DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Employee Benefits and Security Administration

Proposed Extension of Information Collection Request; Comment Request; 29 CFR 2550.408b–1

AGENCY: Employee Benefits Security Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA 95) 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A). This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Employee Benefits Security Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the information collection provisions of the regulation relating to loans to plan participants and beneficiaries that are parties in interest with respect to the plan (29 CFR 2550.408b–1).

A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the individual listed in the ADDRESSES section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office shown in the ADDRESSES section on or before July 26, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Gerald B. Lindrew, Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20210, (202) 693–8410, FAX (202) 219–5333. (These are not toll-free numbers.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
I. Background
The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) prohibits a fiduciary with respect to a plan from causing the plan to engage in the direct or indirect lending of money or other extension of credit between the plan and a party in interest. ERISA section 408(b)(1) exempts loans made by a plan to parties in interest who are participants and beneficiaries of the plan from this prohibition provided that certain requirements are satisfied. In final regulations published in the Federal Register on July 20, 1989 (54 FR 30520), the Department of Labor provided additional guidance on section 408(b)(1)(C), which requires that loans must be made in accordance with specific provisions set forth in the plan. This ICR relates to the specific provisions that must be included in plan documents for those plans that permit loans to participants.

II. Review Focus
The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments that:
• Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
• Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
• Enhance the quality, utility, and clarify the information to be collected; and
• 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, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

III. Current Actions
This notice requests comments on the extension of the ICR included in 29 CFR 2550.408b–1. The ICR ensures that participants and beneficiaries are provided with adequate information with respect to matters affecting their benefits. The Department is not proposing or implementing changes to the existing ICR at this time.

Type of Review: Extension.
Agency: Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor.
Title: Regulation Relating to Loans to Plan Participants and Beneficiaries who are Parties in Interest with Respect to the Plan.

OMB Number: 1210–0076.
Affected Public: Business or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions, individuals.

Total Respondents: 1,400.
Frequency: On occasion.
Total Responses: 1,400.
Average Time Per Response: 3 hours.
Estimated Total Burden Hours: 0.
Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): $348,600.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.


Gerald B. Lindrew,
Deputy Director, Office of Policy and Research, Employee Benefits Security Administration.

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BILLING CODE 4910–29–P

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: NARA is giving public notice that the agency has submitted to OMB for approval the information collection described in this notice. The public is invited to comment on the proposed information collection pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to OMB at the address below on or before June 24, 2004 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be electronically mailed to: Jonathan_P_Womer@omb.eop.gov; or faxed to 202–395–5806, Attn: Mr Jonathan Womer, Desk Officer for NARA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the proposed information collection and supporting statement should be directed to Tamee Fechhelm at telephone number 301–837–1694 or fax number 301–837–3213.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13), NARA invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed information collections. NARA published a notice of proposed collection for this information collection on March 2, 2004 (69 FR 9854 and 9855). No comments were received. NARA has submitted the described information collection to OMB for approval.

In response to this notice, comments and suggestions should address one or more of the following points: (a) Whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of NARA; (b) the accuracy of NARA’s estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of information technology. In this notice, NARA is soliciting comments concerning the following information collection:

Title: Microfilm Rental Order Form.
OMB number: 3095–NEW.
Agency form number: NA Form 14127.
Type of review: Regular.
Affected public: Individuals or households.
Estimated number of respondents: 5,200.
Estimated time per response: 10 minutes.
Frequency of response: On occasion.
Estimated total annual burden hours: 867 hours.

Abstract: The NARA microfilm publications provide ready access to records for research in a variety of fields including history, economics, political science, law, and genealogy. NARA emphasizes microfilming groups of records relating to the same general subject or to a specific geographic area. For example, the decennial population censuses from 1790 to 1930 and their related indexes are available on microfilm. Census records constitute the vast majority of microfilmed records available currently through the rental program.


L. Reynolds Cahoon,
Assistant Archivist for Human Resources and Information Services.

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Submission for OMB review; comment request.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) has submitted the following information collection requirement to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. This is the second notice for public comment; the first was published in the Federal Register at 69 FR 9386, and no comments were received. NSF is forwarding the proposed renewal submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance simultaneously with the publication of this second notice. Comments regarding (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) 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 should be addressed to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for National Science Foundation, 725–17th Street, NW., Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, and to Suzanne H. Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 295, Arlington, Virginia 22230 or send e-mail to splimpto@nsf.gov.

Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling 703–292–7556.

NSF 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. Under OMB regulations, NSF may continue to conduct or sponsor the collection of information while this submission is pending at OMB.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Title: Antarctic Conservation Act Application and Permit Form.
OMB Control Number: 3145–0034.
Proposed Project: The current Antarctic Conservation Act Application