

Issued in Washington, DC.

**John Karl Alexy,**

*Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,  
Chief Safety Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket No. FRA-2020-0027-N-18]

#### Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), this notice announces that FRA is forwarding the Information Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The ICR describes the information collection and its expected burden. On May 29, 2020, FRA published a notice providing a 60-day period for public comment on the ICR.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before October 2, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed ICR should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular ICR by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Kim Toone, Information Collection Clearance Officer, Office of Administration, Office of Information Technology, Federal Railroad Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590 (telephone: (202) 493-6132).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501-3520, and its implementing regulations, 5 CFR part 1320, require Federal agencies to issue two notices seeking public comment on information collection activities before OMB may approve paperwork packages. See 44 U.S.C. 3506, 3507; 5 CFR 1320.8 through 1320.12. On May 29, 2020, FRA published a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** soliciting comment on the ICR for which it is now seeking OMB approval. See 85 FR 32440. FRA received one comment from Rio Metro

Regional Transit Authority suggesting that the current grant application be improved to eliminate redundancies. It recommended that FRA capture from applicants additional information in the project narrative so that the Statement of Work (SOW) can be eliminated. After careful consideration, FRA determined that this recommendation could not be implemented as the documents serve distinct functions. The primary purpose of the project narrative is to address statutory grant evaluation and selection criteria and the primary purpose of the SOW is to determine project readiness for obligations. Therefore, FRA plans on continuing both the project narrative and SOW.

Before OMB decides whether to approve these proposed collections of information, it must provide 30 days for public comment. Federal law requires OMB to approve or disapprove paperwork packages between 30 and 60 days after the 30-day notice is published. 44 U.S.C. 3507(b)-(c); 5 CFR 1320.10(b); *see also* 60 FR 44978, 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. OMB believes the 30-day notice informs the regulated community to file relevant comments and affords the agency adequate time to digest public comments before it renders a decision. 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. Therefore, respondents should submit their respective comments to OMB within 30 days of publication to best ensure having their full effect.

*Comments are invited on the following ICR regarding:* (1) Whether the information collection activities are necessary for FRA to properly execute its functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of FRA's estimates of the burden of the information collection activities, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used to determine the estimates; (3) ways for FRA to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information being collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of information collection activities on the public, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

The summaries below describe the ICR that FRA will submit for OMB clearance as the PRA requires:

**Title:** Grants Management Requirements for Federal Railroad Administration. Grant Awards and Cooperative Agreements.

**OMB Control Number:** 2130-0615.

**Abstract:** FRA solicits grant applications for projects including, but not limited to, preconstruction planning activities, safety improvements, congestion relief, improvements of

grade crossings, and rail line relocation, as well as projects that encourage development, expansion, and upgrades to passenger and freight rail infrastructure and services. FRA funds projects that meet FRA and government-wide evaluation standards and align with the DOT Strategic Plan.

FRA administers award agreements for both construction and non-construction projects that will result in benefits or other tangible improvements in rail corridors, service, safety, and technology. These projects include completion of preliminary engineering environmental, research and development, final design, and construction.

FRA requires systematic and uniform collection and submission of information, as approved by OMB, to ensure accountability of Federal assistance provided by FRA. Through this information collection, FRA will measure Federal award recipients' performance and results, including expenditures in support of agreed-upon activities and allowable costs outlined in FRA Notice of Grant Award. This information collection includes OMB-required reports and documentation, as well as additional forms and submission to compile evidence relevant to addressing FRA's important policy challenges, promoting cost-effectiveness in FRA programs, and providing effective oversight of programmatic and financial performance. FRA issues and manages awards in compliance with 2 CFR part 200; Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards.

**Form(s):** All FRA forms are located at FRA's public website; all SF forms are located at [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov). FRA forms 30 (FRA Assurance and Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements), 31 (Grant Adjustment Require Form), 32 (Service Outcome Agreement Annual Reporting), 33 (Final Performance Report), 34 (Quarterly Progress Report), 35 (Application Form), 217 (Categorical Exclusion Worksheet), 229 (NIST Manufacturing Extension Partnership Supplier Scouting—FRA Item Opportunity Synopsis), 251 (Applicant Financial Capability Questionnaire), and 252 (Payment Summary Spreadsheet). SF forms 270 (Request for Advance or Reimbursement), 424 (Application for Federal Assistance), 424 A (Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs), 424B (Assurance for Non-Construction Programs), 424C (Budget Information for Construction Programs), 424D (Assurances for Construction

Programs), 425 (Federal Financial Report), and LLL (Disclosure of Lobbying Activities).

*Type of Request:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Generally includes States, d local governments and railroads.

*Frequency of Submission:* Varied.

*Total Estimated Annual Responses:* 6,551 responses.

*Total Estimated Annual Burden:* 88,293.50 hours.

*Total Estimated Annual Burden Hour Dollar Cost Equivalent:* \$3,619,150.57.

Under 44 U.S.C. 3507(a) and 5 CFR 1320.5(b) and 1320.8(b)(3)(vi), FRA informs all interested parties that it may not conduct or sponsor, and a respondent is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

*Authority:* 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520.

**Brett A. Jortland,**

*Deputy Chief Counsel.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### **Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Application To Participate in the IRS Acceptance Program**

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

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

**SUMMARY:** The Internal Revenue Service (IRS), in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA 95), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on continuing collections of information. This helps the IRS assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the reporting burden on the public and helps the public understand the IRS's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. The IRS is soliciting comments concerning Application to Participate in the IRS Acceptance Agent Program. Form 13551 is used to gather information to determine applicant's eligibility in the Acceptance Agent Program.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before November 2, 2020 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Paul Adams, Internal Revenue

Service, Room 6526, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20224.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Sara Covington, at (737)800–6149 or Internal Revenue Service, Room 6526, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20224, or through the internet at [Sara.L.Covington@irs.gov](mailto:Sara.L.Covington@irs.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Application to Participate in the IRS Acceptance Agent Program.

*OMB Number:* 1545–1896.

*Form Number:* 13551.

*Abstract:* Form 13551 is used by all persons who wish to participate in the TIN (Taxpayer Identification Number) Acceptance Agent Program must apply by completing this application. Acceptance Agents are individuals or entities (colleges, financial institutions, accounting firms, etc.) that have entered into formal agreements with IRS that permit them to assist alien individuals and other foreign persons with obtaining TINs.

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

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

*Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profit organizations, not-for-profit institutions, and Federal, state, local or tribal government.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 4,422.

*Estimated Time per Respondent:* 30 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 2,211.

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: August 27, 2020.

**Sara L. Covington,**

*Tax Analyst.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### **Proposed Collection; Comment Request Concerning Procedures for Requesting Competent Authority Assistance Under Tax Treaties**

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

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

**SUMMARY:** The Internal Revenue Service, 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 continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The IRS is soliciting comments concerning procedures for requesting competent authority assistance under tax treaties.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before November 2, 2020 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Kinna Brewington, Internal Revenue Service, Room 6526, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20224.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Requests for additional information or copies of the form should be directed to Kerry Dennis, at (202) 317–5751 or Internal Revenue Service, Room 6526, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20224, or through the internet, at [Kerry.Dennis@irs.gov](mailto:Kerry.Dennis@irs.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Procedures for Requesting Competent Authority Assistance Under Tax Treaties.

*OMB Number:* 1545–2044.

*Revenue Procedure Number:* 2015–40.

*Abstract:* Taxpayers who believe that the actions of the United States, a treaty