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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food and Nutrition Service

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Food Stamp Program Identification Cards

**AGENCY:** Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice invites the general public and other public agencies to comment on proposed information collection associated with Food Stamp Program Identification Cards.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before September 26, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments and requests for copies of this information collection to: Lizbeth Silbermann, Chief, Electronic Benefit Transfer Branch, Benefit Redemption Division, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302.

Comments are invited on: (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (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.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lizbeth Silbermann, Chief, Electronic Benefits Transfer Branch, (703) 305-2517.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Food Stamp Program Identification Cards.

*OMB Number:* 0584-0124.

*Form Number:* None.

*Expiration Date:* 11/30/2003.

*Type of Request:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* Section 11(e)(15) of the Food Stamp Act (the Act) (7 U.S.C. 2020 (e)(15)) requires State agencies to issue photographic identification to recipients in certain project areas if the Secretary and the Department's Inspector General find it useful and cost effective for program integrity. The Food Stamp Program (FSP) regulations at 7 CFR 274.10(a) require State agencies to issue an identification (ID) card to recipients as a proof of eligibility. FSP regulations at 7 CFR 274.10(b) require State agencies to issue photo ID cards in project areas with 100,000 or more recipients unless the area uses direct mail issuance or has implemented an Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) system. Because of EBT and direct mail issuance, there are no remaining areas where photo ID cards are now needed; therefore, this category of cards has been eliminated. Recipients in areas without EBT or direct mail issuance, however, must present ID cards to coupon issuers. Also, retailers that have been authorized to accept FSP benefits may ask recipients to show their ID when making a purchase.

The proposed revision to the information collection burden associated with FSP identification cards reflects a reduction because of the legislated requirement for State agencies to change from coupon to EBT systems in Section 7(i) of the Act (7 U.S.C. 2016 (i)). With EBT systems, the need to prove identity or eligibility with a paper document becomes obsolete. With EBT systems, benefits are not physically distributed but are posted electronically to accounts created for recipients by State agencies through their EBT vendors. As a result, coupon issuance agents are eliminated. The State

agencies provide each recipient with a plastic card and Personal Identification Number (PIN) that serve to identify the recipient. Recipients are instructed to protect their card and PIN and as long as the PIN is secure, no one other than the recipient is able to use their benefits. The cards and PINs are used at authorized retailers who are guaranteed payment for the electronic purchases within two banking days. If EBT vouchers are necessary as a result of telecommunication or systems disruptions, retailers are guaranteed payment as long as they follow the procedures issued by the State agency. As a result, retailers are not concerned with other forms of ID.

*Estimate of Burden:* Currently, over 90 per cent of FSP benefits are delivered via EBT. Only one State agency (Guam) remains without EBT although three (California, Delaware, and Iowa) have not completed statewide implementation. Based on the schedules for these State agencies, there will be no coupon issuance by January 2005.

This information collection burden affects State agencies where there are still coupon issuance systems. In those areas each newly certified recipient must be issued an ID card and replacements must be provided if they are lost. There are only 609,973 recipient households being issued coupons as of March 2003. We estimate 38,034 new recipients will still be issued coupons and therefore ID cards annually. We also estimate that about 6,100 of the remaining recipients using coupons will lose their ID cards which the State agencies will have to replace. Therefore, the total State agency respondent estimate is 44,134 for the ID card burden; a reduction of 133,650 respondents from 177,784 respondents.

Although we expect the ID burden to end in January 2005, we will leave the estimate of the burden the same for all three of the renewal periods.

*Affected Public:* State agencies.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 44,134.

*Estimated Number of Responses per respondent:* 1.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 1 minute.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden:*  
735.6 hours annually.

**Roberto Salazar,**

*Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.*

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**BILLING CODE 3410-30-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

[I.D. 072103B]

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

*Agency:* National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

*Title:* Reporting Requirements for Commercial Fisheries Authorization under Section 118 of the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

*Form Number(s):* None.

*OMB Approval Number:* 0648-0292.

*Type of Request:* Regular submission.

