

participating either virtually or in person will be able to provide comments verbally or in writing. A link to register to attend the public meeting virtually, via Zoom, is available at www.gsa.gov/Alcan. Members of the public may attend the meeting in person at Northway Community Center, Main Hall, 183 Circle Drive, Northway, AK 99764.

Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period may not be considered by GSA. All comments received are part of the public record. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. GSA will accept anonymous comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Aaron Evanson, Capital Project Manager, (206) 445-5876, AlcanLPOE@gsa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: GSA identified one action alternative that meets the stated purpose and need of the proposed project and thus has been analyzed in detail in the DEIS. GSA also analyzed a “No Action” alternative, which evaluates the effects that would occur if GSA continued to operate the LPOE under current conditions (i.e., the status quo).

Alternative 1 consists of expanding and modernizing the existing Alcan LPOE. Alternative 1 would include: land acquisition; site preparation and grading; construction of a new Main LPOE Building, enclosed inspection vehicle spaces, new housing units with improved security measures, a firing range, and a helipad; and demolition of the existing LPOE structures. Land acquisition under Alternative 1 would expand the port to include up to 2.5 acres of land south of and across the Alaska Highway from the existing LPOE.

All facility and infrastructure improvements proposed under Alternative 1 would incorporate a sustainable, climate-resilient, cyber-secure, and operationally efficient design. GSA would seek to meet or exceed energy and sustainability goals established by federal guidelines and policies, along with industry standard building codes and best practices.

Based on CBP and GSA design standards, the total enclosed building area required for the modernized Alcan LPOE and housing would be 129,145 square feet (sf) with an additional 3,820 sf of booths and canopies and 3,600 sf of outdoor parking and hard surfaces.

Alternative 1 would provide dual-purpose inspection lanes to allow for flexibility of inspection operations as well as enclosed spaces for secondary inspection of POVs and commercial vehicles. A modernized Main LPOE Building would also enhance the holding and interview capabilities of the Alcan LPOE to meet current CBP security standards.

There would be approximately 15 acres of temporary ground disturbance and 5 acres of permanent ground disturbance under Alternative 1. Approximately 5 acres would be used as a staging area during construction. There are currently 8 acres of impermeable surfaces at the LPOE; expansion and modernization would add an estimated 4 additional acres of impervious surfaces.

GSA and CBP are considering an option under Alternative 1 to pursue joint operation of the Alcan LPOE with the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA). CBSA and CBP officers would jointly operate the facility to conduct inspections of U.S. commercial vehicles and POVs entering Canada; however, no housing would be provided for CBSA officers at Alcan. This option would not affect the design or CBP staffing of the expanded and modernized Alcan LPOE, nor contribute additional environmental impacts under the action alternative, and hence is not analyzed further in the DEIS.

GSA also evaluated a No Action alternative, which assumes that expansion or modernization of the LPOE would not occur and that port operations would continue under current conditions. The No Action alternative does not meet the stated purpose and need of the proposed project.

Classification: The DEIS was prepared in compliance with the NEPA, as amended (42 United States Code [U.S.C.] *et seq.*), which requires federal agencies to examine the impacts of their proposed projects or actions on the human and natural environment and consider alternatives to the proposal before deciding on taking an action. The DEIS complies with the 2020 Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) NEPA regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] § 1500-1508), as modified by the Phase I 2022 revisions. The effective date of the 2022 revisions was May 20, 2022, and reviews that began after this date are required to apply the 2020 regulations as modified by the Phase I revisions unless there is a clear and fundamental conflict with an applicable statute. The DEIS effort began on January 10, 2023, and accordingly proceeds under the 2020 regulations as

modified by the Phase I revisions. In addition, the DEIS also complies with the GSA Public Buildings Service NEPA Desk Guide and other relevant federal and state laws and regulations and executive orders and integrates the consultation processes required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act with the NEPA process.

Anamarie Crawley,

Director, R10 Facilities Management Division, 10PM.

