

when submitting projects for a loan guarantee. All applications that meet the minimum priority score will be processed on an ongoing basis and funds will be awarded continuously through August 30, 2024, subject to the availability of funding.

Beginning on September 3, 2024, all remaining unfunded B&I applications will compete for funds remaining after all state allocations are pooled into the National Office. Applications that do not meet the minimum applicable score will be allowed to compete in this funding competition if funding remains available. Any applications that remain unfunded after the funding competition will be handled as described in 7 CFR 5001.315(e).

#### Administrative Points

In the event there are not enough funds available to fund all applications during the funding competition beginning on September 3, 2024, projects that have a tie score can be awarded administrative points as outlined in 7 CFR 5001.318(e). These Administrative points will be awarded to applications that help meet the FY2024 Rural Development Priorities to:

1. Assist rural communities to recover economically through more and better market opportunities and through improved infrastructure.

2. Ensure all rural residents have equitable access to RD programs and benefits from RD funded projects.

3. Reduce climate pollution and increase resilience to the impacts of climate change through economic support for rural communities.

The Agency will verify that the project is located in an area that addresses these three priorities using the maps at <https://www.rd.usda.gov/priority-points/rural-development-priorities-fy-2024>. If a tie remains, the Agency will give priority to the project that will create and/or save the most jobs.

#### Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA Programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or

activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA through the 711 Relay Service. Program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a complainant should complete a Form, AD-3027, *USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form*, which can be obtained online at <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

(1) *Mail*: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410; or

(2) *Fax*: (833) 256-1665 or (202)690-7442; or

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

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

**Karama Neal,**

*Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA Rural Development.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Office of the Secretary

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Generic Clearance Program Performance Progress Reports

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection, request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), invites the general public and

other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before February 5, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit written comments by mail to the Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, at [PRAcomments@doc.gov](mailto:PRAcomments@doc.gov). Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to S. Dumas, Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, at 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230, (202) 482-3306, or [PRAcomments@doc.gov](mailto:PRAcomments@doc.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Abstract

This is a request for a new generic clearance to collect performance and progress data from recipients and sub-recipients who receive funding from DOC under a discretionary grant or cooperative agreement. This information is required to monitor and report program performance.

DOC provides grants that promote the economic and social well-being of individuals and communities with partnerships, funding, guidance, training, and technical assistance. Currently, most program offices are using the standard grant forms (SF) for progress reporting, which require grantees to only respond to a common set of questions that often solicits incomplete information. This one-size-fits-all approach does not adequately collect the specific data needed for particular grant programs or allow program offices to assess continuous quality improvement. Different grant programs vary in purpose, target population, and activities. Thus, a need for program offices to customize performance measurements has been identified.

Therefore, this generic Program Specific Performance Progress Report collection is being proposed.

## II. Method of Collection

Some program offices may use some form of electronic collection. This could include web pages, email or other online data management systems. Recipients may be required to enter and retrieve information pertinent to their awards through electronic forms closely resembling the paper forms (*i.e.*, fillable PDFs or tailored online data management systems). Such technology support is expected to improve standardization and timeliness of recipient reporting and to ease further analyses of reported data.

## III. Data

*OMB Control Number:* 0690–NEW.

*Form Number(s):* Varies or None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission. This is a new information collection.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households; Private Sector; Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local, or Tribal government.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 5,000.

*Estimated Time per Response:* Varies.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 50,000.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary or Mandatory.

## IV. Request for Comments

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department/Bureau to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we

cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

*Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Bureau of Industry and Security

#### **Belavia Belarusian Airlines, 4A, Nemiga str., Minsk, Belarus, 220004; Order Renewing Temporary Denial of Export Privileges**

Pursuant to section 766.24 of the Export Administration Regulations, 15 CFR parts 730–774 (“EAR” or “the Regulations”),<sup>1</sup> I hereby grant the request of the Office of Export Enforcement (“OEE”) to renew the temporary denial order (“TDO”) issued in this matter on June 7, 2023. I find that renewal of this order is necessary in the public interest to prevent an imminent violation of the Regulations and that renewal for an extended period is appropriate because Belavia Belarusian Airlines (“Belavia”) has engaged in a pattern of repeated, ongoing and/or continuous apparent violations of the EAR.

