

Dated: September 1, 2004.

L.M. Bynum,

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison
Officer, Department of Defense.*

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[OMB Control No. 9000-0102]

Federal Acquisition Regulation; Submission for OMB Review; Prompt Payment

AGENCIES: Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of request for public comments regarding an extension to an existing OMB clearance (9000-0102).

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Secretariat has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension to a currently approved information collection requirement concerning prompt payment. A request for public comments was published at 69 FR 39910 on July 1, 2004. No comments were received.

Public comments are particularly invited on: Whether this collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the FAR, and whether it will have practical utility; whether our estimate of the public burden of this collection of information is accurate, and based on valid assumptions and methodology; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways in which we can minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Submit comments on or before October 7, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat, 1800 F Street, NW, Room 4035, Washington, DC 20405. Please cite OMB Control No.

9000-0102, Prompt Payment, in all correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT Richard C. Loeb, Office of the Deputy Chief Acquisition Officer, GSA (202) 208-3810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Purpose

Part 32 of the FAR and the clause at FAR 52.232-5, Payments Under Fixed-Price Construction Contracts, require that contractors under fixed-price construction contracts certify, for every progress payment request, that payments to subcontractors/suppliers have been made from previous payments received under the contract and timely payments will be made from the proceeds of the payment covered by the certification, and that this payment request does not include any amount which the contractor intends to withhold from a subcontractor/supplier. Part 32 of the FAR and the clause at 52.232-27, Prompt Payment for Construction Contracts, further require that contractors on construction contracts -

(a) Notify subcontractors/suppliers of any amounts to be withheld and furnish a copy of the notification to the contracting officer;

(b) Pay interest to subcontractors/suppliers if payment is not made by 7 days after receipt of payment from the Government, or within 7 days after correction of previously identified deficiencies;

(c) Pay interest to the Government if amounts are withheld from subcontractors/suppliers after the Government has paid the contractor the amounts subsequently withheld, or if the Government has inadvertently paid the contractor for nonconforming performance; and

(d) Include a payment clause in each subcontract which obligates the contractor to pay the subcontractor for satisfactory performance under its subcontract not later than 7 days after such amounts are paid to the contractor, include an interest penalty clause which obligates the contractor to pay the subcontractor an interest penalty if payments are not made in a timely manner, and include a clause requiring each subcontractor to include these clauses in each of its subcontracts and to require each of its subcontractors to include similar clauses in their subcontracts.

These requirements are imposed by Public Law 100-496, the Prompt Payment Act Amendments of 1988.

Contracting officers will be notified if the contractor withholds amounts from

subcontractors/suppliers after the Government has already paid the contractor the amounts withheld. The contracting officer must then charge the contractor interest on the amounts withheld from subcontractors/suppliers. Federal agencies could not comply with the requirements of the law if this information were not collected.

B. Annual Reporting Burden

Respondents: 36,666.

Responses Per Respondent: 11.

Total Responses: 403,326.

Hours Per Response: .11.

Total Burden Hours: 44,366.

C. Annual Recordkeeping Burden

Recordkeepers: 33,333.

Hours Per Recordkeeper: 18.

Total Recordkeeping Burden Hours:

599,994.

Obtaining Copies of Proposals:

Requesters may obtain a copy of the information collection documents from the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (VR), 1800 F Street, NW, Room 4035, Washington, DC 20405, telephone (202) 501-4755. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0102, Prompt Payment, in all correspondence.

Dated: August 31, 2004

Ralph J. De Stefano

Acting Director, Contract Policy Division.

[FR Doc. 04-20227 Filed 9-3-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[OMB Control No. 9000-0014]

Federal Acquisition Regulation; Information Collection; Statement and Acknowledgment (Standard Form 1413)

AGENCIES: Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of request for public comments regarding an extension of an existing OMB clearance (9000-0014).

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Secretariat will be submitting to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension of a currently approved information collection requirement

concerning statement and acknowledgment (Standard Form 1413). The clearance currently expires on October 31, 2004.

Public comments are particularly invited on: Whether this collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the FAR, and whether it will have practical utility; whether our estimate of the public burden of this collection of information is accurate, and based on valid assumptions and methodology; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways in which we can minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Comments may be submitted on or before November 8, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments, including suggestions for reducing this burden to the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (VR), 1800 F Street, NW., Room 4035, Washington, DC 20405. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0014, Statement and Acknowledgment, Standard Form 1413, in all correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Linda Nelson, Contract Policy Division, GSA (202) 501-1900.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Purpose

Standard Form 1413, Statement and Acknowledgment, is used by all Executive Agencies, including the Department of Defense, to obtain a statement from contractors that the proper clauses have been included in subcontracts. The form includes a signed contractor acknowledgment of the inclusion of those clause in the subcontract.

B. Annual Reporting Burden

Respondents: 31,500.

Responses Per Respondent: 2.

Total Responses: 63,000.

Hours Per Response: .05.

Total Burden Hours: 3,150.

Obtaining Copies of Proposals:

Requesters may obtain a copy of the information collection documents from the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (VR), 1800 F Street, NW., Room 4035, Washington, DC 20405, telephone (202) 501-4755. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0014, Statement and Acknowledgment, Standard Form 1413, in all correspondence.

Dated: August 30, 2004

Ralph J. De Stefano

Director, Contract Policy Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[OMB Control No. 9000-0077]

Federal Acquisition Regulation; Submission for OMB Review; Quality Assurance Requirements

AGENCIES: Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of request for an extension to an existing OMB clearance (9000-0077).

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Secretariat will be submitting to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension of a currently approved information collection requirement concerning quality assurance requirements. A request for public comments was published at 69 FR 39909 on July 1, 2004. No comments were received. On review of this second notice, the burden hours associated with this OMB clearance was reduced from $\geq 39,719 \geq$ to $\geq 35,746 \geq$. This reduction is based on the Government reviewing 5% of new contract awards for FY 2002 over \$100,000 exclusive of acquisition using commercial item acquisition procedures.

Public comments are particularly invited on: Whether this collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the FAR, and whether it will have practical utility; whether our estimate of the public burden of this collection of information is accurate, and based on valid assumptions and methodology; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways in which we can minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Submit comments on or before October 7, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (V), 1800 F Street, NW., Room 4035, Washington, DC 20405. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0077, Quality Assurance Requirements, in all correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeritta Parnell, Contract Policy Division, GSA (202) 501-4082.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Purpose

Supplies and services acquired under Government contracts must conform to the contract's quality and quantity requirements. FAR Part 46 prescribes inspection, acceptance, warranty, and other measures associated with quality requirements. Standard clauses related to inspection require the contractor to provide and maintain an inspection system that is acceptable to the Government; give the Government the right to make inspections and test while work is in process; and require the contractor to keep complete, and make available to the Government, records of its inspection work.

B. Annual Reporting Burden

Respondents: 850.

Responses Per Respondent: 1.

Total Responses: 850.

Hours Per Response: .25.

Total Burden hours: 213.

C. Annual Recordkeeping Burden

Recordkeepers: 52,254.

Hours Per Recordkeeper: .68.

Total Burden Hours: 35,533.

Total Annual Burden: 213 + 35,533 = 35,746.

Obtaining Copies of Proposals:

Requesters may obtain a copy of the information collection documents from the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (V), Room 4035, 1800 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20405, telephone (202) 501-4755. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0077, Quality Assurance Requirements, in all correspondence.

Dated: August 31, 2004.

Ralph J. De Stefano,

Acting Director, Contract Policy Division.

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