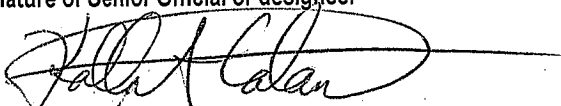


PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT CHANGE WORKSHEET

Agency/subagency Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Immigration and Citizenship Services		OMB Control Number 1615 - 0077	
<i>Enter only items that change</i>			
		Current record	New record
Agency form number (s) No Form Number; OMB-9			
Annual reporting and recordkeeping hour burden	Number of respondents	18,700	20,550
	Total annual responses		
	Percent of these responses collected electronically	%	%
	Total annual hours	10,567	10,650
	Difference		
	Explanation of difference Program change Adjustment		
Annual reporting and recordkeeping cost burden (in thousands of dollars)	Total annualized Capital/Startup costs		
	Total annual costs (O&M)		
	Total annualized cost requested		
	Difference		
	Explanation of difference Program change Adjustment		
	Other changes** Adding a new survey for Non Users of E-Verify. See attached explanation		
Signature of Senior Official or designee: 	Date: 12/30/08	For OIRA Use _____ _____	

** This form cannot be used to extend an expiration date.

(1615 -00077) New Survey

Reason for Data Collection

The Office of Management and Budget previously provided generic clearance for customer satisfaction surveys to evaluate the E-Verify and related programs. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) now requests clearance for a new survey within that generic clearance that will focus specifically on non-users of the E-Verify program. The evaluation of this program and prior electronic employment verification programs are referred to as the Study of Employment Eligibility (SEE).

There is currently considerable interest on the part of Congress to expand the current program and possibly institute mandatory employment verification for all or a substantial percentage of the nation's employers. (Some states have already passed legislation to mandate use of the program for their employers.) This survey is designed to better understand the needs, characteristics, and opinions of current non-users in order to determine why they do not currently use E-Verify, what impact verification of work authorization currently has on the companies, what modifications of E-Verify would make it more appealing to the companies, and the companies' opinions concerning a mandatory program. The results will be used both to better understand the potential impact of a mandatory program and to understand how participation might be increased without a mandate.

Past research has shown that companies participate in E-Verify for a variety of reasons, some of which are based on incorrect assumptions: (e.g., that participation in E-Verify will lessen the chances of being audited for work authorization violations). Little is known about non-users and their reasons for not participating (e.g., whether they are aware of E-Verify, whether they understand the purpose and nature of E-Verify, whether changes to E-Verify might satisfy their objections or better meet their needs, and whether participation would be burdensome). Information from the survey can be used to improve the experiences of current E-Verify users, encourage increased voluntary participation in E-Verify, and better understand the implications of mandatory participation.

Data Collection Instruments

The attached E-Verify data collection instrument shares many common features with an earlier web survey of E-Verify users, while also adding new elements because of the change in the target population. More specifically, it seeks to determine whether employers are informed about E-Verify; to measure employer attitudes about various current and prospective features of E-Verify, including the possibility of E-Verify becoming mandatory; the firm's reasons for not using E-Verify and plans for the future; and the firm's current practices for verifying authorization to work. In addition, the questionnaire asks about a variety of employer characteristics that are likely to be interrelated with the firm's attitudes towards E-Verify, their ability to implement E-Verify, and the potential help or burden from such participation.

All data collection will be conducted by Westat, as part of the ongoing evaluation contract with USCIS. The administration of the surveys by an independent contractor will ensure the necessary confidentiality of the survey respondents. For the Web survey, initial contact and early reminders will be via email whenever an email address is known. Initial contacts will be by letter for those firms where no email address has been provided in the sample information. Later reminders will be by phone. Mail will be used to distribute and return hard copies of the survey only when the respondent requests this form of communication. The email contacts will provide a URL allowing the respondent to link to the Web survey on a secure website. We estimate that it will take 20 minutes, on average, for the employer to complete the Web survey (See Exhibit 1). Completed surveys are expected from approximately 2,500 respondents.

Respondent Burden

Exhibit 1 lists the data collection form that will be completed by respondents. For this form, the exhibit reports the number of respondents to be selected, the anticipated number of completed forms, and the estimated average time to complete the instrument. The administration time to complete the instrument is based on the contractor's experience with the data collection for the earlier evaluations and focus group information.

Exhibit 1. Estimates of hour burden

Type of Form and Type of Respondent	Sample to be Selected	Anticipated Respondents	Estimated Time to Complete	Burden in Hours
Web Survey of Employers	5,000	2,500	.333 (20 min.)	833