

# Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 85, No. 228

Wednesday, November 25, 2020

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

### Office of the Secretary

#### Notice of Request for Extension or Renewal of a Currently Approved Information Collection

**AGENCY:** Office of Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (OASCR) to request a renewal to an approved information collection. OASCR will use the information collected to process Respondents' program discrimination complaints conducted or assisted by USDA.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by January 25, 2021 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights invites interested persons to submit comments on this notice. Comments may be submitted by one of the following methods:

*Federal eRulemaking Portal:* This website provides the ability to type short comments directly into the comment field on this web page or attach a file for lengthier comments. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the on-line instructions at that site for submitting comments.

*Mail, including CD-ROMs, etc.:* Send to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 9407, Washington, DC 20250.

*Hand or Courier-Delivered Submittals:* Deliver to 355 E Street SW, Room 7-205, Washington, DC 20024.

*Instructions:* All items submitted by mail or electronic mail must include the

Agency name, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights. Comments received in response to this docket will be made available for public inspection and posted without change, including any personal information, to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

*Docket:* For access to background documents or comments received, go to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights at 1400 Independence Avenue SW, 507-A, Washington, DC 20250 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Denise A. Banks, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250, (202) 401-7654 and fax number (202) 690-1782.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this notice announces the intention of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights to request approval for an existing collection in use with an OMB control number.

*Title:* USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form.

*OMB Number:* OMB No. 0508-0002.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* December 31, 2020.

*Type of Request:* Extension and renewal of a currently approved information collection.

*Abstract:* Under 7 CFR 15.6, "Any person who believes himself/herself or any specific class of individuals to be subjected to discrimination [in any USDA assisted program or activity] \* \* \* may by himself/herself or by an authorized representative file \* \* \* a written complaint." Under 7 CFR 15d.5, "Any person who believes that he or she (or any specific class of individuals) has been, or is being, subjected to [discrimination in any USDA conducted program or activity] \* \* \* may file on his or her own, or through an authorized representative, a written complaint alleging such discrimination." The collection of this information is an avenue by which the individual or his representative may file such a program discrimination complaint.

The requested information, which can be submitted by filling out a form or by submitting a letter, is necessary for USDA OASCR to address the alleged discriminatory action. The Respondent

is asked to state his/her name, mailing address, property address (if different from mailing address), telephone number, email address (if any) and to provide a name and contact information for the Respondent's representative (if any). A brief description of who was involved with the alleged discriminatory action, what occurred and when, is requested. If the Respondent is filing the program discrimination complaint more than 180 days after the alleged discrimination occurred, the Respondent is asked to provide the reason for the delay.

Finally, the Respondent is asked to identify which bases are alleged to have motivated the discriminatory action. The form explains that laws and regulations prohibit on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), disability, religion, sexual orientation, marital or familial status, or because all or part of the individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, but that not all bases apply to all programs. The program discrimination complaint filing information, which is voluntarily provided by the Respondent, will be used by the staff of USDA OASCR to intake, investigate, resolve, and/or adjudicate the Respondent's complaint. The program discrimination complaint form will enable OASCR to better collect information from complainants in a timely manner, therefore, reducing delays and errors in determining USDA jurisdiction.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average one hour per response.

*Respondents:* Producers, applicants, and USDA customers.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 278.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 278.

Comments are invited on: (1) 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; (2) 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; (3)

ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All comments received will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the same address.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

**Devon Westhill,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights.*

[FR Doc. 2020-26088 Filed 11-24-20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-18-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### South Central Idaho Resource Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of virtual meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The South Central Idaho Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will hold a virtual meeting. The committee is authorized under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (the Act) and operates in compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The purpose of the committee is to improve collaborative relationships and to provide advice and recommendations to the Forest Service concerning projects and funding consistent with Title II of the Act. RAC information can be found at the following website: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/sawtooth/workingtogether>.

**DATES:** The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 10, 2020.

All RAC meetings are subject to cancellation. For status of the meeting prior to attendance, please contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held with virtual attendance only. For virtual meeting information, please contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Written comments may be submitted as described under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. All comments, including names and addresses when provided, are placed in the record and are

available for public inspection and copying. The public may inspect comments received at the Jerome Office for the Sawtooth National Forest. Please call ahead at to facilitate entry into the building.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Julie Thomas, RAC Coordinator, by phone at 208-423-7500 or via email at [julie.thomas@usda.gov](mailto:julie.thomas@usda.gov).

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of the meeting is to:

1. Present project proposals; and
2. Discuss, recommend, and approve new Title II projects.

The meeting is open to the public. The agenda will include time for people to make oral statements of three minutes or less. Individuals wishing to make an oral statement should request in writing by December 1, 2020, to be scheduled on the agenda. Anyone who would like to bring related matters to the attention of the committee may file written statements with the committee staff before or after the meeting. Written comments and requests for time for oral comments must be sent to Julie Thomas, RAC Coordinator, 370 American Avenue, Jerome, Idaho 83338; by email to [julie.thomas@usda.gov](mailto:julie.thomas@usda.gov), or via facsimile to 208-423-7510.

**Meeting Accommodations:** If you are a person requiring reasonable accommodation, please make requests in advance for sign language interpreting, assistive listening devices, or other reasonable accommodation. For access to the proceedings, please contact the person listed in the section titled **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. All reasonable accommodation requests are managed on a case-by-case basis.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** All reasonable accommodation requests are managed on a case-by-case basis.

Dated: November 20, 2020.

**Cikena Reid,**

*USDA Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2020-26069 Filed 11-24-20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3411-15-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Business-Cooperative Service

[Docket No. RBS-20-BUSINESS-0037]

#### Inviting Applications for the Rural Energy for America Program

**AGENCY:** Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of solicitation of applications.

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (the Agency) Notice of Solicitation of Applications (NOSA) is being issued prior to passage of a final appropriations act to allow potential applicants time to submit applications for financial assistance under Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) for Federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 and give the Agency time to process applications within the current FY. This NOSA is being issued prior to enactment of full year appropriation for FY 2021. The Agency anticipates publishing a final rule for REAP later this year which will conform in part to the OneRD Guaranteed loan provisions published in the **Federal Register** on July 14, 2020 and will outline provisions as prescribed by the Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018 (Pub. L. 115-334), (2018 Farm Bill). It is the Agency's intention that the final REAP rule will codify REAP scoring criteria as outlined in this NOSA. All REAP applications competing for FY 2021 funding will be scored according to the scoring criteria listed in this NOSA. Applicants who have already filed REAP applications for FY 2021 will be allowed to provide additional information necessary for application scoring, and the modification will not be treated as a new application nor will it alter the submission date of record as noted in 4280.110(e). The Agency will publish the amount of funding received in any continuing resolution or the final appropriations act on its website at <https://www.rd.usda.gov/newsroom/notices-solicitation-applications-nosas>. Expenses incurred in developing applications will be at the applicant's risk.

The REAP program has two types of funding assistance: (1) Renewable Energy Systems, Energy Efficiency Improvements and Energy Efficient Equipment and Systems Assistance and (2) Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance Grants.

The Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvement Assistance provides grants and guaranteed loans to agricultural producers and rural small businesses to purchase and install renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements to their operations. The Energy Efficient Equipment and Systems Assistance provisions were prescribed by the 2018 Farm Bill and provide guaranteed loans only to agricultural producers to purchase and install energy efficient equipment and systems for agricultural production and