

disaster for the State of North Carolina (FEMA–4827–DR), dated 09/28/2024.

Incident: Tropical Storm Helene.
Incident Period: 09/25/2024 and continuing.

DATES: Issued on 10/15/2024.

Physical Loan Application Deadline Date: 11/27/2024.

Economic Injury (EIDL) Loan Application Deadline Date: 06/30/2025.

ADDRESSES: Visit the MySBA Loan Portal at <https://lending.sba.gov> to apply for a disaster assistance loan.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Alan Escobar, Office of Disaster Recovery & Resilience, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street SW, Suite 6050, Washington, DC 20416, (202) 205–6734.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The notice of the President’s major disaster declaration for the State of North Carolina, dated 09/28/2024, is hereby amended to include the following areas as adversely affected by the disaster:

Primary Counties (Physical Damage and Economic Injury Loans): Cabarrus, Cherokee, Forsyth, Graham, Iredell, Lee, Nash, Rowan, Stanly, Surry, Union, Yadkin.

Contiguous Counties (Economic Injury Loans Only):

North Carolina: Anson, Chatham, Davidson, Davie, Edgecombe, Franklin, Guilford, Halifax, Harnett, Johnston, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond, Rockingham, Stokes, Wake, Warren, Wilson.

Tennessee: Monroe, Polk.

South Carolina: Chesterfield.

Virginia: Carroll, Patrick.

Georgia: Fannin.

All other information in the original declaration remains unchanged.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 59008)

Rafaela Monchek,

Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Disaster Recovery & Resilience.

[FR Doc. 2024–24396 Filed 10–21–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8026–09–P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Disaster Declaration #20720 and #20721; NORTH CAROLINA Disaster Number NC–20009]

Presidential Declaration Amendment of a Major Disaster for Public Assistance Only for the State of North Carolina

AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Amendment 1.

SUMMARY: This is an amendment of the Presidential declaration of a major

disaster for Public Assistance Only for the State of North Carolina (FEMA–4827–DR), dated 10/02/2024.

Incident: Tropical Storm Helene.
Incident Period: 09/25/2024 and continuing.

DATES: Issued on 10/15/2024.

Physical Loan Application Deadline Date: 12/02/2024.

Economic Injury (EIDL) Loan Application Deadline Date: 07/02/2025.

ADDRESSES: Visit the MySBA Loan Portal at <https://lending.sba.gov> to apply for a disaster assistance loan.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Alan Escobar, Office of Disaster Recovery & Resilience, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street SW, Suite 6050, Washington, DC 20416, (202) 205–6734.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The notice of the President’s major disaster declaration for Private Non-Profit organizations in the State of North Carolina, dated 10/02/2024, is hereby amended to include the following areas as adversely affected by the disaster.

Primary Counties: Swain.

All other information in the original declaration remains unchanged.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 59008)

Rafaela Monchek

Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Disaster Recovery & Resilience.

[FR Doc. 2024–24397 Filed 10–21–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8026–09–P

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

[Docket No: SSA–2024–0040]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request

The Social Security Administration (SSA) publishes a list of information collection packages requiring clearance by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in compliance with Public Law 104–13, the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, effective October 1, 1995. This notice includes two new collections for OMB approval, as well as revisions of OMB-approved information collections.

SSA is soliciting comments on the accuracy of the agency’s burden estimate; the need for the information; its practical utility; ways to enhance its quality, utility, and clarity; and ways to minimize burden on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Mail, email, or fax your comments and

recommendations on the information collection(s) to the OMB Desk Officer and SSA Reports Clearance Officer at the following addresses or fax numbers.

(OMB) Office of Management and Budget, Attn: Desk Officer for SSA (SSA) Social Security Administration, OLCA, Attn: Reports Clearance Director, Mail Stop 3253 Altmeyer, 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21235, Fax: 833–410–1631, Email address: OR.Reports.Clearance@ssa.gov

Or you may submit your comments online through <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain> by clicking on Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments and choosing to click on one of SSA’s published items. Please reference Docket ID Number [SSA–2024–0040] in your submitted response.

SSA submitted the information collections below to OMB for clearance. Your comments regarding these information collections would be most useful if OMB and SSA receive them 30 days from the date of this publication. To be sure we consider your comments, we must receive them no later than November 21, 2024. Individuals can obtain copies of these OMB clearance packages by writing to the OR.Reports.Clearance@ssa.gov.

