

products? (2) If yes, how can the current system be strengthened? (3) If no, what criteria should FSIS use to determine which products should be subject to sampling and testing for STEC?

The two issues described above will be presented to the full Committee. The Committee will then divide into two subcommittees to discuss the issues. Each subcommittee will provide a report of their comments and recommendations to the full Committee before the meeting concludes on Friday, September 25, 2020.

An agenda will be published online before the public meeting. FSIS will finalize the agenda on or before the meeting dates and post it on the FSIS website at: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/meetings>.

### Registration and Meeting Materials

There is no fee to register for the public meeting, but pre-registration is mandatory for participants attending. All attendees must register online at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/newsroom/meetings>.

### Public Comments and Participation in Meetings

#### Oral Comments

Stakeholders will have an opportunity to provide oral comments during the public meeting. Stakeholders must notify FSIS during registration of their wish to speak at the meeting. Stakeholders who do not notify FSIS during registration of their wish to speak will not have the opportunity to comment on the day of the public meeting. Due to the anticipated high level of interest in the opportunity to make public comments and the limited time available to do so, FSIS will do its best to accommodate all persons who registered and requested to provide oral comments and will limit all speakers to three minutes. FSIS encourages persons and groups who have similar interests to consolidate their information for presentation by a single representative.

#### Transcripts

As soon as the meeting transcripts are available, they will be accessible on the FSIS website at: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/regulations/advisory-committees/nacmpi/nacmpi-transcripts>. The transcripts may also be viewed at the FSIS Docket Room at the address listed above.

#### Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, FSIS will announce this **Federal Register**

publication on-line through the FSIS web page located at: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/federal-register>.

FSIS will also announce and provide a link to this **Federal Register** publication through the FSIS *Constituent Update*, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents and stakeholders. The *Constituent Update* is available on the FSIS web page. Through the web page, FSIS can provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. In addition, FSIS offers an email subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/subscribe>. Options range from recalls to export information, regulations, directives, and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves and have the option to password protect their accounts.

#### USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

No agency, officer, or employee of the USDA shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, or political beliefs, exclude from participation in, deny the benefits of, or subject to discrimination any person in the United States under any program or activity conducted by the USDA.

#### How To File a Complaint of Discrimination

To file a complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which may be accessed online at [http://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain\\_combined\\_6\\_8\\_12.pdf](http://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain_combined_6_8_12.pdf), or write a letter signed by you or your authorized representative.

Send your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by mail, fax, or email:

**Mail:** U.S. Department of Agriculture Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410.

**Fax:** (202) 690-7442.

**Email:** [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.), should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

Dated: August 18, 2020.

**Cikena Reid,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2020-18389 Filed 8-20-20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Information Collection; Equal Opportunity Compliance Review Record

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, Agriculture (USDA).

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Forest Service is seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on the information collection, *Equal Opportunity Compliance Review Record*.

**DATES:** Comments must be received in writing on or before October 20, 2020 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments concerning this notice should be addressed to Civil Rights, Mail Stop 1142, USDA, Forest Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-1142.

Comments also may be submitted via facsimile to 703-605-5174 or by email to: [Christopher.moore@usda.gov](mailto:Christopher.moore@usda.gov).

Comments submitted in response to this notice may be made available to the public through relevant websites and upon request. For this reason, please do not include in your comments information of a confidential nature, such as sensitive personal information or proprietary information. If you send an email comment, your email address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the internet. Please note that responses to this public comment request containing any routine notice about the confidentiality of the communication will be treated as public comments that may be made available to the public notwithstanding the inclusion of the routine notice.

The public may inspect the draft supporting statement and/or comments received at USDA, Forest Service, Civil Rights, 201 14th St. SW, Room 2S, Washington, DC 20024 during normal business hours. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to 202-205-8534 to facilitate entry to the building. The public may request an electronic copy of the draft supporting statement and/or

any comments received be sent via return email. Requests should be emailed to [Christopher.Moore@usda.gov](mailto:Christopher.Moore@usda.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Christopher Moore, Civil Rights by email at [Christopher.Moore@usda.gov](mailto:Christopher.Moore@usda.gov) or by phone at 703-605-4858. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 twenty-four hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Equal Opportunity Compliance Review Record.

