

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-CboeBZX-2021-058 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CboeBZX-2021-058. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549 on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CboeBZX-2021-058 and should be submitted on or before October 8, 2021.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.⁹

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2021-20080 Filed 9-16-21; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[SEC File No. 270-666; OMB Control No. 3235-0725]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon Written Request Copies Available From: U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of FOIA Services, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-2736

Extension:

OWMI Contract Standard for Contractor Workforce Inclusion

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") a request for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

Section 342 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the Dodd-Frank Act) provided that certain agencies, including the Commission, establish an Office of Minority and Women Inclusion (OMWI).¹ Section 342(c)(2) of the Dodd-Frank Act requires the OMWI Director to include in the Commission's procedures for evaluating contract proposals and hiring service providers a written statement that the contractor shall ensure, to the maximum extent possible, the fair inclusion of women and minorities in the workforce of the contractor and, as applicable, subcontractors.

In addition, section 342(c)(3)(A) of the Dodd-Frank Act requires the OMWI Director to establish standards and procedures for determining whether an agency contractor or subcontractor "has failed to make a good faith effort to include minorities and women" in its workforce. Section 342(c)(3)(B)(i) provides that if the OMWI Director determines that a contractor has failed to make good faith efforts, the Director shall recommend to the agency administrator that the contract be terminated. Upon receipt of such a recommendation, section 342(c)(3)(B)(ii)

provides that the agency administrator may terminate the contract, make a referral to the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs of the Department of Labor, or take other appropriate action. To implement the acquisition-specific requirements of Section 342(c) of the Dodd-Frank Act, the Commission adopted a Contract Standard for Contractor Workforce Inclusion (Contract Standard).

The Contract Standard, which is included in the Commission's solicitations and resulting contracts for services with a dollar value of \$100,000 or more, contains a "collection of information" within the meaning of the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Contract Standard requires that a Commission contractor provide documentation, upon request from the OMWI Director, to demonstrate that it has made good faith efforts to ensure the fair inclusion of minorities in its workforce and, as applicable, to demonstrate its covered subcontractors have made such good faith efforts. The documentation requested may include, but is not limited to: (1) The total number of employees in the contractor's workforce, and the number of employees by race, ethnicity, gender, and job title or EEO-1 job category (*e.g.*, EEO-1 Report(s)); (2) a list of covered subcontract awards under the contract that includes the dollar amount of each subcontract, date of award, and the subcontractor's race, ethnicity, and/or gender ownership status; (3) the contractor's plan to ensure the fair inclusion of minorities and women in its workforce, including outreach efforts; and (4) for each covered subcontractor, the information requested in items 1 and 3 above. The OMWI Director will consider the information submitted in evaluating whether the contractor or subcontractor has complied with its obligations under the Contract Standard.

The information collection is mandatory.

Estimated number of respondents: Based on a review of the last two fiscal years since the most recent approval of this information collection, the Commission estimates that 175 contractors would be subject to the Contract Standard.² Approximately 102 of these contractors have 50 or more employees, while 73 have fewer than 50 employees.

Estimate of recordkeeping burden: The information collection under the Contract Standard imposes no new recordkeeping burden on the estimated

⁹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 12 U.S.C. 5452.

² Unless otherwise specified, the term "contractors" refers to contractors and subcontractors.

102 contractors that have 50 or more employees. Such contractors are generally subject to recordkeeping and reporting requirements under the regulations implementing Title VII of the Civil Rights Act³ and Executive Order 11246 (“E.O. 11246”).⁴ Their contracts and subcontracts must include the clause implementing E.O. 11246—FAR 52.222–26, Equal Opportunity. In addition, contractors that have 50 or more employees (and a contract or subcontract of \$50,000 or more) are required to maintain records on the race, ethnicity, gender, and EEO–1 job category of each employee under Department of Labor regulations implementing E.O. 11246.⁵ The regulations implementing E.O. 11246 also require contractors that have 50 or more employees (and a contract or subcontract of \$50,000 or more) to demonstrate that they have made good faith efforts to remove identified barriers, expand employment opportunities, and produce measurable results,⁶ and to develop and maintain a written program, which describes the policies, practices, and procedures that the contractor uses to ensure that applicants and employees receive equal opportunities for employment and advancement.⁷ In lieu of developing a separate plan for workforce inclusion, a contractor may submit its existing written program prescribed by the E.O. 11246 regulations as part of the documentation that demonstrates the contractor’s good faith efforts to ensure the fair inclusion of minorities and women in its workforce. Thus, approximately 102 contractors are already required to maintain the information that may be requested under the Contract Standard.