1. *New Applicant Survey (NAS)—0960–NEW. Background:* The Social Security Administration (SSA) provides income assistance to more than 13 million working-age adults and children with disabilities through the Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) programs. To evaluate these respondents as they navigate SSA’s application process, we are implementing the New Applicant Survey (NAS). The objective of the New Applicant Survey (NAS) is to provide SSA’s Office of Research, Demonstration, and Employment Support (ORDES) with information about recent applicants’ experience at different stages or touchpoints in the disability application process. SSA will use findings from the survey to inform testable policy interventions to improve the application experience for applicant.

NAS Description: The primary goal of NAS is to help SSA improve our current application process through the use of feedback from the public who use it. The research questions and survey will allow SSA to evaluate current practices and improve upon them. Ultimately, we expect the purpose of this survey will help SSA to implement a better overall application experience for respondents, as they use SSA’s systems.

To provide information to SSA regarding applicants' experiences at the different touchpoints in the disability application process, SSA's evaluation will include the following analysis components:

Comparison of Characteristics:

Comparing characteristics of non-respondents (or the total sample) to those of respondents using information available for both non-respondents and respondents.

Modeling: Modeling response propensity using multivariate analyses, including observation and analysis of several outcome variables.

Evaluation of Differences:

Evaluating differences found in comparisons between unadjusted (i.e., base-) weighted estimates of selected sampling frame characteristics based on the survey respondents and the corresponding population (frame) parameter.

Comparison of Estimates:

Comparing weighted survey estimates (e.g., selected error rates by type) using unadjusted (base) weights versus nonresponse-adjusted weights.

We expect the NAS will help SSA answer the following research questions:

- What are the pre- and post-application employment experiences of awarded and denied SSDI and SSI applicants?

- What employment-, vocational-, medical-, or income-related services and supports did applicants use leading up to and since application?

- What sources of information about SSDI or SSI did the applicant use or have access to?

- What were the applicants' experiences with representation during the application or post-application periods?

SSA will conduct this survey with 10,000 respondents nationally. SSA will provide a list of recent adult applicants who have applied for Social Security disability benefits to the contractor to use for sample selection. To ensure that sampled applicants have recent experiences with the application process, we will restrict the target

population to those who have applied, appealed, or received a determination in the six months prior to sampling. The sample will include individuals to whom SSA awarded benefits (beneficiaries), those to whom SSA denied benefits, as well as applicants who remain at different stages of the application process.

For this survey, we will use the following methods for recruitment:

- SSA Announcement
- Email to Appointed Representative from Appointed Representative Associations
- Email to Appointed Representative (Directly)
- First USPS Mailing to All Applicants, which will include a small cash incentive of \$2, a letter, and an information sheet
- Second USPS Mailing to All Applicants
- Third USPS Mailing to Nonrespondents
- Fourth USPS Mailing to Nonrespondents
- Fifth contact introducing the telephone modality.

As part of recruitment, we will also conduct experiments regarding more cash incentives, invitations to complete the survey using multiple modalities (internet, paper, telephone), as well as an early-bird incentive.

The Survey Instrument: The survey asks questions that focus on the applicant's experience with different aspects of the application process. We will use it to collect data from 10,000 new applicants at different touchpoints in the application process to understand applicant experiences at each stage and obtain the information needed to address the research questions.

To accommodate respondent preferences, we will create three modalities of the survey instrument: internet-based, automated-telephone, and paper. The internet and telephone versions will have essentially the same design as these modalities, by using dynamic pathing. This will facilitate the automatic skipping of questions based on the respondents' earlier responses. We will include instructions and

formatting on the paper instrument which will also allow the respondents to skip questions based on previous responses; however, they will be able to see all of the questions (which is not the case on the internet and telephone versions).

The survey questions will focus on the following applicant experiences:

- Touchpoints in the application process completed and applicants' experience with the most recent touchpoints;
 - Use of appointed representatives;
 - Actions taken when applicants receive an unfavorable SSA decision;
 - Use of and experience with SSA services;
 - Recommendations for improvements to the application process;
 - Personal financial environment including use of assistance programs;
 - Personal support system; and
 - Demographic information.

SSA will use the information we collect from this survey to understand applicants' experiences at different stages in the application process, as well as the types of SSA services applicants accessed, and to evaluate changes to the application process that could potentially improve applicants' experience.

We will encourage respondents to complete the survey via the internet modality, but will not restrict them, or penalize respondents who choose a different method (paper or telephone). We will require informed consent for all participants.

