

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT
FOR PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT SUBMISSION
9000-0153, OMB Circular A-119**

A. JUSTIFICATION.

1. Administrative requirements. This is a request for OMB approval of information collection requirements associated with a revision to the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) that implements OMB Circular A-119, Federal Participation in the Development and Use of Voluntary Consensus Standards. The regulation will permit offerors to propose alternatives to Government-unique standards in response to Government solicitations. This submission will only apply when the agency issuing the solicitation used Government-unique standards instead of voluntary consensus standards and when the agency uses the transaction-based reporting method.

2. Uses of information. This information will be used by the Federal agencies to determine if voluntary consensus standards will satisfy the Government's needs.

3. Consideration of information technology. We use improved information technology to the maximum extent practicable. Where both the Government agency and contractors are capable of electronic interchange, the contractors may submit this information collection requirement electronically.

4. Efforts to identify duplication. This requirement is being issued under the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) which has been developed to standardize Federal procurement practices and eliminate unnecessary duplication.

5. If the collection of information impacts small businesses or other entities, describe methods used to minimize burden. The burden applied to small businesses is the minimum consistent with applicable laws, Executive orders, regulations, and prudent business practices.

6. Describe consequence to Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently. Collection of the information is needed to comply with OMB Circular A-119.

7. **Special circumstances for collection.** There are no special circumstances for collection. Collection is consistent with the guidelines in 5 CFR 1320.5.

8. **Efforts to consult with persons outside the agency.** Under the procedures established for development of the FAR, agency and public comments were solicited and each comment addressed before finalization of the text. A notice published in the *Federal Register* at 73 FR 4188, on January 24, 2008, made this requirement available to the public and requested comments. No major problems regarding this requirement were reported.

9. **Explanation of any decision to provide any payment or gift to respondents, other than reenumeration of contractors or guarantees.** Not applicable.

10. **Describe assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents.** Information related to individual firm's offers become part of the contract file. Information contained in that file will be subject to review and release in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

11. **Additional justification for questions of a sensitive nature.** No sensitive questions are involved.

12 & 13. **Estimated total annual public hour and cost burden.** Time required to read and prepare information is estimated at 1 hour.

Estimated respondents/yr.....	100
Responses annually.....	x 1
Total annual responses.....	100
Estimated preparation time (hrs) per response..	x 1
Estimated total burden/hrs.....	100
Average wages + overhead (\$26/hr + 25% OH).....	x \$26
Total cost to the public.....	\$2,600

14. **Estimated cost to the Government.** Time required for Governmentwide review is estimated at 8 hours.

Annual Reviewing Burden and Cost

Total annual responses	100
Review time/hrs	x 8
Review time/yr	800
Average wages/hr + overhead (\$26/hr + 25% OH) .	x \$26

Total Government cost \$20,800

15. Explain reasons for program changes or adjustments reported in Item 13 or 14. This submission requests an extension of OMB approval of an information collection requirement in the FAR. The information collection requirement in the FAR remains unchanged.

16. Outline plans for published results of information collections. Results will not be tabulated or published.

17. Approval not to display expiration date. Not applicable.

18. Explanation of exception to certification statement. Not applicable.

B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods.

Statistical methods are not used in this information collection.