

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**Internal Revenue Service****Proposed Collection; Comment
Request for Revenue Procedure 2004–59**

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

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 take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Revenue Procedure 2004–59; Offer to Resolve Issues Arising from Certain Tax, Withholding, and Reporting Obligations of U.S. Withholding Agents with Respect to Payments to Foreign Persons.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before December 13, 2004 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Paul H. Finger, Internal Revenue Service, room 6512, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the revenue procedure should be directed to Carol Savage at Internal

Revenue Service, room 6516, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224, or at (202) 622–3945, or through the Internet at CAROL.A.SAVAGE@irs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Offer to Resolve Issues Arising from Certain Tax, Withholding, and Reporting Obligations of U.S. Agents with Respect to Payments to Foreign Persons.

OMB Number: 1545–1901.

Revenue Procedure Number: Revenue Procedure 2004–59.

Abstract: Revenue Procedure 2004–59 describes the section 1441 Voluntary Compliance Program (“VCP”), which is available to certain withholding agents with respect to the payment, withholding, and reporting of certain taxes due on payments made to foreign persons.

Current Actions: There are no changes being made to the revenue procedure at this time.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 500.

Estimated Annual Average Time Per Respondent: 400 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Hours: 200,000.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information

unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (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 respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: October 8, 2004.

Paul H. Finger,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

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