Ultimately, we expect the survey will help SSA to implement a better overall application experience for respondents, as they use SSA's systems.

The respondents are current SSA beneficiaries who have undergone the application process; individuals to whom SSA denied benefits; applicants for Social Security services in various stages of the application process, and their representatives (as applicable).

Type of Request: Request for a new information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars)*	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars)**
Internet Survey (including informed consent and screener)	5,000	1	35	2,917	\$7.25	\$21,148
Paper Survey (including informed consent and screener)	3,500	1	35	2,280	7.25	16,530
Telephone Survey (including informed consent and screener)	1,500	1	40	1,000	7.25	7,250
Totals	10,000	.....	.....	6,197	.....	44,928

* We base this figure on the Federal minimum wage of \$7.25, as survey participants will have recently applied for SSA disability benefits and will typically not have started receiving benefits yet (<https://www.dol.gov/general/topic/wages/minimumwage>).

Note: Our contractor will schedule an appointment to call the recipient at their preferred date and time; therefore, the respondents will not incur an average wait time.

** This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

2. *Statutory Benefit Continuation Election Statement—20 CFR 404.1597a, and 416.996—0960–NEW.* Sections 223(g) and 1631(a)(7) of the Social Security Act (Act) provide that, when a disability Title II beneficiary or Title XVI recipient requests an appeal of a Social Security Administration’s (SSA) determination stating that their physical or mental impairment(s) ceased or is no longer disabling during a continuing disability review (CDR), the individual has the right to request disability benefits continue during their appeal. This process, known as Statutory Benefit Continuation (SBC), follows regulations set forth in 20 CFR 404.1597a(f) and 416.996(c–d) of the Code of Federal Regulations (Code). Currently, when SSA determines an individual’s disability ceased or is no longer disabling, SSA sends the individual a notice of benefit termination informing them within 10 days after receipt of the notice their disability benefits will end, and they must submit in writing, or use Form SSA–795, Statement of Claimant or Other Person (OMB No. 0960–0045), to complete a statement to elect or decline continuation of benefits. However, Form SSA–795 does not specifically address SBC elections, which often leads to

incomplete submissions for those cases. For SBC cases, SSA’s field office staff frequently need to follow-up with individuals to clarify their election or explain the available options. The SBC election is effective until SSA makes the determination or decision at the applicable appeal level. SSA requires the individual to make a separate election at each level of appeal, through the hearing level before an administrative law judge (ALJ). SBC is not available at the appeals council (AC) or federal court levels; however, if the AC remands a case back to the ALJ hearing level, and the individual did not previously elect SBC, SSA grants the individual another opportunity to make an SBC election at that time. If the individual elected SBC at a prior ALJ hearing level, the field office (FO) automatically reinstates SBC after the AC sends the case to the hearing office. The FO reinstates benefits retroactive to the first month of non-payment resulting from the now vacated prior ALJ decision. A claimant has two opportunities to elect SBC during the appeal process: (1) the claimant can request SBC when appealing at the reconsideration level and then again at the hearing level, and (2) the claimant

can request SBC at the hearing level only.

The following individuals are eligible for SCB: SSI recipients whose benefits are based on disability or blindness; primary disability insurance beneficiaries; auxiliaries receiving benefits on the record of a primary disability beneficiary, disabled widow or widowers, disabled adult children; mothers or fathers receiving benefits based on having a disabled adult child in their care, and mothers or fathers receiving benefits based on having in their care a child under age 18 but over age 15 who is disabled and receiving child’s benefits.

SSA is requesting OMB approval of Form SSA–792, Statutory Benefit Continuation Election Statement to standardize our collection of an individual’s benefit continuation election choice. Form SSA–792 will allow the individual to elect from a variety of options available to them for continued disability benefits and Medicare coverage. The respondents are Title II and Title XVI disability beneficiaries and recipients and Title II auxiliaries.

Type of Request: Request for a new information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars)*	Average wait time in field office (minutes)**	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars)***
Reconsideration Appeal Level: Form SSA–792	60,038	1	40	40,025	* \$22.39	** 24	*** \$1,433,856
Hearing Appeal Level: Form SSA–792	17,107	1	40	11,405	* 22.39	** 24	*** 408,573
Totals	77,145	.....	.....	51,430	.....	.....	*** 1,842,429

* We based this figure on the average of both DI payments based on SSA’s current FY 2024 data (<https://mwww.ba.ssa.gov/legislation/2024FactSheet.pdf>), and U.S. worker’s hourly wages, as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data (https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm).