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OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS

Agency Information Collection Activities; Information Collection Renewal; Comment Request for OGE Form 278e Executive Branch Personnel Public Financial Disclosure Report

AGENCY: Office of Government Ethics (OGE).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: After this first round notice and public comment period, the Office of Government Ethics (OGE) plans to request that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) renew its approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act for a modified version of an existing information collection, entitled the OGE Form 278e Executive Branch Personnel Public Financial Disclosure Report.

DATES: Written comments by the public and agencies on the proposed modification and extension are invited and must be received by April 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted to OGE by any of the following methods:

Email: usoge@oge.gov (Include reference to “OGE Form 278e paperwork comment” in the subject line of the message.)

Mail: Office of Government Ethics, Attention: Jennifer Matis, Associate Counsel, 250 E Street SW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20024-3249.

Instructions: Comments may be posted on OGE’s website, www.oge.gov. Sensitive personal information, such as account numbers or Social Security numbers, should not be included. Comments generally will not be edited to remove any identifying or contact information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Matis at the U.S. Office of Government Ethics; telephone: 202-

482–9216; TTY: 800–877–8339; Email: jmatis@oge.gov. A copy of the form with proposed changes marked in red is available here: <https://oge.box.com/s/jca898wqy81ivy1gkcl8ydyoyup963b>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Executive Branch Personnel Public Financial Disclosure Report.

Agency Form Number: OGE Form 278e.

Abstract: The OGE Form 278e collects information from certain officers and high-level employees in the executive branch for conflicts of interest review and public disclosure. The form also collects information from individuals who are nominated by the President for high-level executive branch positions requiring Senate confirmation and individuals entering into and departing from other public reporting positions in the executive branch. The information is collected in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 13104 and OGE's implementing financial disclosure regulations at 5 CFR part 2634. The information collected relates to: assets and income; transactions; gifts, reimbursements and travel expenses; liabilities; agreements or arrangements; outside positions; and compensation over \$5,000 paid by a source—all subject to various reporting thresholds and exclusions.

OGE has approval for five versions of the Form 278e: a PDF version, an Excel version, an electronic version called *Integrity*, a Chinese language version, and a Spanish language version. The translated versions are intended to be informational only, to allow more members of the public to understand the content of filers' public reports. The version of the Form 278e that is produced by *Integrity* is a streamlined output report format that presents only the filer's inputs in given categories and does not report other categories not selected by the filer. It is this output report that is made available to the public in PDF form. Most public disclosure filers now use *Integrity* to file the OGE Form 278e. However, OGE also continues to maintain an Excel version of the form and a 508 compliant PDF version accessible to users who use screen readers to access and interact with digital information.

OGE seeks renewal of the OGE Form 278e with several modifications. OGE sought and received input from a variety of stakeholders before proposing these modifications. Comments submitted by the public in response to the **Federal Register** notices published during the last renewal in 2021 were reconsidered. In addition, OGE solicited and received additional comments from OGE employees, agency ethics officials (who

are the individuals responsible for reviewing the completed forms for potential conflicts of interest), interested Congressional offices, and the public. On January 19, 2023, OGE held a public meeting to discuss potential changes to the OGE Forms 450 and 278e and accepted written comments in lieu of appearing in-person. See 87 FR 73766 (Dec. 1, 2022).

OGE considered each comment submitted. The proposed modifications discussed below incorporate the suggested changes that OGE believes will provide added clarity and value to the financial disclosure process. OGE is declining to make other suggested changes at this time due to OGE's lack of regulatory authority to make such changes, lack of interest by the affected agencies, and/or the associated costs to *Integrity*.

The proposed modifications are described below. These changes apply to the English language versions of the form only; OGE will update its Spanish and Chinese instructional versions at a later date.

