

EPA publishes the notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

At this early stage, the Forest Service believes it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of Draft EISs must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal, so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519,553, (1978). Also, environmental objections that could have been raised at the draft EIS stage, but that are not raised until the completion of the final EIS, may be waived or dismissed by the courts. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2nd 1016, 1022 (9th Cir. 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F.Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). Because of these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the 45-day comment period on the Draft EIS, so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when they can be meaningfully considered and respond to them in the Final EIS.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns of the proposed action, comments on the Draft EIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft statement. Comments may address the adequacy of the draft EIS, or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act in 40 CFR 1503.3, in addressing these points.

Lead and Cooperating Agencies: The Shawnee National Forest manages approximately 277,000 acres within its proclamation boundaries. It is the lead agency for preparation of this document.

Responsible Official: Forrest L. Starkey, Forest Supervisor, Shawnee National Forest, is the responsible official. In making the decision, the responsible official will consider the comments; responses; disclosure of environmental consequences; and applicable laws, regulations, and policies. The responsible official will state the rationale for the chosen alternative in the Record of Decision.

Dated: April 21, 2000.

Forrest L. Starkey,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 00-10776 Filed 4-28-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Notice and Comment Period for the Natural Resources Conservation Service Revised Pest Management Policy

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the decision of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to adopt a revised policy for providing pest management technical assistance. This revised policy will be disseminated within the agency through updates of the agency's General Manual. It includes revision of existing policy in Title 450, Part 401, Subpart A, Technical Guides, Policy and Responsibilities and new policy in Title 190, Part 404, Ecological Sciences, Pest Management Policy. This policy will be implemented through the revision of the agency's conservation practice standards for Pest Management (595). This national conservation practice was developed to reflect the new policy.

DATES: This Federal Register notice will commence a 30-day comment period which will end May 31, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The revised policy can be viewed on the internet at: <http://www.nhq.nrcs.usda.gov/BCS/pest/pest.html>. Address requests and comments to: Lara Philbert, Natural Resources Conservation Service, P.O. Box 2890, Room 6158-S, Washington, DC 20013-2890.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Benjamin F. Smallwood, Natural Resources Conservation Service, (202) 720-7838; fax (202) 720-1814.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Pest Management Policy is a document intended for NRCS employees as they provide technical assistance to landowners and land managers. Section 343 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, requires NRCS to make available for public review and comment proposed revisions to conservation practice standards used to carry out the highly erodible land and wetland provisions of the law. This policy supports the

conservation practice standard for Pest Management (Code 595), which is being prepared for publication in the Federal Register.

USDA prohibits discrimination in its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, sexual orientation, or disability. Additionally, discrimination on the basis of political beliefs and marital or family status is also prohibited by statutes enforced by USDA. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (braille, large print, audio tape, etc.) should contact the USDA's Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination to USDA, write to the Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 325-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD).

Signed in Washington, DC, on April 21, 2000.

Danny D. Sells,

Associate Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

[FR Doc. 00-10800 Filed 4-28-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-U

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

[Docket Number 000410099-0099-01]

RIN 0607-ZA03

Expansion of Census Information Center Program

AGENCY: Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Program solicitation.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to announce the expansion of the Census Information Center (CIC) Program, the community-based component of the Bureau of the Census' (Census Bureau's) Data Dissemination Network and to invite eligible organizations to submit a proposal to be considered for inclusion in the Program. The Census Bureau's Data Dissemination Network currently consists of 12 permanent Regional Offices, 1,800 state and local governmental organizations participating in the State Data Center Program, 1,400 public and university libraries designated as federal depository libraries, and 36 national, regional, and local nonprofit

organizations participating in the CIC Program. The CICs tailor census data to local communities and the local groups they serve. They interpret and explain what census data mean for local communities and neighborhoods, and they increase awareness, education, and understanding of the value and uses of census data. For their participation in the CIC Program, CICs receive free access to a wide variety of Census Bureau products, information, and services, including training from Census Bureau staff. The Census Bureau currently has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with five national, non-profit organizations to disseminate census information and data to underserved communities and populations.

We are seeking to add up to 60 organizations to the Program, subject to the availability of appropriations. The **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section provides a detailed description of the CIC Program, eligibility, requirements, proposal format, content, submission instructions, review, evaluation, and notification processes.

