

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 89, No. 225

Thursday, November 21, 2024

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments are requested regarding; whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding this information collection received by December 23, 2024 will be considered. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it

displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Foreign Agricultural Service

Title: USDA Trade Missions and Trade Shows.

OMB Control Number: 0551-0050.

Summary of Collection: Under 7 U.S.C. 1761 Foreign Market Development; 7 U.S.C. 5693 Export Promotion—Foreign Agricultural; 7 U.S.C. 1765b Function of the US Agricultural Trade; and Section 12602 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Pub. L. 113-79) (The Act), as amended by the Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018 (Pub. L. 115-334), authorizes the USDA Secretary to collect information regarding customer and consumer feedback by gathering more useful information to further program objectives for USDA Trade Mission and Shows Events. The agency will use five instruments to collect this feedback: (1) Trade Mission Application; (2) Trade Missions (Post-Event) Survey; (3) USDA-Endorsed Trade Shows (Post-Event) Survey; (4) Virtual Trade Event Application; (5) Virtual Trade Events (Post-Event) Survey.

Need and Use of the Information: USDA will use the information gathered to implement effective trade promotion events and ensure that program objectives are met. The three voluntary post-event digital surveys for participants to report their satisfaction with the event and actual on-site and projected sales data as a direct result of their participation in the program. This information will be used to measure the benefits of these activities for participants, participant satisfaction with the activities, and how activities can be improved. All revised surveys are expected to positively contribute to FAS' strategic goals related to promoting U.S. agricultural exports.

Description of Respondents: Affected Public: Business or other-for-profit; State, Local or Tribal Government; Respondent Types: private companies, agricultural cooperatives, and export trade associations; State Regional Trade Groups.

Number of Respondents: 2,300.

Frequency of Responses: Record keeping, Reporting: Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 444.

Rachelle Ragland-Greene,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024-27335 Filed 11-20-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

[Docket #: RBS-24-BUSINESS-0010]

Amended Notice of Solicitation of Applications for the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Programs for Fiscal Year 2025

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; lowering maximum loan amount.

SUMMARY: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBCS or Agency), a Rural Development (RD) agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), invited applications for loans and grants under the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Programs (REDLG or Programs) for fiscal year (FY) 2025, subject to the availability of funding on August 23, 2024. The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBCS or Agency) now announces that the maximum loan amount awarded for applications competing in the Second, Third, and Fourth Quarter funding cycles of fiscal year (FY) 2025 will be lowered to \$1 million.

DATES: The following are the deadlines for FY 2025 complete loan applications to be received in the USDA Rural Development State Office no later than 4:30 p.m. (local time): Second Quarter, December 31, 2024; Third Quarter, March 31, 2025; and Fourth Quarter, June 30, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Applications must be submitted in paper or electronically to the RD State Office for the state where the project is located. A list of the RD State Office contacts can be found at: www.rd.usda.gov/about-rd/state-offices. This notice will also be announced at www.grants.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cindy Mason at cindy.mason@usda.gov, Program Management Division, Business Programs, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, U.S. Department of

Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Stop 3226, Room 5160-South, Washington, DC 20250-3226, or call (202) 720-1400. For further information on this program, please contact the Rural Development State office in the state which the applicant's headquarters is located. A list of Rural Development State Office contacts is provided at the following link: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/contact-us/state-offices>. The Rural Development office for the state in which the applicant is located. A list of Rural Development State Office contacts is provided at the following link: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/contact-us/state-offices>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: RBCS published a Notice of Solicitation of Applications for the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Programs for FY 2025 on August 23, 2024, (89 FR 68133) Section B states that: "The Agency anticipates the following maximum amounts per award: Loans—\$2,000,000; Grants—\$300,000."

Based on the total amount of loan applications submitted in FY 2024 far exceeding the available allocated funds and the number of submitted but unfunded applications that will be competing for funding in the First Quarter of FY 2025, the Agency has determined that lowering the maximum loan amount to \$1 million for the Second, Third, and Fourth Quarter application periods would allow for additional project opportunities and a broader geographic distribution of Program funding.

The following are the deadlines for FY 2025 complete loan applications to be received in the USDA Rural Development State Office no later than 4:30 p.m. (local time): Second Quarter, December 31, 2024; Third Quarter, March 31, 2025; and Fourth Quarter, June 30, 2025. Completed loan applications that exceed \$1 million but are not funded in the FY 2025 First Quarter competition will be allowed to compete for Second Quarter funding with the submission of a revised scope of work plan and budget for a loan amount not to exceed \$1 million.

Kathryn E. Dirksen Londrigan,

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

[FR Doc. 2024-27264 Filed 11-20-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XY-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Economic Development Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDs)

AGENCY: Economic Development Administration, 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 January 21, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments by mail to Jeff Roberson, Chief Counsel, U.S. Department of Commerce, via email at jroberson@eda.gov or via phone at (202) 482-1315. You may also submit comments to PRAcomments@doc.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number 0610-0093 in the subject line of your comments. 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 Interested persons are invited to submit written comments by mail to Jeff Roberson, Chief Counsel, U.S. Department of Commerce, via email at jroberson@eda.gov or via phone at (202) 482-1315.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) leads the Federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy. Guided by the basic principle that sustainable economic development should be locally-driven, EDA works directly with

communities and regions to help them build the capacity for economic development based on local business conditions and needs. The Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 (PWEDA) (42 U.S.C. 3121 *et seq.*) is EDA's organic authority and is the primary legal authority under which EDA awards financial assistance. Under PWEDA, EDA provides financial assistance to both rural and urban distressed communities by fostering entrepreneurship, innovation, and productivity through investments in infrastructure development, capacity building, and business development to attract private capital investments and new and better jobs to regions experiencing economic distress. Further information on EDA programs and financial assistance opportunities can be found at www.eda.gov.

To effectively administer and monitor its economic development assistance programs, EDA collects certain information from applications for, and recipients of, EDA investment assistance. The purpose of this notice is to seek comments from the public and other Federal agencies on a request for an extension of an information collection related to a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs). A CEDs emerges from a continuing planning process developed and driven by a public sector planning organization by engaging a broad-based and diverse set of stakeholders to address the economic problems and potential of a region. The CEDs should include information about how and to what extent stakeholder input and support was solicited. Information on how the planning organization collaborated with its diverse set of stakeholders (including the public sector, private interests, non-profits, educational institutions, and community organizations) in the development of the CEDs should be included. In accordance with 13 CFR 303.7(b), a CEDs must contain a summary background, a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) Analysis, Strategic Direction/Action Plan, and an Evaluation Framework. In addition, the CEDs must incorporate the concept of economic resilience (*i.e.*, the ability to avoid, withstand, and recover from economic shifts, natural disasters, etc.). A CEDs is required for an eligible applicant to qualify for an EDA investment assistance under EDA's Public Works program, Economic Adjustment Assistance program, and certain planning programs, and is a prerequisite for a region's designation