** We based this figure on averaging the average FY 2024 wait times for field offices, based on SSA’s current management information data.

*** This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

3. *Disability Report-Appeal—20 CFR 404.1512, 416.912, 404.916(c), 416.1416(c), 422.140, 404.1713, 416.1513, 404.1740(b)(4), 416.1540(b)(4), and 405 Subpart C—0960–0144.* SSA requires disability applicants who wish to appeal an unfavorable determination to complete Form SSA–3441–BK; the associated Electronic Disability Collect System (EDCS) interview; or the internet application, i3441. This allows claimants to disclose any changes to their disability, or resources, which might influence SSA’s unfavorable

determination. SSA may use the information to: (1) reconsider and review an initial disability determination; (2) review a continuing disability; and (3) evaluate a request for a hearing. This information assists the State Disability Determination Services (DDS) and ALJ in preparing for the appeals and hearings, and in issuing a determination or decision on an individual’s entitlement (initial or continuing) to disability benefits. In addition, the information we collect on the SSA–3441–BK, or related modalities, facilitates SSA’s collection

of medical information to support the applicant’s request for reconsideration; request for benefits cessation appeal; and request for a hearing before an ALJ. Respondents are individuals who appeal denial, reduction, or cessation of Social Security disability benefits and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments; individuals who wish to request a hearing before an ALJ; or their representatives.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars)*	Average wait time in field office (minutes)**	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars)***
SSA-3441-BK (Paper Form)	24,645	1	50	20,538	*\$13.31	.....	***\$273,361
Electronic Disability Collect System (EDCS)—Individuals	159,971	1	50	133,309	* 13.31	** 24	*** 2,626,023
Electronic Disability Collect System (EDCS)—Representatives	44,192	1	45	33,144	* 58.40	.....	*** 1,935,610
i3441 (Internet Application)—Individuals	696,896	1	33	383,293	* 13.31	.....	*** 5,101,630
i3441 (Internet Application)—Representatives	583,031	1	28	272,081	* 58.40	.....	*** 15,889,530
Totals	1,508,735	.....	.....	842,365	.....	.....	*** 25,826,154

*We based these figures on average DI hourly wages for single students based on SSA's current FY 2024 data (<https://mwww.ba.ssa.gov/legislation/2024FactSheet.pdf>) and average U.S. citizen's hourly salary, as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data (<https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes231011.htm>), as well as a combination of those two figures (for the paper form, as we do not collect data on whether the paper forms are filled out by individuals or representatives or both).

**We based this figure on the average FY 2024 wait times for field offices, and the average teleservice wait time based on SSA's current management information data.

***This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

4. Request for 800# Automated Telephone Services Knowledge-Based Authentication (RISA-KBA)—20 CFR 401.45—0960-0596. The Request for 800# Automated Telephone Services Knowledge-Based Authentication is the knowledge-based authentication method SSA uses to allow individuals access to their personal information through our Automated Telephone Services. SSA's

system asks requestors using the automated telephone services to provide additional identifying information unique to those individuals so SSA can authenticate their identities before releasing personal information. The system requests this unique identifying information to authenticate both individuals and third parties who use our automated telephone system to seek

personal information from SSA records, or to make changes to SSA records. The respondents are current beneficiaries, or third parties who use the automated telephone system to request personal information from SSA.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars)*	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars)**
Automated Telephone Requestors	1,716,315	1	4	114,421	*\$31.48	**\$3,601,973

*We based these figures on average U.S. citizen's hourly salary, as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data (<https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes231011.htm>)

**This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

5. Prohibition of Payment of SSI Benefits to Fugitive Felons and Parole/ Probation Violators—20 CFR 416.708(o)—0960-0617. Section 1611(e)(4) of the Act precludes eligibility for SSI payments for certain fugitives and probation or parole violators. Our regulation at 20 CFR 416.708(o) requires individuals applying for, or receiving SSI to report to SSA that: (1) they are fleeing to avoid

prosecution for a crime; (2) they are fleeing to avoid custody or confinement after conviction of a crime; or (3) they are violating a condition of probation or parole. SSA uses the information we receive to determine eligibility on an initial claim for SSI payments or a redetermination of existing recipients. The collection is mandatory to ensure that an applicant or recipient does not have a warrant for one of the three

fleeing codes. If the respondent has a warrant for one of the three fleeing codes, SSA uses this information to deny payments. The respondents are SSI applicants and recipients, or their representative payees, who are reporting their status as a fugitive felon or probation or parole violator.

