

Control Number and should be sent to: Shelia Jones, Reports Liaison Officer, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW., Room 7232, Washington, DC 20410.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Diane Lobasso at (202) 708-1322, Extension 2191 (this is not a toll free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Department is submitting the proposed information collection to OMB for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended). This Notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affecting agencies concerning the proposed collection of information to: (1) Evaluate 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) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond; including through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

This Notice also lists the following information:

Title of Proposal: Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Program.

OMB Control Number, if applicable: 2506-0077.

Description of the need for the information and proposed use: The information collected from recipients participating in the CDBG Entitlement program will be used to verify program compliance with slums or blight national objective criteria. Grantees will be required to establish definitions and maintain records of slums or blighted areas. Grantees will also be required to revisit the slums or blighted designation every five years and maintain documentation to verify continued qualification.

Agency form numbers, if applicable: Not applicable.

Members of affected public: Grant recipients (metropolitan cities and urban counties) participating in the CDBG Entitlement Program.

Estimation of the total numbers of hours needed to prepare the information collection including number of respondents, frequency of response, and hours of response: The estimated

number of respondents is 512. The proposed frequency of the response to the collection is on an annual basis. The total estimated burden is 3,584 annual hours.

Status of the proposed information collection: This submission is a revision of a currently approved collection. The current OMB approval expires on October 31, 2004.

Authority: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. chapter 35, as amended.

Dated: July 31, 2003.

Roy Bernardi,

Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Connect Initiative

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Request for Comments concerning Offshore Minerals Management Program's e-Government Initiative.

SUMMARY: This notice provides the basis and rationale for the e-Government Initiative, OCS Connect. The purpose of publishing this notice is to provide information to the public on the objectives of OCS Connect and to solicit public feedback with respect to project development.

DATES: We will consider all comments we receive by October 6, 2003. We will begin reviewing comments then and may not fully consider comments we receive after October 6, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties may send comments regarding the OCS Connect Initiative and this Notice to the Chief, e-Gov Transformation Project; Minerals Management Service; Mail 4009; 381 Elden Street; Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gary L. Lore, Chief, e-Gov Project Management Office; Mail Stop 4009; Minerals Management Service; 381 Elden Street; Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817; Telephone (703) 787-1623; e-mail ommegov@mms.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: OCS Connect is a comprehensive reform project that will be a phased, multiyear e-Government transformation of the Offshore Minerals Management (OMM) program. OCS Connect was mandated by legislation and federal guidance

under the Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996 (Clinger-Cohen Act), the Government Paperwork Elimination Act of 1999, and the Government Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. OCS Connect will dramatically reform and streamline business operations by fiscal year 2008. By moving to on-line services, the organization will be more "connected" to customers: industry, citizens, and other governmental agencies.

OMM's Vision for OCS Connect

To facilitate customized and electronic information exchange between MMS and its OCS customers—industry, citizens, and other governmental agencies.

Goals of OCS Connect

- Increase ease of use and allow better access to stakeholders for OMM's services and information.
- Decrease cycle time to receive and process stakeholder requests.
- Increase collaboration and information sharing within OMM and between constituencies.
- Increase the quantity and quality of value-added analysis of offshore resources.
- Improve data and information capabilities.

Scope of OCS Connect

Currently, OMM relies heavily on paper-based processes and systems. The recent evolution in internet technologies has presented a unique opportunity for OMM to minimize paper-based processes, to improve data management, and to increase the efficiency of its workforce. OCS Connect will allow the OMM to transform their traditional business practices to more efficient, streamlined business practices.

Traditional business practices	Streamlined business practices
Paper-based processes cause long lead times in approval process for permits.	Standardized, online electronic permit filing, reporting and approvals significantly reduce cycle times.
Multiple filings required with different government bodies.	Data standards will facilitate electronic exchange of data with different government bodies and reduce the number of redundant filings.
Multiple data sources available in different locations for information sharing.	Portals offer one-stop "shopping" for information exchange.