

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT 0579-0000  
RECORDKEEPING FOR APPROVED LIVESTOCK FACILITIES,  
SLAUGHTERING AND RENDERING ESTABLISHMENTS**

**January 7, 2008**

**A. JUSTIFICATION**

**1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary. Identify any legal or administrative requirements that necessitate the collection. Attach a copy of the appropriate section of each statute and regulation mandating or authorizing the collection of information.**

Title 7, U.S.C. 8301, The Animal Health Protection Act, authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to take such measures as he/she may deem proper to prevent the introduction or dissemination of the contagion of any contagious or communicable disease of animals and/or live poultry from a foreign country into the United States or from one State to another.

Disease prevention is the most effective method for maintaining a healthy animal population, and for enhancing the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's (APHIS) ability to compete in the world market of animal and animal product trade. The Veterinary Services (VS) program of APHIS is the unit responsible for carrying out this disease prevention mission.

APHIS regulations for governing the interstate movement of animals for the purpose of preventing the dissemination of animal diseases within the United States are contained in Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Subchapter C, Interstate Transportation of Animals (Including Poultry) and Animal Products.

Disease surveillance plays an important role in the APHIS mission of protecting the health of U.S. livestock and poultry populations, and testing animals for disease is an important surveillance tool. APHIS can use epidemiological data from tests to assess the prevalence of disease and to identify sources of disease. When testing is coupled with animal identification, APHIS can trace a positive animal's movements and identify other animals with which it may have come into contact.

To enhance APHIS surveillance capabilities, APHIS is amending the regulations regarding the movement of livestock to require approved livestock auction market facilities, slaughtering establishments, and rendering establishments to maintain certain records for 5 years. Currently, livestock auction market facilities are required to retain certain records for 2 years, and there are no records retention provisions that apply to slaughtering and rendering establishments.

Requiring the retention of certain records for 5 years would allow APHIS to trace the prior movements of diseased livestock or poultry further into the past than is currently possible, thereby, providing the opportunity to locate potentially infected or exposed

livestock or poultry that might otherwise remain unidentified. APHIS is also proposing to require the operators of approved slaughtering and rendering establishments to sign listing agreements to document their agreement to comply with the requirements of the regulations for listed slaughtering and rendering establishments. Such listing agreements are currently required for approved livestock auction market facilities, but not for slaughtering or rendering facilities. The proposed change would eliminate that inconsistency.

APHIS is asking Office of Management and Budget to approve its use of these information collections in connection with its efforts to continually APHIS' disease surveillance efforts.

**2. Indicate how, by whom, how frequently, and for what purpose the information is to be used. Except for a new collection, indicate the actual use the agency has made of the information received from the current collection.**

#### **Listing Agreement (VS 10-6) (Signature Only)**

Authorized personnel at all approved rendering and slaughtering establishments must sign and date an agreement to allow and facilitate APHIS or its representatives to take blood and tissue specimens from livestock or livestock carcasses at the establishment without cost to the United States, allow APHIS or its representatives to retain and record all internal and external animal identification devices.

The Listing Agreement will be provided, completed, and signed by a VS official in which the establishment is located. The VS Area Office will retain the original agreement.

#### **Recordkeeping**

Certain records regarding the movement of livestock to require approved livestock auction market facilities, slaughtering establishments, and rendering establishments will be kept for 5 years. Currently, livestock auction market facilities are required to retain certain records for 2 years (9 CFR 71.20), and there are no records retention provisions that apply to slaughtering and rendering establishments. Requiring the retention of certain records for 5 years (which would be added to 9 CFR 71.21) would allow APHIS to trace the prior movements of diseased livestock or poultry further into the past than is currently possible, thereby, providing the opportunity to locate potentially infected or exposed livestock or poultry that might otherwise remain unidentified.

**3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses, and the basis for the decision for adopting this means of collection. Also describe any consideration of using information technology to reduce burden.**

The Listing Agreement (VS 10-6) must be retained in original form for distribution by the VS Area Office and must be signed by an authorized representative of livestock auction market, rendering, or slaughtering establishments; therefore, an electronic copy is not viable for this process.

**4. Describe efforts to identify duplication. Show specifically why any similar information already available cannot be used or modified for use for the purpose described in item 2 above.**

The information that APHIS collects is not available from any other source. APHIS is the only Federal Agency responsible for detecting and controlling contagious animal diseases in the United States.

**5. If the collection of information impacts small businesses or other small entities, describe any methods used to minimize burden.**

The information APHIS will collect in connection with this program is the minimum needed to implement its surveillance program.

APHIS estimates that 98% of the total 710 recordkeepers are small entities.