*Burden Hours:* 30.

*Number of Respondents:* 200.

*Average Hours Per Response:* 9

minutes.

*Needs and Uses:* The reporting of injury and/or mortalities of marine mammals is mandated under Section 118 of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. This information is required to determine the impact of commercial fishing on marine mammal populations. The information is also used to categorize commercial fisheries: Category I (frequent), Category II (occasional), and Category III (remote chance) taking of a marine mammal. Participants in the first two categories have to be authorized to take marine mammals, while those in Category III are exempt from this requirement. All categories must report injuries or mortalities on a National Marine Fisheries Service form.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations, individuals or households.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Mandatory.

*OMB Desk Officer:* David Rostker, (202) 395-3897.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0266, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at [dHynek@doc.gov](mailto:dHynek@doc.gov)).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to David Rostker, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: July 17, 2003.

**Gwellnar Banks,**

*Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Docket 35-2003]

#### Foreign-Trade Zone 33—Pittsburgh, PA, Application for Subzone Status, Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc. (Circuit Breakers), Warrendale and Freedom, PA

An application has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) by the Regional Industrial Development Corporation of Southwestern Pennsylvania, grantee of FTZ 33, requesting special-purpose subzone status for the circuit breaker manufacturing facilities of Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc. (MEPPI) (a subsidiary of Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, of Japan), located in Warrendale and Freedom, Pennsylvania. The application was submitted pursuant to the provisions of the Foreign-Trade Zones Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), and the regulations of the Board (15 CFR part 400). It was formally filed on July 16, 2003.

The proposed subzone would be comprised of three separate facilities: *Site 1* (7 acres/76,000 sq. ft., manufacturing plant)—510-512 Keystone Drive, Warrendale (Allegheny County), Pennsylvania; *Site 2* (12 acres/50,000 sq. ft., manufacturing plant)—530 Keystone Drive, Warrendale, about 20 miles northwest of Pittsburgh; and, *Site 3* (5 acres/14,000 sq. ft., leased warehouse)—Buildings 3 and 3A, Tri-County Commerce Park, 2509 Lovi Road, Freedom (Beaver County), Pennsylvania, some 5 miles west of Site 1. The facilities (190 employees) are used to assemble and repair high-voltage circuit breakers (HTSUS Heading 8535) for export and the U.S. market. Up to 600 units can be produced annually. The circuit breakers (1,000+ volts) are assembled from domestic and foreign-origin components. Components purchased from abroad (representing

approximately 50% of finished circuit breaker value) include: mechanisms, moving and stationary interrupters, trip coils, DC motors, auxiliary switches, porcelain and composite insulators, and tanks (duty rate range: free-4.0%). FTZ procedures would exempt MEPPI from Customs duty payments on the foreign materials used in export production. On its domestic sales and exports to NAFTA markets, the company would be able to choose the duty rate that applies to finished circuit breakers (2.0%) for the foreign-sourced components noted above. The application indicates that subzone status would help improve the facilities' international competitiveness.

In accordance with the Board's regulations, a member of the FTZ Staff has been designated examiner to investigate the application and report to the Board.

Public comment on the application is invited from interested parties. Submissions (original and three copies) shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary at the following addresses:

1. *Submissions via Express/Package Delivery Services:* Foreign-Trade Zones Board, U.S. Department of Commerce, Franklin Court Building—Suite 4100W, 1099 14th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005; or,

2. *Submissions via the U.S. Postal Service:* Foreign-Trade Zones Board, U.S. Department of Commerce, FCB-4100W, 1401 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20230.

The closing period for their receipt is September 26, 2003. Rebuttal comments in response to material submitted during the foregoing period may be submitted during the subsequent 15-day period (to October 14, 2003).

A copy of the application will be available for public inspection at the Office of the Foreign-Trade Zones Board's Executive Secretary at address No. 1 listed above and at the U.S. Department of Commerce Export Assistance Center, Suite 2002, 1000 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.

Dated: July 16, 2003.

**Dennis Puccinelli,**

*Executive Secretary.*

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