Changes to All English Versions (Excel, PDF, and Integrity)

OGE proposes to add a question for all filers regarding their type of appointment. The options offered are "PAS," "Non-Career," and "Career." The information may be provided by the filer or by their agency. This information will appear on the cover page. This change was requested by a good government group in order to help the public understand the filer's potential conflicts. One of the primary purposes of the public financial disclosure report is to allow the public to understand any potential conflicts of interest the filer might have. Knowing the filer's type of appointment is important to this understanding because different types of officials have different ethics requirements.

OGE also proposes to identify the date of appointment on the cover page of reports for all filers other than nominees (who have not yet been appointed at the time they complete the form). *Integrity* currently identifies the date of appointment on the cover page of a new entrant report only. The Excel and PDF versions currently have one field for both date of appointment and date of termination, which OGE proposes separating into two fields. The purpose is to benefit the public's understanding of the time period during which the individual was in a public filing position.

Lastly, OGE proposes to add a link to its online Public Financial Disclosure Guide, the most widely used resource

for completing and reviewing public financial disclosure reports.

Changes to the Excel and PDF Versions Only

OGE proposes instructional changes to the Excel and PDF versions to provide better guidance to those filers who do not use the *Integrity* application. OGE does not propose any changes to the information collected on the Excel and PDF versions of the form, beyond the addition of "appointment type" discussed above.

OGE proposes two changes to the initial instructions page to improve clarity: (1) changing the topic headings to plain language questions (e.g., changing "Late Filing" to "What Happens if I File Late?"); and (2) consolidating the guidance on which parts to complete into a new section headed "What Parts Must I Complete?"

In the rest of the instructions, OGE proposes to add clarifying guidance on reporting requirements, exceptions to reporting requirements, and definitions. OGE also proposes to add specific instructions to avoid reporting unnecessary personal information. Finally, OGE proposes to add a note indicating that the reporting thresholds for gifts are applicable for calendar years 2023–2025 and that the amounts are adjusted every three years.

OMB Control Number: 3209–0001.

Type of Information Collection: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Type of Review Request: Regular.

Affected Public: Private citizen Presidential nominees to executive branch positions subject to Senate confirmation; other private citizens who are potential (incoming) Federal employees whose positions are designated for public disclosure filing; those who file termination reports from such positions after their Government service ends; and Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates.

Estimated Annual Number of Respondents: 4,257.

Estimated Time per Response: 10 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 42,570 hours.

Request for Comments: OGE is publishing this first round notice of its intent to request paperwork clearance renewal for OGE Form 278e. Public comment is invited specifically on the need for and practical utility of this information collection, the accuracy of OGE's burden estimate, the enhancement of quality, utility and clarity of the information collected, and the minimization of burden (including the use of information technology). OGE

specifically seeks comments on whether the proposed changes will change the burden of completing the form. Comments received in response to this notice will be summarized for, and may be included with, the OGE request for extension of OMB paperwork approval. The comments will also become a matter of public record.

Approved: February 20, 2024.

Shelley K. Finlayson,
Acting Director, U.S. Office of Government Ethics.

[FR Doc. 2024-03814 Filed 2-23-24; 8:45 am]

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OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS

Agency Information Collection Activities; Information Collection Renewal; Comment Request for OGE Form 450 Executive Branch Confidential Financial Disclosure Report

AGENCY: Office of Government Ethics (OGE).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: After this first round notice and public comment period, the Office of Government Ethics (OGE) plans to request that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) renew its approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act for a modified version of an existing information collection, entitled the OGE Form 450 Executive Branch Confidential Financial Disclosure Report.

DATES: Written comments by the public and agencies on this proposed modification and extension are invited and must be received by April 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted to OGE by any of the following methods:

Email: usoge@oge.gov (Include reference to “OGE Form 450 paperwork comment” in the subject line of the message.)

Mail: Office of Government Ethics, Attention: Jennifer Matis, Associate Counsel, 250 E Street SW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20024-3249.

