SUPPORTING STATEMENT Notice 2003-75

1. <u>CIRCUMSTANCES NECESSITATING COLLECTION OF</u> INFORMATION

U.S. citizens and resident aliens with interests in Canadian registered retirement savings plans ("RRSPs") and registered retirement income funds ("RRIFs"), as well as the custodians of such plans, are currently subject to the information reporting rules of section 6048 of the Internal Revenue Code. Persons subject to these information reporting rules are required to file Form 3520 or Form 3520-A.

In early 2003, Treasury and the IRS became aware that many U.S. citizens and resident aliens with interests in RRSPs or RRIFs were unfamiliar with the filing requirements. Treasury and the IRS provided interim guidance in Notice 2003-25 and Notice 2003-57. Those Notices also stated that Treasury and the IRS intended to develop an alternative, simplified reporting regime for RRSPs and RRIFs for future taxable years. The new Notice announces the new simplified reporting regime that Treasury and the IRS have developed and provides that the requirements of section 6048 will not apply for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2002.

2. USE OF DATA

The Internal Revenue Service will use the data collected from United States citizens and resident aliens with interests in RRSPs and RRIFs to ensure that the right amount of tax is collected.

3. USE OF IMPROVED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE BURDEN

IRS publication, regulations, notices and letters are to be electronically enabled on an as practicable basis in accordance with the IRS Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998.

4. EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY DUPLICATION

We have attempted to eliminate duplication within the agency wherever possible.

5. METHODS TO MINIMIZE BURDEN ON SMALL BUSINESSES OR OTHER

SMALL ENTITIES

Not applicable.

6. <u>CONSEQUENCES OF LESS FREQUENT COLLECTION ON FEDERAL</u> PROGRAMS OR POLICY ACTIVITIES

Not applicable.

7. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING DATA COLLECTION TO BE INCONSISTENT WITH GUIDELINES IN 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2)

Not applicable.

8. CONSULTATION WITH INDIVIDUALS OUTSIDE OF THE AGENCY ON AVAILABILITY OF DATA, FREQUENCY OF COLLECTION, CLARITY OF INSTRUCTIONS AND FORMS, AND DATA ELEMENTS

We have consulted with individuals who have interests in RRSPs and RRIFs and with practitioners who represent such individuals.

Notice 2004-75 was published in the **Internal Revenue Bulletin** on December 15, 2003 (2003-50 IRB 1204).

In response to the Federal Register Notice dated November 28, 2006 (F.R. 228), we received no comments during the comment period regarding Notice 2003-75.

9. <u>EXPLANATION OF DECISION TO PROVIDE ANY PAYMENT OR GIFT TO</u> RESPONDENTS

Not applicable.

10. ASSURANCE OF CONFIDENTIALITY OF RESPONSES

Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential as required by 26 USC 6103.

11. JUSTIFICATION OF SENSITIVE QUESTIONS

Not applicable.

12. ESTIMATED BURDEN OF INFORMATION COLLECTION

We estimate that approximately 750,000 million U.S. citizens or resident aliens have interests in RRSPs or RRIFs and that each such individual has an interest in two such plans. The average response time per individual is estimated to be 2 hours. The total estimated burden is 1,500,000 million hours.

Estimates of the annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens shown are not available at this time.

13. ESTIMATED TOTAL ANNUAL COST BURDEN TO RESPONDENTS

As suggested by OMB, our **Federal Register** notice dated November 28, 2006, requested public comments on estimates of cost burden that are not captured in the estimates of burden hours, i.e., estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information. However, we did not receive any response from taxpayers on this subject. As a result, estimates of the cost burdens are not available at this time.

14. ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Not applicable.

15. REASONS FOR CHANGE IN BURDEN

There is no change in the paperwork burden previously approved by OMB. We are making this submission to renew the OMB approval.

16. PLANS FOR TABULATION, STATISTICAL ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION

Not applicable.

17. REASONS WHY DISPLAYING THE OMB EXPIRATION DATE IS INAPPROPRIATE

We believe that displaying the OMB expiration date is inappropriate because it could cause confusion by leading taxpayers to believe that the regulation sunsets as of the expiration date. Taxpayers are not likely to be aware that the Service intends to request renewal of the OMB approval and obtain a new expiration date before the old one expires.

18. EXCEPTIONS TO THE CERTIFICATION STATEMENT ON OMB FORM 83-I

Not applicable.

<u>Note:</u> The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information in this submission:

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.