DATES: Proposals must be received by June 30, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Submit proposals to Mr. Stanley J. Rolark, Chief, Customer Liaison Office, Census Bureau, 4700 Silver Hill Road, Room 3616, Federal Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20233.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Anyone requesting additional information about the CIC Program, or wanting to submit written statements or questions, may contact Ms. Barbara A. Harris, Program Administrator, Customer Liaison Office, Census Bureau, 4700 Silver Hill Road, Room 3620, Federal Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20233 (or via the Internet to <Barbara.A.Harris@ccmail.census.gov>).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This section provides a discussion of the following items for the CIC Program: eligibility; program description; program requirements; proposal format, content, submission instructions; and the review, evaluation and notification process.

A. Eligibility

National nonprofit organizations representing underserved communities are eligible to participate in the CIC Program. Some regional and local nonprofit organizations representing smaller population groups like American Indians and Alaska Natives and those representing minority serving institutions and local minority

chambers of commerce are also eligible. Some of the types of organizations we are seeking to include are, but not limited to, minority serving colleges and universities, minority chambers of commerce, civil rights, social justice, social service, minority think tanks, research organizations, and organizations serving rural, children, and youth populations.

B. Census Information Center (CIC) Program Description

The CIC Program was started in 1988 to add a community-based component to the Census Bureau's Data Dissemination Network. The CICs play a crucial role in the Data Dissemination Network by providing access and understanding of the value and uses of census data in underserved communities and neighborhoods. The Census Bureau provides the CICs free access to a wide variety of data products, information, and services. CICs also receive training and technical support from Census Bureau staff. In return, the CICs interpret and explain what census data mean for local communities. The current CIC participants have used census data in areas such as program planning, planning and analysis of service areas and scope of services, public policy development and impact, business development, and race and ethnic related research projects. Current participants are the National Urban League, National Council of La Raza, William C. Velasquez Institute, the Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum, the Native American Public Telecommunications, and 31 local affiliated organizations.

The Customer Liaison Office (CLO) of the Census Bureau administers the CIC Program. All participants must sign a MOU with the Census Bureau. The MOU lists the specific services offered by the Census Bureau and the specific conditions that each CIC must meet.

C. CIC Program Requirements

1. *The Census Bureau provides the following services to a CIC through the CIC Program:*

- Free access to a wide variety of Census Bureau products, information, and services for use in data access and dissemination activities. These products include, but are not limited to, printed reports, CD-ROM products, electronic files, Internet-based products (through the *American Factfinder*), subscriptions, documentation, guides, catalogs, statistical compendia, indexes, maps, mapping databases, and other reference materials. This does not include access

to confidential data or custom tabulations.]

- Training and technical support on Census Bureau data products and services. This includes, but is not limited to, training at Census Bureau headquarters, training sponsored by Census Bureau regional offices, or training via available technologies, such as teleconferencing, video presentations, and other training materials.

- Training and instruction on the use of the Census Bureau's web site and Internet delivery system, the American Factfinder.

- Periodic and timely communications with CICs through e-mail, written correspondence, telephone conference calls, meetings, site visits, annual conference, and a Listserv maintained by the Census Bureau.

- Tools (e.g. brochures, booklets, directories, etc.) developed to assist in marketing the services of the CICs.

- A web site that provides information about the CIC Program and provides links to the web site of the CICs.

- A log for CICs to keep records of their CIC activities.

2. *A CIC provides the following services to the community through the CIC Program:*

- Access to census statistics, data, and reports to underserved communities and data users who might not have access through the other components of the Census Bureau's Data Dissemination Network. CIC's provide access through media such as print, fax, newsletters, telephone, e-mail, community workshops and press releases.

- Census data packaged in ways (e.g. fact sheets and briefs) that make the data clearer and more appropriate for community and local use. They also will help local data users with limited knowledge of census data find the right data for their needs.

- Clear, nontechnical interpretation and explanation of what census data mean for local communities and neighborhoods.

- Technical assistance and consultation on the Census Bureau data products to data users and underserved populations by telephone, e-mail, fax, community workshops, etc.

