

purposes specified in the statement of purposes.

*Need and Use of the Information:* The Form 481 is used by RUS to record and control transactions in the construction fund. RUS will collect information and verify that the funds advanced are related directly to loan purposes. If the information were not collected, RUS would not have any control over how loan funds are spent or a record of the balance to be advanced.

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

*Number of Respondents:* 645.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 2,893.

#### Rural Utilities Service

*Title:* 7 CFR Part 1703–H, Deferments of RUS Loan Payments for Rural Development Projects.

*OMB Control Number:* 0572–0097.

*Summary of Collection:* Subsection (b) of section 12 of the Rural Electrification Act (RE Act) of 1936, as amended (7 U.S.C. 912), a Rural Utilities Service (RUS) electric or telephone borrower may defer the payment of principal and interest on any insured or direct loan made under the RE Act invest the deferred amounts in rural development projects. The Deferment program is used to encourage borrowers to invest in and promote rural development and rural job creation projects that are based on sound economic and financial analyses.

*Need and Use of the Information:* RUS will collect information to determine eligibility; purposes for which the deferment amount will be utilized; the term of the deferment the borrower will receive; the cost of the total project and degree of participation in the financing from other sources; verification that the purposes will not violate limitations established in 7 CFR 1703–H. If the information were not collected, RUS would be unable to determine eligibility for a project.

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

*Number of Respondents:* 1.

*Frequency of Responses:* Recordkeeping; Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 35.

#### Rural Utilities Service

*Title:* 7 CFR part 1775, Technical Assistance Program.

*OMB Control Number:* 0572–0112.

*Summary of Collection:* Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (CONACT), 7 U.S.C. 1926, authorizes Rural Utilities Service (RUS) to make loans and grants to public agencies, American Indian tribes, and nonprofit corporations. The loans

and grants fund the development of drinking water, wastewater, and solid waste disposal facilities in rural areas with populations of up to 10,000 residents. Nonprofit organizations receive Technical Assistance and Training (TAT) and Solid Waste Management (SMM) grants to help small rural communities or areas identify and solve problems relating to community drinking water, wastewater, or solid waste disposal systems. The technical assistance is intended to improve the management and operation of the systems and reduce or eliminate pollution of water resources.

*Need and Use of the Information:* RUS will collect information to determine applicant eligibility, project feasibility, and the applicant's ability to meet the grant and regulatory requirements. Failure to collect proper information could result in improper determinations of eligibility and improper use of funds.

*Description of Respondents:* Not-for-profit institutions.

*Number of Respondents:* 95.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: On occasion; Quarterly; Monthly.

*Total Burden Hours:* 4,986.

#### Forest Service

*Title:* Recreation Fee Permit Envelope.

*OMB Control Number:* 0596–0106.

*Summary of Collection:* The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, section 4(b), and Forest Service regulations at Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), § 291.2 authorize the collection of fees at some of the National Forest and Grassland recreation sites. Every year millions of people visit National Forest System recreations sites. At some of these sites, the public is required to pay a fee to use the site. Fees are charged to help cover the costs of operating and maintaining fee sites, areas, and facilities such as campgrounds. The Forest Service (FS) used the Recreation Fee Permit Envelope for collection of these fees. The fee envelope is also used as a tool to collect information from visitors who will assist the FS in improving its facilities and services for future visitors.

*Need and use of the Information:* FS will collect information to be used for two purposes; First, the information pertaining to the fee (site number, length of stay, amount paid, etc.) will be used to verify the visitor has complied with the fee requirements. Second, visitors will be given the opportunity to provide comments about their visit, the condition of the facilities, and how the FS can improve services to the public. If a visitor elects not to complete the information related to the fee, there will

be no way to verify they have paid the required fee.

*Description of Respondents:*

Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions.

*Number of Respondents:* 400,000.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: Other (per visit).

*Total Burden Hours:* 20,000.

#### National Appeals Division

*Title:* National Appeals Division Customer Service Survey

*OMB Control Number:* 0503–NEW.

*Summary of Collection:* The National Appeals Division (NAD) proposes to conduct a customer service survey by mail pursuant to Executive Order No. 12862. The Secretary of Agriculture established NAD on October 20, 1994, by Secretary's Memorandum 1010–1, pursuant to the Federal Crop Insurance Reform and Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994. The Act consolidated the appellate functions and staff of several USDA Agencies and provided for independent hearings and reviews of adverse decisions of Agencies within USDA. Hearing Officers conduct evidentiary hearings on adverse decisions or, when the appellant requests they review the Agency's record of the adverse decision without a hearing. Although NAD maintains a database to track appeal requests, the database contains only information necessary to process the appeal request, such as the name, address, filing results etc. NAD will collect information using a survey.

*Need and Use of the Information:* NAD will collect information to gauge the appellant's preference for face-to-face hearings, telephone hearings or record reviews, perception of the fairness of the appeal process, how the hearing was conducted, how impartial was the proceeding, appellant treatment, timeliness, and how understandable the final determination. NAD managers to set Customer Service Standards, and make adjustments and improvements to NAD processes, including type of appeal and clarity of NAD notices and determinations, will use the results of the annual survey.

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

*Number of Respondents:* 1176.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: Annually.

*Total Burden Hours:* 294.

#### Natural Resources Conservation Service

*Title:* Long Term Contracting.