Instructions: Comments may be posted on OGE’s website, www.oge.gov. Sensitive personal information, such as account numbers or Social Security numbers, should not be included. Comments generally will not be edited to remove any identifying or contact information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Matis at the U.S. Office of Government Ethics; telephone: 202-

482-9216; TTY: 800-877-8339; Email: jmatis@oge.gov. A copy of the form with proposed changes marked in red is available here: <https://oge.box.com/s/vm33qroo5vbbvg542xr4mvqzacyz36fx>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Executive Branch Confidential Financial Disclosure Report.

Agency Form Number: OGE Form 450.

Abstract: The OGE Form 450 collects information from covered executive branch employees as required under OGE’s executive branch wide regulatory provisions in subpart I of 5 CFR part 2634. The basis for the OGE reporting regulation is section 201(d) of Executive Order 12674 of April 12, 1989 (as modified by Executive Order 12731 of October 17, 1990) and 5 U.S.C. 13109. The purpose of collecting this information is to allow agencies to identify and address potential financial conflicts of interest among covered employees. The information collected relates to: assets and income; liabilities; outside positions; agreements and arrangements; and gifts, reimbursements and travel expenses—all subject to various reporting thresholds and exclusions. OGE currently maintains the form in three formats on its website: a PDF version, a 508 compliant PDF version accessible to users who use screen readers to access and interact with digital information, and an Excel version.

OGE seeks renewal of the OGE Form 450 with several modifications. OGE sought and received input from a variety of stakeholders before proposing these modifications. Comments submitted by the public in response to the **Federal Register** notices published during the last renewal in 2021 were reconsidered. In addition, OGE solicited and received additional comments from OGE employees, agency ethics officials (who are the individuals responsible for reviewing the completed forms for potential conflicts of interest), interested Congressional offices, and the public. On January 19, 2023, OGE held a public meeting to discuss potential changes to the OGE Forms 450 and 278e and accepted written comments in lieu of appearing in-person. See 87 FR 73766 (Dec. 1, 2022).

OGE considered each comment submitted. The proposed modifications discussed below incorporate the suggested changes that OGE believes will provide added clarity and value to the financial disclosure process. OGE is declining to make other suggested changes at this time due to OGE’s lack of regulatory authority to make such changes, lack of interest by the affected

agencies, and/or the associated costs to agencies’ electronic financial disclosure filing systems.

The proposed modifications are described below:

On the instruction page, OGE simplified the navigation to OGE’s website for filers who need instructions on completing the form and added a hyperlink.

On the cover page, OGE proposes to delete the field for mailing address and to add a question regarding whether the filer has a spouse who has paid employment outside the federal government. The yes/no question would be added to the current list of yes/no questions. Filers are required by regulation to report their spouses’ employment income. In OGE’s listening sessions with agency ethics officials, they felt strongly that the addition of this yes/no question would permit agency reviewers to better identify potential inadvertent omissions elsewhere on the form. OGE believes that the minor impact to the filers of answering this additional yes/no question is outweighed by the benefit to the efficiency and effectiveness of the financial disclosure review process. OGE also clarified the definition of “special government employee” on the cover page based on feedback regarding the current explanatory language.

In the main body of the form, OGE proposes to make a number of changes to the instructions to increase their clarity. Guidance would be added to make it clearer what is and is not reportable. A note would be added indicating that the reporting thresholds for gifts are applicable for calendar years 2023–2025 and that the amounts are adjusted every three years. Additional examples would be added to the Examples page and each section, further demonstrating how particular information should be reported, and some definitions would be removed to make room for additional examples and other clarifying changes. The information that had been provided in the removed definitions is more clearly addressed on other parts of the form.

These changes would not modify the confidential financial disclosure reporting requirements in any way. They are intended to help ensure that filers report all required information in the proper manner, without overreporting unnecessary personally identifiable information.

Finally, OGE plans to discontinue use of the PDF version of the form that is not accessible to users who use screen readers (*i.e.* it is not “508 compliant”). This version has a feature that allows users to add additional blank pages.