

*Description of Respondents:* Not-for-profit institutions; Business or other for-profit.

*Number of Respondents:* 5.

*Frequency of Responses:*

Recordkeeping; Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 15.

#### **Rural Utilities Service**

*Title:* Lien Accommodations and Subordinations 7 CFR Part 1717, Subpart R and S.

*OMB Control Number:* 0572-0100.

*Summary of Collection:* The Rural Electrification Act (RE Act) of 1936, 7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*, as amended, authorizes and empowers the Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) to make loans in the several States and territories of the United States for rural electrification and the furnishing electric energy to persons in rural areas who are not receiving central station service. The RE Act also authorizes and empowers the Administrator of RUS to provide financial assistance to borrowers for purposes provided in the RE Act by accommodating or subordinating loans made by the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation, the Federal Financing Bank, and other lending agencies.

*Need and Use of the Information:* RUS will use the information to determine an applicant's eligibility for a lien accommodation or lien subordination under the RE Act; monitor the compliance of borrowers with debt covenants and regulatory requirements in order to protect loan security; and subsequently to granting the lien accommodation of lien subordination, administer each so as to minimize its cost to the Government. If the information were not collected, RUS would not be able to accomplish their statutory goals.

*Description of Respondents:* Not-for-profit institutions; Business or other for-profit.

*Number of Respondents:* 6.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 19.

#### **Rural Utilities Service**

*Title:* 7 CFR 1717 Subpart D, Mergers and Consolidations of Electric Borrowers.

*OMB Control Number:* 0572-0114.

*Summary of Collection:* The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is a credit agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It makes mortgage loans and loan guarantees to finance electric, telecommunications, water and waste and water facilities in rural areas. Loan programs are managed in accordance

with the Rural Electrification Act (RE Act) of 1936, 7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*, as amended and as prescribed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-129, Policies for Federal Credit Programs and Non-tax Receivable, states that agencies must base on a review of a loan application determine that an applicant complies with statutory, regulatory, and administrative eligibility requirements for loan assistance.

*Need and Use of the Information:* RUS will collect information to streamline procedures and allow borrowers the flexibility to meet new business challenges and opportunities. The information is necessary for RUS to conduct business with successor entity while protecting the security of Government loans and avoiding defaults and to grant merger approval when required.

*Description of Respondents:* Business or other for-profit.

*Number of Respondents:* 18.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 184.

#### **Rural Housing Service**

*Title:* 7 CFR 1944-N, "Housing Preservation Grant Program".

*OMB Control Number:* 0575-0115.

*Summary of Collection:* The Rural Housing Service (RHS) is authorized to make grants to eligible applicants to provide repair and rehabilitation assistance so that very low and low-income rural residents can obtain adequate housing. Such assistance is made by grantees to very low and low-income persons, and to co-ops. Grant funds are used by grantees to make loans, grants, or other comparable assistance to eligible homeowners, rental unit owners, and co-ops for repair and rehabilitation of dwellings to bring them up to code or minimum property standards. These grants were established by Public Law 98-181, the Housing Urban Rural Recovery Act of 1983, which amended the Housing Act of 1949 (Pub. L. 93-383).

*Need and Use of the Information:* RHS will collect information to determine eligibility for a grant to justify its selection of the applicant for funding; to report program accomplishments and to justify and support expenditure of grant funds. RHS uses the information to determine if the grantee is complying with its grant agreement and to make decisions regarding continuing with modifying, or terminating grant assistance. If the information is not collected and presented to RHS, the Agency could not

monitor the program or justify disbursement of grant funds.

*Description of Respondents:* Not-for-profit institutions; Business or other for-profit; Individuals or households; State, Local or Tribal Government

*Number of Respondents:* 2,050.

*Frequency of Responses:*

Recordkeeping; Reporting: On occasion; Quarterly.

*Total Burden Hours:* 10,814.

#### **Agricultural Marketing Service**

*Title:* Customer Service Survey for USDA—Donated Food Products.

*OMB Control Number:* 0581-0193.

*Summary of Collection:* The Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to provide consumers with voluntary Federal meat grading and certification services that facilitate the marketing of meat and meat products. These services are provided under the authority of 7 CFR part 54—Meats, Prepared Meats, and Meat Products (Grading, Certification, and Standards). An annual customer service survey is used to gather information from its customers to determine the quality of service provided. Once an applicant request services, there is no way to determine the quality of service that is provided.

*Need and Use of the Information:* Agricultural Marketing Service will collect information to evaluate services and assist in planning and managing the program. The information from the survey is strictly voluntary and will be used to continually improve the services.

*Description of Respondents:* Business or other-for-profit.

*Number of Respondents:* 450.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: Annually.

*Total Burden Hours:* 32.

#### **Food and Nutrition Service**

*Title:* Food Stamp Program—Store Applications.

*OMB Control Number:* 0584-0008.

*Summary of Collection:* Section 9(a) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 as amended, (7 U.S.C. 2011 *et seq.*) requires retail food stores to submit applications to the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) for approval prior to participating in the Food Stamp Program. FNS field offices review retailer applications to ensure that the store is eligible and then authorize or deny a store to accept and redeem Food Stamp Program benefits. The need to collect information is established under the Act to determine the eligibility of retail food stores, wholesale food concerns, and food service organizations applying for authorization to accept and