

Dated: February 13, 2004.

**Wanda J. Rogers,**

*Assistant Commissioner, Financial Operations, Financial Management Service.*

[FR Doc. 04-3875 Filed 2-23-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-35-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Notice 2004-11

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

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

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Notice 2004-11, Research Credit Record Retention Agreements.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before April 26, 2004 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Glenn P. Kirkland, Internal Revenue Service, room 6411, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of notice should be directed to Carol Savage at Internal Revenue Service, room 6407, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224, or at (202) 622-3945, or through the internet at [CAROL.A.SAVAGE@irs.gov](mailto:CAROL.A.SAVAGE@irs.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Research Credit Record Retention Agreements.

*OMB Number:* 1545-1859.

*Notice Number:* Notice 2004-11.

*Abstract:* Notice 2004-11 announces a pilot program in which the Internal Revenue Service and large and mid-size business taxpayers may enter into research credit recordkeeping agreements (RCRAs). If the taxpayer complies with the terms of the RCRA, the Service will deem the taxpayer to satisfy the recordkeeping requirements of section 6001 for purposes of the credit for increasing research activities under section 41 of the Internal Revenue Code.

*Current Actions:* There are no changes being made to the notice at this time.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 65.

*Estimated Average Time Per*

*Respondent:* 18 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden*

*Hours:* 1,170.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

*Request for Comments:* Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (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 respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: February 17, 2004.

**Glenn P. Kirkland,**

*IRS Reports Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 04-3995 Filed 2-23-04; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

[TD 8223, TD 8432, and TD 8657]

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

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

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13(44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning existing final and temporary regulations, TD 8223, Branch Tax; TD 8432, Branch Profits Tax; and TD 8657, Regulations on Effectively Connected Income and the Branch Profits Tax (§§ 1.884-1, 1.884-2, 1.884-2T, 1.884-4, 1.884-5).

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before April 26, 2004 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Glenn Kirkland, Internal Revenue Service, room 6411, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the regulations should be directed to Larnice Mack at Internal Revenue Service, room 6407, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224, or at (202)622-3179, or through the internet at ([Larnice.Mack@irs.gov](mailto:Larnice.Mack@irs.gov)).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* TD 8223, Branch Tax; TD 8432, Branch Profits Tax; and TD 8657, Regulations on Effectively Connected Income and the Branch Profits Tax.

*OMB Number:* 1545-1070. Regulation Project Number: TD 8223, TD 8432, and TD 8657.

*Abstract:* These regulations provide guidance on how to comply with Internal Revenue Code section 884, which imposes a tax on the earnings of a foreign corporation's branch that are removed from the branch and which subjects interest paid by the branch, and certain interest deducted by the foreign corporation, to tax.

*Current Actions:* There is no change to these existing regulations.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 28,500.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent:* 27 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 12,694.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to