

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**Internal Revenue Service****[REG-209673-93]****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 an existing final regulation, REG-209673-93 (TD 8700), Mark to Market for Dealers in Securities (§§ 1.475(b)-4, and 1.475(c)-1).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before May 21, 1999 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the regulation should be directed to Carol Savage, (202) 622-3945, Internal Revenue Service, room 5569, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Mark to Market for Dealers in Securities.

OMB Number: 1545-1496.

Regulation Project Number: REG-209673-93.

Abstract: Under section 1.475(b)-4, the information required to be recorded is required by the IRS to determine whether exemption from mark-to-market treatment is properly claimed, and will be used to make that determination upon audit of taxpayers' books and records. Also, under section 1.475(c)-1(a)(3)(iii), the information is necessary for the Service to determine whether a consolidated group has elected to disregard inter-member transactions in determining a member's status as a dealer in securities.

Current Actions: There is no change to this existing regulation.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 3,400.

Estimated Time Per Respondents: 52 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 2,950.

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: March 15, 1999.

Garrick R. Shear,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-6820 Filed 3-19-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**Internal Revenue Service****[IA-62-91]****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, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning existing final and temporary regulations, IA-62-91 (TD 8482), Capitalization and Inclusion in Inventory of Certain Costs, (Regulation § 1.263A).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before May 21, 1999 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or copies of this regulation should be directed to Faye Bruce, (202) 622-6665, Internal Revenue Service, room 5577, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Capitalization and Inclusion in Inventory of Certain Costs.

OMB Number: 1545-0987.

Regulation Project Number: IA-62-91.

Abstract: The requirements are necessary to determine whether taxpayers comply with the cost allocation rules of Internal Revenue Code section 263A and with the requirements for changing their methods of accounting. The information will be used to verify taxpayers' changes in methods of accounting.

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 and farms.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 20,000.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: The estimated annual reporting and recordkeeping burden per respondent varies from 1 hour to 9 hours, depending on individual circumstances.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 100,000 hours.

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: March 11, 1999.

Garrick R. Shear,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-6821 Filed 3-19-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

SUMMARY: The United States Information Agency, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on an information collection requirement concerning the public use forms entitled "Exchange Visitor Program Application", and "Update of Information on Exchange Visitor Program", under OMB control number 3116-0210. This request for comment is being made pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

Comments are requested concerning (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's burden estimates; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected and (d) ways to minimize the burden on the collection

of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information to the United States Information Agency, M/AOL, 301 Fourth Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20547; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Docket Library, Room 10202, NEOB, Washington, D.C. 20503.

DATES: Comments are due on or before May 21, 1999.

COPIES: Copies of the Request for Clearance (OMB 83-I), supporting statement, and other documents that will be submitted to OMB for approval may be obtained from the USIA Clearance Officer. Comments should be submitted to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, of OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for USIA, and also to the USIA Clearance Officer.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Agency Clearance Officer, Ms. Jeannette Giovetti, United States Information Agency, M/AOL, 301 Fourth Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20547, internet address: JGiovett@USIA.GOV, telephone: (202) 619-4408; and for OMB review: Mr. Jeff Hill, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Docket Library, Room 10202, NEOB, Washington, D.C. 20503, Telephone (202) 395-5871.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The information collection activity involved with this program is conducted pursuant to the mandate given to the United States Information Agency (USIA) under the terms and conditions of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, Public law 87-256 and 22 CFR Part 514, Exchange Visitor Program; Final Rule as amended. Public reporting burden for this collection of information (Paper Work Reduction Project: OMB No. 3116-0210) is estimated to average sixty (60) minutes per response for the IAP-37 and twenty (20) minutes per response for the IAP-87, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. For the IAP-37, responses are voluntary and respondents are requested to respond annually. For the IAP-87, responses are mandatory and respondents are

requested to respond on an as needed basis.

Current Action: USIA is requesting a three-year extension of the currently approved information collection under OMB control number 3116-0210 which expires June 30, 1999.

Title(s): "Exchange Visitor Program Application", and "Update of Information on Exchange Visitor Program Sponsor".

Form Numbers: IAP-37, IAP-87.

Abstract: Under the requirements of 22 CFR Part 514, Exchange Visitor Program; Final Rule as amended and the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, USIA has been delegated the authority to designate Sponsors for the Exchange Visitor Program for U.S. Government agencies, public and private educational and cultural exchange. The purpose of the exchange visitor program is intended to promote interchanges of persons engaged in Education, Arts, Sciences and to promote mutual understanding between the people of the U.S. and other countries. The USIA IAP-37 form is used when organizations wishing to sponsor exchange visitors from abroad apply to USIA for a designation that will permit them to function as sponsors. The USIA IAP-87 form is used by the Exchange Visitor Sponsors to change the name of their institution and/or organization, the names of the personnel involved, addresses, or telephone numbers. The forms is also used to order a supply of additional IAP forms, code books, or to cancel the program.

Proposed Frequency of Responses

No. of Respondents—1,550.

Recordkeeping Hours—1.20.

Total Annual Burden—1,000.

Dated: March 16, 1999.

Rose Royal,

Federal Register Liaison.

[FR Doc. 99-6812 Filed 3-19-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8230-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Veterans' Advisory Committee on Environmental Hazards, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Pub. L. 92-463 that a meeting of the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Environmental Hazards will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, May 19-20, 1999, in room 230 of VA Central Office, 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20420. The meeting will convene at 9:00 a.m. and adjourn at 5:00 p.m. on both days.