The estimated 73 contractors that employ fewer than 50 employees are required under the regulations implementing E.O. 11246 to maintain records showing the race, ethnicity and gender of each employee. We believe that these contractors also keep job title information during the normal course of business. However, contractors that have fewer than 50 employees may not have the written program prescribed by the E.O. 11246 regulations or similar plan that could be submitted as part of the documentation to demonstrate their good faith efforts to ensure the fair inclusion of women and minorities in their workforces. Accordingly,

contractors with fewer than 50 employees may have to develop a plan to ensure workforce inclusion of minorities and women.

In order to estimate the burden on contractors associated with developing a plan for ensuring the inclusion of minorities and women in their workforces, we considered the burden estimates for developing the written programs required under the regulations implementing E.O. 11246.⁸ Based on OMWI’s review of the plans and other documentation submitted by contractors with fewer than 50 employees to demonstrate compliance with the Contract Standard, we believe such contractors would require approximately 25 percent of the hours that contractors of similar size spend on developing the written programs required under the E.O. 11246 regulations. Accordingly, we estimate that contractors would spend about 18 hours of employee resources to develop a plan for workforce inclusion of minorities and women. This one-time implementation burden annualized would be 438 hours. After the initial development, we estimate that each contractor with fewer than 50 employees would spend approximately 8 hours each year updating and maintaining its plan for workforce inclusion of minorities and women. The Commission estimates that the annualized recurring burden associated with the information collection would be 365 hours. Thus, the Commission estimates the annual recordkeeping burden for such contractors would total 803 hours.

The Contract Standard requires contractors to maintain information about covered subcontractors’ ownership status, workforce demographics, and workforce inclusion plans. Contractors would request this information from their covered subcontractors, who would have an obligation to keep workforce demographic data and maintain plans for workforce inclusion of minorities and women because the Contract

Standard is included in their subcontracts. Based on data describing recent Commission subcontractor activity, we believe that few subcontractors will have subcontracts for services with a dollar value of \$100,000 or more under Commission service contracts.⁹ These subcontractors may already be subject to similar recordkeeping requirements as principal contractors. Consequently, we believe that any additional requirements imposed on subcontractors would not significantly add to the burden estimates discussed above.

Estimate of Reporting Burden: With respect to the reporting burden, we estimate that it would take all contractors on average approximately one hour to retrieve and submit to the OMWI Director the documentation specified in the proposed Contract Standard. We expect to request documentation from up to 50 contractors each year and therefore we estimate the total annual reporting burden to be 50 hours.

On July 8, 2021, the Commission published a notice in the **Federal Register** (86 FR 36167) of its intention to request an extension of this currently approved collection of information, and allowed the public 60 days to submit comments. The Commission received no comments.

Written comments continue to be invited on: (a) Whether this 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 imposed by the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

The public may view the background documentation for this information collection at the following website, www.reginfo.gov. This information collection can be found by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent to: (i) www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain and (ii) David Bottom, Director/Chief

⁸ According to the Supporting Statement for the OFCCP Recordkeeping and Requirements-Supply Service, OMB Control No. 1250–0003 (“Supporting Statement”), it takes approximately 73 burden hours for contractors with 1–100 employees to develop the initial written program required under the regulations implementing E.O. 11246. We understand the quantitative analyses prescribed by the Executive Order regulations at 41 CFR part 60–2 are a time-consuming aspect of the written program development. As there is no requirement to perform these types of quantitative analyses in connection with the plan for workforce inclusion of minorities and women under the Contract Standard, we believe the plan for workforce inclusion will take substantially fewer hours to develop. The Supporting Statement is available at reginfo.gov.

⁹ A search of subcontract awards on the usaspending.gov website showed that three subcontractors in FY 2016 and six subcontractors in FY 2017 had subcontracts of \$100,000 or more. See data on subcontract awards available at <http://usaspending.gov>.

³ 42 U.S.C. 2000e, *et seq.*

⁴ Executive Order 11246, 30 FR 12,319 (Sept. 24, 1965).

⁵ See 41 CFR 60–1.7.

⁶ See 41 CFR 60–2.17(c).

⁷ See 41 CFR part 60–2.

Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Cynthia Roscoe, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549 or by sending an email to: PRA_Mailboxes@sec.gov. Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: September 14, 2021.

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2021-20117 Filed 9-16-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

[Docket No. SSA-2021-0025]

Request for Information on Potential Disability Insurance and Supplemental Security Income Demonstrations

AGENCY: Social Security Administration.
ACTION: Notice; request for information.