#### **I. Procedural History**

On June 16, 2022, I signed an order denying Belavia’s export privileges for a period of 180 days on the ground that issuance of the order was necessary in the public interest to prevent an imminent violation of the Regulations. The order was issued *ex parte* pursuant to Section 766.24(a) of the Regulations and was effective upon issuance.<sup>2</sup> The TDO was subsequently renewed on

<sup>1</sup> On August 13, 2018, the President signed into law the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, which includes the Export Control Reform Act of 2018, 50 U.S.C. 4801–4852 (“ECRA”). While section 1766 of ECRA repeals the provisions of the Export Administration Act, 50 U.S.C. app. 2401 *et seq.* (“EAA”), (except for three sections which are inapplicable here), section 1768 of ECRA provides, in pertinent part, that all orders, rules, regulations, and other forms of administrative action that were made or issued under the EAA, including as continued in effect pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.* (“IEEPA”), and were in effect as of ECRA’s date of enactment (August 13, 2018), shall continue in effect according to their terms until modified, superseded, set aside, or revoked through action undertaken pursuant to the authority provided under ECRA. Moreover, section 1761(a)(5) of ECRA authorizes the issuance of temporary denial orders. 50 U.S.C. 4820(a)(5).

<sup>2</sup> The TDO was published in the **Federal Register** on June 22, 2022 (87 FR 37309).

December 13, 2022<sup>3</sup> and again on June 7, 2023,<sup>4</sup> in accordance with Section 766.24(d) of the Regulations.<sup>5</sup>

On November 13, 2023, BIS, through OEE, submitted a written request for a third renewal of the TDO. The written request was made more than 20 days before the TDO’s scheduled expiration and, given the temporary suspension of international mail service to Russia and Belarusia, OEE has attempted to serve a copy of the renewal request on Belavia in accordance with sections 766.5 and 766.24(d) of the Regulations. No opposition to the renewal of the TDO has been received.

#### **II. Renewal of the TDO**

##### *A. Legal Standard*

Pursuant to section 766.24, BIS may issue an order temporarily denying a respondent’s export privileges upon a showing that the order is necessary in the public interest to prevent an “imminent violation” of the Regulations, or any order, license or authorization issued thereunder. 15 CFR 766.24(b)(1) and 766.24(d). “A violation may be ‘imminent’ either in time or degree of likelihood.” 15 CFR 766.24(b)(3). BIS may show “either that a violation is about to occur, or that the general circumstances of the matter under investigation or case under criminal or administrative charges demonstrate a likelihood of future violations.” *Id.* As to the likelihood of future violations, BIS may show that the violation under investigation or charge “is significant, deliberate, covert and/or likely to occur again, rather than technical or negligent[.]” *Id.* A “lack of information establishing the precise time a violation may occur does not preclude a finding that a violation is imminent, so long as there is sufficient reason to believe the likelihood of a violation.” *Id.*

If BIS believes that renewal of a denial order is necessary in the public interest to prevent an imminent violation, it may file a written request for renewal, with any modifications if appropriate. 15 CFR 766.24(d)(1). The written request, which must be filed no later than 20 days prior to the TDO’s expiration, should set forth the basis for BIS’s belief

<sup>3</sup> The December 13, 2022 renewal order was published in the **Federal Register** on December 19, 2022 (87 FR 77550).

<sup>4</sup> The June 7, 2023 renewal order was published in the **Federal Register** on June 13, 2023 (88 FR 38483).

<sup>5</sup> At the time of the renewal, section 766.24(d) provided that BIS may seek renewal of a temporary denial order for additional 180-day renewal periods, if it believes that renewal is necessary in the public interest to prevent an imminent violation.