- Reasonable walk-in access to census information (optional). Some organizations may not be set up for "walk-in" clients.

3. *A CIC provides the following items/services to the Census Bureau through the CIC Program:*

- Copies of any CIC reports, fact sheets, briefs, and articles produced using census data.

- An annual report of activities, including an accounting of the recipients and users of these products.
- A record of inquiries addressed.
- Maintains a web site that highlights the work of their CIC Program and links to Census Bureau web site.

• Participates in an annual CIC conference and Census Bureau sponsored training.

4. *The Census Bureau will conduct the following monitoring and evaluation activities under the CIC Program. The Census Bureau will:*

- Make periodic site visits to CICs (budget permitting) as a means of evaluating how well CICs are meeting program requirements. CICs will provide an annual report with measurable evidence that they are meeting program requirements. This includes providing copies of reports, fact sheets, brief, articles, etc., produced using census data; an accounting of the recipients and users of these products; and a record of inquiries addressed.
- Maintain frequent contact and communication with the CICs by conducting periodic conference calls to continually assess the status of CIC participation and to share new information about programs or activities.
- Reserve the right to terminate the relationship if the CICs are not meeting the program requirements.

D. Suggested Proposal Format, Content, and Submission Instructions

The suggested format below encourages applicants to describe their data dissemination plans, community outreach and record of service to underserved populations, research and data use capability and expertise, and past experience working with the Census Bureau. Applicants are not required, however, to use the suggested format.

1. Proposal Format

The following is the suggested format, which should include the following information:

- Organizations should submit one original and one copy of their proposal in response to this solicitation. An original signature transmittal letter should be included at the beginning of the original proposal and proposal copy, transmitting the proposal to the official identified in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.
- Proposals should not exceed 10 pages. This does not include the transmittal letter.
- Proposals should be in English. Proposal pages should be submitted on 8½ by 11 inch paper with printing on

only one side (single sided). The information should be double-spaced. The typewritten or printed letters should be Times New Roman or similar type, 12 point.

2. Proposal Content

Each proposal should include the following: a description of your organization, program summary, and program requirements (4 components).

a. **Description of Your Organization:** This section should include background information about your organization, including history, mission, programs, services, constituency, etc.

b. **Program Summary:** The program summary should include a brief description of the opportunities and challenges, goals and objectives, and primary focus of your CIC Program. It also should detail how your organization will use census data to benefit underserved communities. The program summary should include a brief description of research or data products you are contemplating and any specific areas of application for your research, especially as it relates to underserved communities.

c. **Program Requirements:** In this section, you should respond to each of the following components:

i. **Data Dissemination Plans:** Describe how your organization will disseminate census data to underserved communities and populations. How will your organization make census information, data, and reports available to local communities and data users served by your organization? How will you provide data and information to data users without Internet access? How will you provide assistance to data users who need help interpreting and understanding the uses and/or implications of census data?

ii. **Community Outreach and Record of Service to Underserved Communities:** Provide a brief statement of your organization's focus as it relates to underserved communities. What is the geographic focus of your organization? Be sure to cite specific locations where services are provided. Which underserved populations are serviced by your organization? What types of services do you provide to underserved communities? What is the number of persons served directly by your organization on an annual basis?

iii. **Research and Data Use Capability and Expertise:** Describe your organization's specific capabilities and expertise in conducting research, using census data or other statistical data. Include information on your publications and current uses of census data. Describe how your organization

has used or plans to use census data to benefit underserved communities, neighborhoods and populations. Describe what resources (staff, equipment, time) you will commit to your CIC Program. What plans do you have to obtain the necessary resources to run your CIC?

iv. **Past Experience:** In what ways has your organization worked with the Census Bureau in the past?

3. Proposal Submission Instructions

Proposals must be received by the date identified in the **DATES** section of this notice. Submit proposals to the official identified in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

E. Review, Evaluation, and Notification Process

1. Review Process

Census Bureau staff will initially screen all proposals received in response to this notice for timeliness (received by the due date), completeness (includes transmittal letter with signature and specified number of copies), and adequacy (includes proper format and content).

Following the initial proposal screening process, remaining proposals will be evaluated, scored, and reviewed in the Evaluation Process.