*OMB Number:* OMB-0596-New.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* 11/30/2018.

*Type of Request:* New.

*Abstract:* All Federal agencies must comply with equal opportunity laws:

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended;
- Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972;
- The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended;
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; and
- Executive orders prohibiting discrimination in the delivery of all program and services to the public.

Federal agencies and entities receiving Federal Financial Assistance are prohibited from discriminating. Federal Financial Assistance is defined as, "Federal monies given by grants, cooperative agreements, commercial special use permits, training, loan/temporary assignment of Federal personnel, loan/use of Federal property at below market value."

The equal opportunity laws require agencies to conduct compliance reviews to ensure that entities receiving Federal Financial Assistance from the government are adhering to the nondiscrimination statutes. The statutes require that prior to awarding support or issuing permits, the Federal government shall conduct pre-award reviews to ensure that potential recipients understand their responsibilities to provide services equitable pursuant to the law. Thereafter, during the partnership with the agency, ongoing monitoring will take place to ensure the public is being served without any barriers or discrimination.

Forest Service employees will use form FS-1700-6, Equal Opportunity Compliance Review Record, to document demographics (race, ethnicity, and gender) and collect information regarding actions taken by recipients of Federal financial assistance

to ensure the public receives services without discrimination or barriers to access, and that recipients' employees understand their customer services role.

Collection will occur during face-to-face meetings or telephone interviews conducted by Forest Service employees as part of the pre-award and post award process. The pre-award interview will take place prior to the award of a grant, signing of a cooperative agreement, letting of commercial special use permit, or similar activity. The post award interview will take place once every 5 years, or upon report/discovery of discrimination.

The information collected will only be shared with other Federal agencies who share in the financial assistance activities with the Forest Service. Monitoring reviews have been a responsibility of the Federal government since 1964. Without the ability to monitor recipients of Federal financial assistance, the Forest Service would not be able to ensure compliance with laws and statutes. The Agency would not be aware of potential violations, thereby resulting in potential discriminatory practices.

*Affected Public:* Recipients of Federal financial assistance.

*Estimate of Burden per Response:* One.

*Estimated Annual Number of Respondents:* 11,000.

*Estimated Annual Number of Responses per Respondent:* One.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 11,000.

**Comment is Invited**

Comment is invited on: (1) Whether this collection of information is necessary for the stated purposes and the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical or scientific utility; (2) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses when provided, will be a matter of public record. Comments will be summarized and included in the submission request toward Office of Management and Budget approval.

Dated: August 14, 2020.

**Ricky Balolong,**

*Acting Civil Rights Director.*

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BILLING CODE 3411-15-P

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Rural Business Cooperative Service**

**Rural Housing Service**

**Rural Utilities Service**

[Docket No. RBS-20-BUSINESS-0033]

**Implementation of Certain Provisions of Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 Specific to Persistent Poverty Counties**

**AGENCY:** Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Rural Housing Service and Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces implementation of certain provisions published in the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Pub. L. 116-94) related to persistent poverty counties served by Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBSC), Rural Housing Service (RHS) and the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) agencies of the Rural Development mission area of the United States Department of Agriculture, USDA, sometimes collectively hereinafter referred to as "Agency" or "the Agency."

**DATES:** The provisions of this notice are applicable August 21, 2020.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information specific to this notice contact Michele Brooks, Director, Regulations Management, Rural Development Innovation Center—Regulations Management, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, STOP 1522, Room 4266, South Building, Washington, DC 20250-1522. Telephone: (202) 690-1078. Email [michele.brooks@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:michele.brooks@wdc.usda.gov). For information regarding implementation contact your respective Rural Development State Office listed here: <http://www.rd.usda.gov/browse-state>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

Rural Development improves the quality of life in rural America by offering loans, grants and loan guarantees to help create jobs and support economic development and essential services such as housing; health care; first responder services and equipment; and water, electric and