

*Title:* Survey of Construction Questionnaire for Building Permit Official.

*OMB Control Number:* 0607–0125.

*Form Number(s):* SOC–QBPO.

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

*Number of Respondents:* 1,017.

*Average Hours per Response:* 15 minutes.

*Burden Hours:* 254.

*Needs and Uses:* The U.S. Census Bureau is requesting an extension of the currently approved collection for the Survey of Construction Questionnaire for the Building Permit Official (SOC–QBPO). The information collected on the SOC–QBPO is necessary to carry out the sampling for the Survey of Housing Starts, Sales and Completions (OMB number 0607–0110), also known as the Survey of Construction (SOC). Government agencies and private companies use statistics from the SOC to monitor and evaluate the large and dynamic housing construction industry.

The SOC–QBPO is an electronic questionnaire. Census Bureau field representatives (FRs) either call or visit permit offices to enter their survey responses into a laptop computer using the Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) software formatted for the SOC–QBPO. The FRs use the SOC–QBPO to obtain information on the operating procedures of a permit office. This enables them to locate, classify, list, and sample building permits for residential construction. These permits are used as the basis for the sample selected for SOC. The Census Bureau also uses the information to verify and update the geographic coverage of permit offices. The questions asked during the interview and the size of the sample will not change.

Failure to collect this information would make it difficult, if not impossible, to accurately classify and sample building permits for the SOC. Data for two principal economic indicators are produced from the SOC: New Residential Construction (housing starts and housing completions) and New Residential Sales. Government agencies use these statistics to evaluate economic policy, measure progress towards the national housing goal, make policy decisions, and formulate legislation. For example, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System uses data from this survey to evaluate the effect of interest rates in this interest-rate sensitive area of the economy. The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) uses the data in developing the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The private sector and other data users from Department of Housing and

Urban Development (HUD) and the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) use the information for estimating the demand for housing, building materials and the many products used in new housing and to schedule production, distribution, and sales efforts. The financial community uses the data to estimate the demand for short-term (construction loans) and long-term (mortgages) borrowing.

*Affected Public:* State, local or Tribal government.

*Frequency:* Annually.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary.

*Legal Authority:* The SOC and this collection are authorized under Title 13, United States Code, Sections 131 and 182.

This information collection request may be viewed at [www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov).

Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [OIRA\\_Submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov) or fax to (202)395–5806.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

*Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[B–54–2019]

#### **Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 78—Nashville, Tennessee; Authorization of Production Activity; Lasko Products, LLC; (Small Consumer Appliances—Fans, Heaters, Humidifiers); Franklin, Tennessee**

On August 21, 2019, Lasko Products, LLC (Lasko) submitted a notification of proposed production activity to the FTZ Board for its facility within FTZ 78, in Franklin, Tennessee.

The notification was processed in accordance with the regulations of the FTZ Board (15 CFR part 400), including notice in the **Federal Register** inviting public comment (84 FR 47240, September 9, 2019). On December 19, 2019, the applicant was notified of the FTZ Board's decision that no further review of the activity is warranted at this time. The production activity described in the notification was authorized, subject to the FTZ Act and the FTZ Board's regulations, including Section 400.14.

Dated: December 19, 2019.

**Andrew McGilvray,**

*Executive Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[S–261–2019]

#### **Foreign-Trade Zone 2—New Orleans, Louisiana; Application for Subzone; Packard Pipe Terminals, LLC. Belle Chasse, Louisiana**

An application has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) by the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans, grantee of FTZ 2, requesting subzone status for the facility of Packard Pipe Terminals, LLC, located in Belle Chasse, Louisiana. The application was submitted pursuant to the provisions of the Foreign-Trade Zones Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a–81u), and the regulations of the Board (15 CFR part 400). It was formally docketed on December 19, 2019.

The proposed subzone (6 acres) is located at 806 Engineers Road, Belle Chasse (Plaquemines Parish), Louisiana. No authorization for production activity has been requested at this time. The proposed subzone would be subject to the existing activation limit of FTZ 2.

In accordance with the Board's regulations, Camille Evans of the FTZ Staff is designated examiner to review the application and make recommendations to the Executive Secretary.

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary and sent to: [ftz@trade.gov](mailto:ftz@trade.gov). The closing period for their receipt is February 10, 2020. Rebuttal comments in response to material submitted during the foregoing period may be submitted during the subsequent 15-day period to February 24, 2020.

A copy of the application will be available for public inspection in the "Reading Room" section of the Board's website, which is accessible via [www.trade.gov/ftz](http://www.trade.gov/ftz).

For further information, contact Camille Evans at [Camille.Evans@trade.gov](mailto:Camille.Evans@trade.gov) or (202) 482–2350.

Dated: December 19, 2019.

**Andrew McGilvray,**

*Executive Secretary.*

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