the approved grant agreement.

*Description of Respondents:* Not for profit institutions.

*Number of Respondents:* 55.

*Frequency of Responses:* Record keeping; Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 7,264.

### Ruth Brown,

*Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

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**30-Day Federal Register Notice***Rural Utility Service*

*Title:* Rural Energy Savings Program.  
*OMB Control Number:* 0572-0151.

*Summary of Collection:* The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), a Rural Development agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, provides Rural Energy Saving Program (RESP) loans to eligible entities that agree to, in turn, make loans to qualified consumers for energy efficiency measures, including cost effective energy and renewable energy systems. Since its inception in 2016, the RESP has evolved. New and clarifying authorities have been added to the program including changes made by the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Pub L. 115-334) which reauthorized the implementation of the RESP. Title VI, subtitle C, Section 6303 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 introduced several amendments to Section 6407 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8107a).

*Need and Use of the Information:* The application process consists of two steps. Step 1: An applicant seeking financing must submit a Letter of Intent to apply in an electronic Portable Document Format (pdf). The Letter of Intent contains the tax identification number, legal name and organization status; verification of rural status (counties to be served and populations); financial status; point of contact; description of program; implementation plan; and a list of eligible energy efficiency measures to be implemented. Step 2: RESP application—after review of the letter of intent, RUS notifies the eligible entity if it is invited to submit the loan application. Required application information is used to determine a borrower's ability to meet financial obligations, includes analyses and document review of the applicant's historical, current, and projected costs, revenues, cash flows, assets, and other factors that may be relevant on a case by case basis. The collection of information is essential to the mission of the agency and the RESP, and is necessary so that RUS can establish applicant and project eligibility.

*Description of Respondents:* Businesses or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions.

*Number of Respondents:* 17.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 1,046.

**Ruth Brown,**

*Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE****Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request**

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**Rural Housing Service**

*Title:* Multi-Family Housing Preservation and Revitalization Restructuring Demonstration Program (MPR).

*OMB Control Number:* 0575-0190.

*Summary of Collection:* The Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (Pub. L. 109-97) provides funding for, and authorizes the Rural Housing Service (RHS) to conduct a demonstration program for the preservation and revitalization of the Section 515 Multi-Family Housing portfolio. Section 515 of the Housing Act of 1949 provides Rural Development the authority to make loans for low-income Multi-Family Housing and related facilities.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016, (Pub. L. 114-113) authorized USDA to conduct A demonstration program for the preservation and revitalization of the Sections 514, 515, and 516 multi-family rental housing properties to restructure existing USDA/ Multi-Family Housing (MFH) loans to ensure the project has sufficient resources to provide safe and affordable housing for low-income residents and farm laborers.

*Need and Use of the Information:* RHS will collect information from the proposer to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses to which the proposal concept possesses or lacks to select the most feasible proposals that will enhance the Agency's chances in accomplishing the demonstration objective. The information will be utilized to sustain and modify RHS' current policies pertaining to revitalization and preservation of affordable rental housing in rural areas.

*Description of Respondents:* Individuals or Households; Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local, or Tribal Government.

*Number of Respondents:* 1,500.

*Frequency of Responses:* Recordkeeping; Reporting: Annually.

*Total Burden Hours:* 25,293.

**Ruth Brown,**

*Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2019-27773 Filed 12-23-19; 8:45 am]

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