**6. Describe the consequence to Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently, as well as any technical or legal obstacles to reducing burden.**

Collecting this information less frequently or failing to require recordkeeping would make it impossible for APHIS to effectively operate its surveillance program. This would negatively impact APHIS' ability to detect disease in the U.S. animal population, to prevent disease spread within the United States, and to ultimately eliminate certain animal diseases from the United States.

**7. Explain any special circumstances that require the collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with the general information collection guidelines in 5 CFR 1320.5.**

This information collection is conducted in a manner consistent with the guidelines established in 5 CFR 1320.5.

**8. Describe efforts to consult with persons outside the agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and recordkeeping, disclosure, or reporting form, and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported. If applicable, provide a copy and identify the date and page number of publication in the Federal Register of the agency's notice, soliciting comments on the information collection prior to submission to OMB.**

In 2007 APHIS engaged in productive consultations with the following individuals concerning the information collection activities associated with this program:

David Meeker, Vice Pres., Ph.D., MBA,  
Vice President of Scientific Services  
National Renderers Association, Inc.,  
801 North Fairfax Street, Suite 205,  
Alexandria VA 22314  
(703) 683-0155

Nancy Robinson, Vice Pres., Govt. And Industry Affairs  
Livestock Marketing Association  
10510 NW Ambassador Dr.  
Kansas City, MO 64153  
(801) 821-2048

Rosemary Mucklow, Director Emeritus  
National Meat Association – West  
1970 Broadway, Suite 825  
Oakland, CA 94612  
(510) 763-1533

The proposed rule, Docket Number APHIS 2007-0039, will describe its information gathering requirements, and also provide a 60-day comment period. During this time, interested members of the public will have the opportunity to provide APHIS with their input concerning the usefulness, legitimacy, and merit of the information collection activities APHIS is proposing.

**9. Explain any decision to provide any payment or gift to respondents, other than reenumeration of contractors or grantees.**

This information collection activity involves no payments or gifts to respondents.

**10. Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for the assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy.**

No additional assurance of confidentiality is provided with this information collection. However, the confidentiality of information is protected under 5 U.S.C. 552a.

**11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior or attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private. This justification should include the reasons why the agency considers the questions necessary, the specific uses to be made of the information, the explanation to be given to persons from whom the information is requested, and any steps to be taken to obtain their consent.**

This information collection activity will ask no questions of a personal or sensitive nature.

**12. Provide estimates of the hour burden of the collection of information. Indicate the number of respondents, frequency of response, annual hour burden, and an explanation of how the burden was estimated.**

**•Indicate the number of respondents, frequency of response, annual hour burden, and an explanation of how the burden was estimated. If this request for approval covers more than one form, provide separate hour burden estimates for each form and aggregate the hour burdens in Item 13 of OMB Form 83-I.**

See APHIS Form 71. Burden estimates were developed from discussions with slaughtering and rendering facility personnel who would be completing the form and maintaining records.

**•Provide estimates of annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens for collections of information, identifying and using appropriate wage rate categories.**

APHIS estimates the total annualized cost to the above respondents to be (\$455). APHIS arrived at this figure by multiplying the hours of estimated response time (13) by the estimated average hourly wage of the respondents (\$35).

\$35.00 hourly rate is derived from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics June 2003 Report-National Compensation Survey: Occupational Wages in the United States, July 2002. See <http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/sp/ncb10539.pdf>.

**13. Provide estimates of the total annual cost burden to respondents or recordkeepers resulting from the collection of information (do not include the cost of any hour burden shown in items 12 and 14). The cost estimates should be split into two components: (a) a total capital and start-up cost component annualized over its expected useful life; and (b) a total operation and maintenance and purchase of services component.**

There is zero annual cost burden associated with capital and start-up costs, operation and maintenance expenditures, and purchase of services.

**14. Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government. Provide a description of the method used to estimate cost and any other expense that would not have been incurred without this collection of information.**

The annualized cost to the Federal Government is estimated at \$2362.00.  
(See APHIS Form 79.)

**15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments reported in Items 13 or 14 of the OMB Form 83-1.**

This is a new collection.

**16. For collections of information whose results are planned to be published, outline plans for tabulation and publication.**

APHIS has no plans to publish information it collects in connection with this program.

**17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons that display would be inappropriate.**

If forms were to be discarded because of an outdated OMB expiration date, but otherwise usable, higher printing costs would be incurred by the Federal Government. Therefore, APHIS is seeking approval to not display the OMB expiration date on its forms.

**18. Explain each exception to the certification statement identified in the "Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act."**

APHIS can certify compliance with all provisions under the Act.

**B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods**

There are no statistical methods associated with the information collection activities used in this program.