Type of Request: Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars)*	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars)**
Fugitive Felon and Parole or Probation Violation screens within the SSI Claims System	1,000	1	1	17	\$31.48*	\$535**

*We based this figure on average U.S. worker's hourly wages, as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data (https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm#00-0000).

**This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

6. Testimony by Employees and the Production of Records and Information

in Legal Proceedings—20 CFR 403.100–403.155—0960-0619. Regulations at 20

CFR 403.100–403.155 of the Code establish SSA's policies and procedures

for an individual; organization; or government entity to request official agency information, records, or testimony of an agency employee in a legal proceeding when the agency is not a party. The request, which respondents submit in writing to SSA, must: (1) fully

set out the nature and relevance of the sought testimony; (2) explain why the information is not available by other means; (3) explain why it is in SSA's interest to provide the testimony; and (4) provide the date, time, and place for the testimony. Respondents are

individuals or entities who request testimony from SSA employees in connection with a legal proceeding.

Type of Request: Extension of an OMB-approved information collection.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars) *	Total annual opportunity cost (dollars)**
20 CFR 403.100–403.155	50	1	60	50	*\$31.48	**\$1,574

* We based this figure on the average U.S. worker's mean hourly wages, as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data (https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm#00-0000).

** This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

Dated October 17, 2024.

Tasha Harley,

Acting Reports Clearance Officer, Social Security Administration.

[FR Doc. 2024–24391 Filed 10–21–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4191–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 12568]

Notice of Public Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Responsible Business Conduct

SUMMARY: This notice announces the public meeting of the Advisory Committee on Responsible Business Conduct (RBC Advisory Committee) on November 14, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Emily Santor, Foreign Affairs Analyst, telephone: 202–679–5368, email: RBCAdvisoryCommittee@state.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The RBC Advisory Committee will meet in a hybrid meeting on November 14, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to hear, deliberate, and vote on the preliminary recommendations of its subcommittees: the Subcommittee on the U.S. National Contact Point for the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the Subcommittee on National Action Plan Implementation, and the Subcommittee on Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence.

Members of the public wishing to participate must register by 11:59 p.m. ET November 6, 2024, via email to RBCAdvisoryCommittee@state.gov, with the subject line “Registration.” To register, please include your name, title, affiliation, and the email you will use to access the meeting. The Department will

provide login information prior to the meeting. Meeting minutes and future recommendation reports will be available to the public at the RBC Advisory Committee website and the RBC Advisory Committee page of the FACA Database.

Public comments and requests for accommodation can be sent to RBCAdvisoryCommittee@state.gov and must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. ET on November 11, 2024. The subject line for comment submissions should include “Public Comment.” During this meeting, there will not be an option for members of the public to make oral statements. Requests for reasonable accommodation should be submitted with the subject line “Accommodations Request.” Reasonable accommodation requests received after the submission deadline will be considered but may not be possible to fulfill.

(Authority: 5 U.S.C. 1001 *et seq.* and 5 U.S.C. 552)

Jordyn E. Arndt,

Senior Foreign Affairs Officer, Office of Multilateral and Global Affairs, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 2024–24460 Filed 10–21–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710–18–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Buy America Waiver Notification

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice provides information regarding FHWA's finding that it is appropriate to grant a non-availability Buy America waiver to the

Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) for procurement and installation of 16 suspended explosive charge remote avalanche control systems (RACS), which contain non-domestic iron and steel components, along Mount Superior overlooking SR–210 in Little Cottonwood Canyon, Utah. The waiver relates specifically to iron and steel components that are part of the tower, deployment box, and charges of the RACS.

DATES: The effective date of the waiver October 23, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions about this notice, please contact Mr. Brian Hogge, FHWA Office of Infrastructure, (202) 366–1562, or via email at Brian.Hogge@dot.gov. For legal questions, please contact Mr. David Serody, FHWA Office of the Chief Counsel, (202) 366–1345, or via email at David.Serody@dot.gov. Office hours for FHWA are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Access

An electronic copy of this document may be downloaded from the **Federal Register's** home page at: www.FederalRegister.gov and the U.S. Government Publishing Office's database at: www.GovInfo.gov.

Background

The FHWA's Buy America requirements for steel and iron are set forth at 23 U.S.C. 313 and 23 CFR 635.410 and require that all steel and iron that are permanently incorporated into a Federal-aid project must be produced in the United States unless a waiver is granted, including predominantly steel and iron components of a manufactured