2. Evaluation Process

All proposals will be evaluated on the strength of the responses to the requirements in the content section. In evaluating proposals, the Census Bureau will give the highest consideration to an organization's data dissemination plans. We also will consider the geographic location, focus, and diversity of organizations to ensure that underserved communities in particular locations have access to census information. Proposals will be reviewed by an evaluation panel of five to seven members with at least three members from outside the Census Bureau who have knowledge and understanding of the CIC Program.

The evaluation factors will be:

- Data dissemination plans (40 points).
- Research and data use capabilities and expertise (35 points).
- Outreach and record of service to underserved communities (20 points).
- Past experience with the Census Bureau (5 points).

A program officer assigned to the proposal review process will consider the advice of the Evaluation Panel and will formulate recommendations for the Selection Panel. The Selection Panel will make final decisions on who will be included in the CIC Program.

3. Notification Process

Organizations selected to participate in the CIC Program will be notified in writing by August 31, 2000. The Census Bureau Program Office administering the program will advise organizations whose proposals are declined as promptly as possible.

4. New Participant Information

New participants will be invited to attend a Census Bureau sponsored orientation and training conference tentatively scheduled for September 27–29, 2000.

Paperwork Reduction Act

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to, the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act unless that collection of information displays a current valid OMB Control Number. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Bureau of Census Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs,

Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Dated: April 20, 2000.

Kenneth Prewitt,

Director, Bureau of the Census.

[FR Doc. 00–10371 Filed 4–28–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–07–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of initiation of antidumping and countervailing duty administrative reviews.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce has received requests to conduct administrative reviews of various antidumping and countervailing duty orders and findings with March anniversary dates. In accordance with

the Department's regulations, we are initiating those administrative reviews.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 1, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Holly A. Kuga, Office of AD/CVD Enforcement, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230, telephone: (202) 482–4737.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Department has received timely requests, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.213(b) (1997), for administrative reviews of various antidumping and countervailing duty orders and findings with March anniversary dates.

Initiation of Reviews

In accordance with section 19 CFR 351.221(c)(1)(i), we are initiating administrative reviews of the following antidumping and countervailing duty orders and findings. We intend to issue the final results of these reviews not later than March 31, 2001.

	Period to be reviewed
Antidumping duty proceedings	
Canada: Iron Construction Castings, A–122–503	3/1/99–2/29/00
Bibby-Ste. Croix	
Laperle Foundry	
Mexico: Steel Wire Rope, A–201–806	3/1/99–12/31/99
Aceros Camesa, S.A. de C.V.	
Cablesa, S.A. de C.V.	
Thailand: Certain Welded Carbon Steel Pipes and Tubes, A–549–502	3/1/99–2/29/00
Saha Thai Steel Pipe Company, Ltd.	
Countervailing Duty Proceedings	
Pakistan: Shop Towels, C–535–001	1/1/99–12/31/99
M/s. Mehtabi Towel Mills (Pvt.) Ltd. Karachi	
M/s. Aqil Textile Industries, Karachi	
M/s. Quality Linen Supply Corp., Karachi	
M/s. Shahi Textiles, Karachi	
M/s. Jawwad Industries, Karachi	
M/s. Silver Textile Factory, Karachi	
M/s. Fine Fabrico, Karachi	
M/s. United Towel Exporters, Karachi	
M/s. R.I. Weaving, Karachi	
M/s. Universal Linen, Karachi	
M/s. Ejaz Linen, Karachi	
M/s. Ahmed & Co., Karachi	
Suspension Agreements	
None.	

During any administrative review covering all or part of a period falling between the first and second or third and fourth anniversary of the publication of an antidumping duty order under section 351.211 or a determination under section 351.218(d) (sunset review), the Secretary, if requested by a domestic interested party

within 30 days of the date of publication of the notice of initiation of the review, will determine whether antidumping duties have been absorbed by an exporter or producer subject to the review if the subject merchandise is sold in the United States through an importer that is affiliated with such exporter or producer. The request must

include the name(s) of the exporter or producer for which the inquiry is requested.

For transition orders defined in section 751(c)(6) of the Act, the Secretary will apply paragraph (j)(1) of this section to any administrative review initiated in 1998 (19 CFR 351.213(j)(1–2)).