

are mounted. Therefore, Kumho believes that the noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety and that no corrective action is warranted.

The Transportation Recall, Enhancement, Accountability, and Documentation (TREAD) Act (Public Law 106-414) required, among other things, that the agency initiate rulemaking to improve tire label information. In response, the agency published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) in the **Federal Register** on December 1, 2000 (65 FR 75222).

The agency received more than 20 comments on the tire labeling information required by 49 CFR sections 571.109 and 119, part 567, part 574, and part 575. In addition, the agency conducted a series of focus groups, as required by the TREAD Act, to examine consumer perceptions and understanding of tire labeling. Few of the focus group participants had knowledge of tire labeling beyond the tire brand name, tire size, and tire pressure.

Based on the information obtained from comments to the ANPRM and the consumer focus groups, we have concluded that it is likely that few consumers have been influenced by the tire construction information (number of plies and cord material in the sidewall and tread plies) provided on the tire label when deciding to buy a motor vehicle or tire.

Therefore, the agency agrees with Kumho's statement that the incorrect markings in this case do not present a serious safety concern.¹ There is no effect of the noncompliance on the operational safety of vehicles on which these tires are mounted. In the agency's judgment, the incorrect labeling of the tire construction information will have an inconsequential effect on motor vehicle safety because most consumers do not base tire purchases or vehicle operation parameters on the number of plies in the tire. In addition, the tires are certified to meet all the performance requirements of FMVSS No. 109 and all other informational markings as required by FMVSS No. 109 are present. Kumho has corrected the problem.

In consideration of the foregoing, NHTSA has decided that the petitioner has met its burden of persuasion that the noncompliance described is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety. Accordingly, Kumho's petition is

granted and the petitioner is exempted from the obligation of providing notification of, and a remedy for, the noncompliance.

Authority: (49 U.S.C. 30118, 30120; delegations of authority at CFR 1.50 and 501.8).

Issued on: July 15, 2004.

Kenneth N. Weinstein,

Associate Administrator for Enforcement.

[FR Doc. 04-16840 Filed 7-22-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-59-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of Thrift Supervision

Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request—Operating Subsidiaries

AGENCY: Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

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 comment on proposed and continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3507. The Office of Thrift Supervision within the Department of the Treasury will submit the proposed information collection requirement described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. Today, OTS is soliciting public comments on the proposal.

DATES: Submit written comments on or before September 21, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Send comments, referring to the collection by title of the proposal or by OMB approval number, to Information Collection Comments, Chief Counsel's Office, Office of Thrift Supervision, 1700 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20552; send a facsimile transmission to (202) 906-6518; or send an e-mail to

infocollection.comments@ots.treas.gov. OTS will post comments and the related index on the OTS Internet Site at <http://www.ots.treas.gov>. In addition, interested persons may inspect comments at the Public Reading Room, 1700 G Street, NW., by appointment. To make an appointment, call (202) 906-5922, send an e-mail to publicinfo@ots.treas.gov, or send a facsimile transmission to (202) 906-7755.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: You can request additional information

about this proposed information collection from Nadine Washington, Information Systems, Administration & Finance, (202) 906-6706, Office of Thrift Supervision, 1700 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20552.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: OTS may not conduct or sponsor an information collection, and respondents are not required to respond to an information collection, unless the information collection displays a currently valid OMB control number. As part of the approval process, we invite comments on the following information collection.

Comments should address one or more of the following points:

a. Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of OTS;

b. The accuracy of OTS's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection;

c. Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

d. Ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of information technology.

We will summarize the comments that we receive and include them in the OTS request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. In this notice, OTS is soliciting comments concerning the following information collection.

Title of Proposal: Operating Subsidiaries.

OMB Number: 1550-0077.

Form Number: OTS Form 1579.

Regulation requirement: 12 CFR Part 559.

Description: 12 CFR Part 559 requires a savings association proposing to establish or acquire an operating subsidiary or conduct new activities in an existing operating subsidiary to either notify OTS or obtain the prior approval of OTS. The regulation also requires a savings association to create and maintain certain documents.

Type of Review: Renewal.

Affected Public: Savings Associations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 68.

Estimated Frequency of Response: Event-generated.

Estimated Burden Hours per Response: 14 hours.

Estimated Total Burden: 952 hours.

Clearance Officer: Marilyn K. Burton, (202) 906-6467, Office of Thrift Supervision, 1700 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20552.

OMB Reviewer: Mark D. Menchik, (202) 395-3176, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10236, New

¹ This decision is limited to its specific facts. As some commenters on the ANPRM noted, the existence of steel in a tire's sidewall can be relevant to the manner in which it should be repaired or retreaded.

Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: July 20, 2004.

By the Office of Thrift Supervision.

James E. Gilleran,

Director.

[FR Doc. 04-16873 Filed 7-22-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6720-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0546]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: National Cemetery Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3521), this notice announces that the National Cemetery Administration (NCA), Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden; it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before August 23, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE SUBMISSION CONTACT: Denise McLamb, Records Management Service (005E3), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8030, FAX (202) 273-5981 or e-mail denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0546" in any correspondence.

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, (202) 395-7613. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0546" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Gravesite Reservation Survey (2 Year), VA Form 40-40.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0546.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form Letter 40-40 is sent biennially to individuals holding gravesite set-asides to ascertain their wish to retain their set-aside, or relinquish it. Gravesite reservation

surveys are necessary as some holders become ineligible, are buried elsewhere, or simply wish to cancel a gravesite set-aside. The survey is conducted to assure that gravesite set-asides do not go unused.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on May 5, 2004, at page 25174.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, Business or other for profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 2,750.

Estimated Average Burden Per

Respondent: 10 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Biennially.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 16,500.

Dated: July 14, 2004.

By direction of the Secretary.

Loise Russell,

Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 04-16796 Filed 7-22-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0249]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-21), this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden and includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before August 23, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Denise McLamb, Records Management Service (005E3), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., or e-mail denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov.

Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0249." Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to

VA's OMB Desk Officer, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-7316. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0249" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Loan Service Report, VA Form 26-6808.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0249.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 26-6808 is used when servicing delinquent guaranteed and insured loans and loans sold under 38 CFR 36.4600. With the respect to the servicing of guaranteed and insured loans and loans sold under 38 CFR 36.4600, the holder has the primary servicing responsibility. However, VA has the responsibility to see that the servicing efforts of holders are consistent with VA policies and guidelines. In those cases in which early payment of the delinquency appears unlikely, supplemental servicing by VA will be conducted to determine whether the holder may have overlooked any relief measures. Since there are ordinarily financial losses to both the borrower and the Government resulting from the foreclosure of a guaranteed loan, supplemental servicing can protect the interest of each by assuring that appropriate relief is extended to those borrowers whose loans can be reinstated within a reasonable period of time. VA Loan Service Representatives complete VA Form 26-6808 during the course of personal contacts with delinquent obligors. The information acquired may form the basis of VA's intercession with the holder for the acceptance of specially arranged repayment plans or other forbearance aimed at assisting the obligor in retaining his or her home.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on May 5, 2004, at page 25173.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 16,667 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 25 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 40,000.

Dated: July 14, 2004.