SUMMARY: We administer the Disability Insurance (DI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) programs to provide income support to people with disabilities. The Commissioner of Social Security is authorized to test new program rules to promote attachment to the labor force and increase the employment and self-sufficiency of individuals receiving or applying for DI or SSI benefits, including children and youth; and to coordinate planning between private and public welfare agencies to improve the administration and effectiveness of the DI, SSI, and related programs. This request for information (RFI) seeks public input on potential services, supports, or DI and SSI policy changes that could achieve these goals. The input we receive will inform our deliberations about possible future demonstrations and tests. We will also use the responses as reference material as we provide Congress technical advice regarding any potential renewal of the section 234 authorization.

DATES: To ensure that your comments are considered, we must receive them no later than November 16, 2021.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any one of three methods—internet, fax, or mail. Do not submit the same comments multiple times or by more than one method. Regardless of which method you choose, please state that your comments refer to Docket No. SSA-2021-0025 so that we may associate your comments with the correct **Federal Register** notice.

Caution: You should be careful to include in your comments only information that you wish to make

publicly available. We strongly urge you not to include in your comments any personal information, such as Social Security numbers or medical information.

1. **Internet:** We strongly recommend that you submit your comments via the internet. Please visit the Federal eRulemaking portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Use the *Search* function to find docket number SSA-2021-0025 and then submit your comments. The system will issue you a tracking number to confirm your submission. You will not be able to view your comments immediately because we must post each submission manually. It may take up to a week for your comments to be viewable.

2. **Fax:** Fax comments to (410) 966-2830.

3. **Mail:** Mail your comments to the Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, 3100 West High Rise Building, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland, 21235-6401.

Comments are available for public viewing on the Federal eRulemaking portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> or in person, during regular business hours, by arranging with the contact person identified below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeffrey Hemmeter, Acting Deputy Associate Commissioner for Research, Demonstration, and Employment Support, Office of Retirement and Disability Policy, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401, (410) 597-1815, for information about this notice. For information on eligibility or filing for benefits, call our national toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213 or TTY 1-800-325-0778, or visit our internet site, Social Security Online, at <http://www.socialsecurity.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose

Social Security pays benefits to more than 12 million adults ages 18 to 64 who are unable to work due to a disability¹ and to more than 1 million children with limited income and assets who have marked and severe functional limitations.² The Commissioner of Social Security is authorized to test new program rules to promote the labor force and increase the employment and self-sufficiency of individuals receiving or applying for DI or SSI benefits, including children and youth, and to

¹ https://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/ssi_asr/2019/sect03.html.

² https://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/ssi_asr/2019/sect04.html#table17.

coordinate planning between private and public welfare agencies to improve the administration and effectiveness of the DI, SSI, and related programs. This RFI offers interested parties, including States, community-based and other non-profit organizations, philanthropic organizations, researchers, and members of the public, the opportunity to provide information and recommendations on effective approaches for achieving these goals.

Background

We conduct demonstration projects under two authorities. Section 234 of the Social Security Act (Act) allows the Commissioner to test changes to the DI program designed to promote attachment to the labor force.³ Section 234(d)(2) of the Act provides that the authority to initiate projects under section 234 terminates on December 31, 2021, and the authority to carry out such projects terminates on December 31, 2022. Second, Section 1110(a) of the Act allows us to enter into contracts, grants, and agreements to study a variety of topics related to reducing dependency on SSI, coordinating of social services, or improving the administration of our programs, while section 1110(b) of the Act allows us to waive SSI program rules to carry out such demonstrations in the course of conducting projects that are likely to assist in promoting the objectives or facilitate the administration of title XVI of the Act.⁴ Participants in demonstrations conducted under section 234 or section 1110(b) must be volunteers who provide informed written consent and are capable of withdrawing their agreement to participate at any time.⁵ In addition, SSI demonstrations cannot result in a substantial reduction in any individual's income because he or she participated in a demonstration. These authorities also include additional reporting and scope restrictions. We produce an annual report to Congress on current and recently completed demonstrations⁶ and maintain public web pages with demonstration reports.^{7 8}

³ Section 234 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. 434. https://www.ssa.gov/OP_Home/ssact/title02/0234.htm.

⁴ Section 1110(a) and (b) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. 1310(a) and (b). https://www.ssa.gov/OP_Home/ssact/title11/1110.htm.

⁵ Section 234(e)(1) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. 434(e)(1). <https://www.ssa.gov/disabilityresearch/documents/Section%20234%20Report%202020.pdf>.

⁷ <https://www.ssa.gov/disabilityresearch/demos.htm>.

⁸ <https://www.ssa.gov/disabilityresearch/projects.htm>.