



This document is scheduled to be published in the Federal Register on 01/31/2014 and available online at <http://federalregister.gov/a/2014-01948>, and on [FDsys.gov](http://FDsys.gov)

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments regarding (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (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 those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, 725 – 17<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Washington, DC 20502. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: [OIRA\\_Submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov) or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, D.C. 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received by **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8681.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential

persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

## **Rural Housing Service**

*TITLE:* Fire and Rescue Loans - 7 CFR 1942, Subpart C

*OMB CONTROL NUMBER:* 0575-0120

*SUMMARY OF COLLECTION:* The Rural Housing Service (RHS) is authorized by Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926) to make loans to public agencies, nonprofit corporations, and Indian tribes for the development of essential community facilities primarily servicing rural residents. The primary regulation for administering this Community Facility program is 7 CFR 1942-A. The Community Facilities program has been used to finance about 100 different types of facilities varying in size and complexity from fire trucks to hospitals. A significant portion of the loans made have been used for public safety to finance fire stations, fire trucks, ambulances, and rescue facilities and other small Community Facilities projects. The information must be collected to determine eligibility, analyze financial feasibility, take security, monitor the use of loan funds, and monitor the financial condition of borrowers, and otherwise assisting borrowers.

*NEED AND USE OF THE INFORMATION:* The Rural Development requires that an application form SF-424 be completed by applicant/borrowers with each application package in addition to other necessary information. This form gives basic information regarding the applicant, including the type of loan/grant assistance they are seeking. This information will be used to determine applicant/borrower eligibility, project feasibility, and ensure borrowers operate on a sound basis and use loan funds for authorized purposes.

*DESCRIPTION OF RESPONDENTS:* Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local or Tribal Government

*NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS:* 3,752

*FREQUENCY OF RESPONSES:* Reporting: On occasion; Quarterly; Annually

*TOTAL BURDEN HOURS:* 28,471

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[Billing Code 3410-XV]

[FR Doc. 2014-01948 Filed 01/30/2014 at 8:45 am; Publication Date: 01/31/2014]