

mortgage delinquency (foreclosure mitigation clients). The study is designed to gather statistically accurate information on outcomes realized by the clients of the participating housing counseling agencies. The study focuses on two groups of clients: (1) Clients seeking assistance to purchase a home (pre-purchase clients) and (2) clients seeking to resolve or prevent a mortgage delinquency (foreclosure mitigation clients). Up to Thirty housing counseling agencies at random will be recruited to participate in this study. The selected agencies will provide samples of data from each of the two groups, selected. The data collected through the study will support analysis of not just the frequency of different client outcomes, but also the association between these outcomes and client characteristics, client circumstances, and the extent of services received. Additionally, the proposed study will fulfill two important needs for HUD and the counseling field. First, it will provide systematic information on the outcomes realized by counseling clients and how these outcomes vary with the characteristics of clients and the services they receive. The study will also lay the groundwork for a subsequent pre-purchase impact evaluation by testing data collection procedures to be used to enroll clients, gather information on the characteristics of the services they receive, and track them over time.

**ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES: IN ADDITION TO THOSE DISCLOSURES GENERALLY PERMITTED UNDER 5 U.S.C. A.**

A. To individuals under contract to HUD or under contract to another agency with funds provided by HUD—for the preparation of studies and statistical reports directly related to the management of HUD's Housing Counseling Programs.

B. To future researchers selected by HUD to carry out the objectives of HUD's Housing Counseling Program in aggregate form without individual identifiers—name, address, social security number—for the performance of research and statistical activities of the Housing Counseling Programs.

C. To authorized social science researchers participating in HUD's Housing Counseling Program in aggregate form without individual identifiers—name, address, social security number—for the performance of research and statistical activities of the Housing Counseling Programs.

D. To participating counseling agencies for only part of the database to

gather data identifying information that they gather from their own clients participating in the study and not the part of the database that contains social security numbers, birth dates, or data on the housing counseling clients of other agencies.

E. To credit bureaus to draw credit reports on the individuals selected to participate in the Housing Counseling Outcome Evaluation.

F. To HUD's Housing Counseling System, including the Client Activity Reporting System (CARS) to match sample clients' baseline, service tracking, and outcome data gathered during the course of this research to data reported on those clients in CARS.

**POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

**STORAGE:**

In file folders and electronic files stored on contractors' secured servers and computers.

**RETRIEVABILITY:**

Name, address.

**SAFEGUARDS:**

Manual files will be kept in sealed envelopes, in locked cabinets, in locked offices; computer records will be maintained in a separate secured area accessible only to authorized personnel with passwords. The consent forms will be scanned into electronic files that will be encrypted and then provided to Abt Associates via a secure, password protected HTTPS site. When the consent forms are used to obtain credit reports for the study, a copy of the consent form will be provided using the same secure HTTPS site and encrypted files to the agency that obtains the credit reports. The baseline questionnaires will be entered into an electronic database that will be encrypted at the database level and accessible only to authorized personnel with passwords. Both the consent forms and baseline questionnaires will then be stored at a secure off-site facility for the duration of the project.

**RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:**

All personal identifiers will be destroyed approximately six months after the research is completed.

**SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:**

Mark Shroder, Acting Director of the Program Evaluation Division, Office of Policy Development and Research, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20410, Telephone Number (202) 402-5922.

**NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:**

For information, assistance, or inquiry about existence or records, contact Donna Robinson-Staton, Departmental Privacy Act Officer, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC, in accordance with the procedures in 24 CFR part 16.

**CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:**

Procedures for the amendment or correction of records, and for applicants who want to appeal initial agency determination appear in 24 CFR part 16. If additional information is needed, contact:

(i) In relation to contesting contents of records, the Departmental Privacy Act Officer at HUD, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Room 2256, Washington, DC 20410; and

(ii) In relation to appeals of initial denials, HUD, Departmental Privacy Appeals Officer, Office of General Counsel, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20410.

**RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:**

The original records are transferred from information obtained from *baseline questionnaires* for participating clients and *service tracking surveys* on counseling services received by those clients from the record subjects, participating counseling agencies, and credit bureaus.

**EXEMPTIONS FROM CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE ACT:**

None.  
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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Bureau of Land Management**

[WO-350-1430-EU-24 1A]

**Extension of Approved Information Collection, OMB Approval Number 1004-0153**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is requesting the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to extend an existing approval to collect information from persons who seek to acquire the Federally-owned (reserved) mineral interests underlying their surface estate. BLM collects this information to verify

that the applicant is the surface owner that overlies the Federally-owned mineral rights and that statutory requirements for their conveyance are met. The regulations under 43 CFR Part 2720 authorize BLM to collect information (no specific form is required) to convey Federally-owned mineral interests to surface owners if certain conditions are met.

**DATES:** You must submit your comments to the address below no later than November 24, 2008. Comments received or postmarked after this date may not be considered.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

*Mail:* U.S. Department of the Interior, Director (630), Bureau of Land Management, Mail Stop 401 LS, 1849 C St., NW., (Attention: 1004-0153), Washington, DC 20240.

*Personal or messenger delivery:* 1620 L Street, NW., Room 401, Washington, DC 20036.

*E-mail:* [information\\_collection@blm.gov](mailto:information_collection@blm.gov) (Attn.: 1004-0153).

All comments will be available for public review at the L Street address during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.), Monday through Friday except Federal holidays. Before including your address, telephone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** You may contact Alzata L. Ransom, Division of Lands, Realty and Cadastral Survey, on (202) 452-7772 (Commercial or FTS). Persons who use a telecommunication device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) on 1-800-877-8330, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to contact Ms. Ransom.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** 5 CFR 1320.12(a) requires that we provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning a collection of information to solicit comments on:

(a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper functioning of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(b) The accuracy of our estimates of the information collection burden,

including the validity of the methodology and assumptions we use;

(c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and

(d) Ways to minimize the information collection burden on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Section 209 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and implementing regulations at 43 CFR part 2720 establish procedures for BLM to convey Federally-owned (reserved) mineral interests to non-Federal surface ownership, if the value of the surface use or planned use exceeds the value of the mineral rights, or that there are no minerals there, and that the mineral rights prevent beneficial surface use. The regulations authorize BLM to collect this information (no specific form is required) to determine if BLM may convey the Federally-owned mineral interests to surface owners who apply and meet the statutory requirements. We list in 43 CFR 2720.1-2 the specific information requirements you must submit when applying for a conveyance of Federally-owned mineral interests. Without this information, BLM would not be able to analyze and approve applications to convey Federally-owned mineral interests that interfere with beneficial surface uses.

Based upon BLM experience administering the regulations, we estimate the public reporting information collection burden to be 10 hours per application. The respondents are surface owners in which the mineral interests are reserved or owned by the United States. The estimated number of responses per year is 30 and the total annual burden is 300 hours.

BLM will summarize all responses to this notice and include them in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: September 18, 2008.

**Ted R. Hudson,**

*Acting Information Collection Clearance Officer, Bureau of Land Management.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WO-350-1430-PF-24 1A]

#### Extension of Approved Information Collection, OMB Control Number 1004-0004

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) requests the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to extend an existing approval to collect information from those persons who submit Form 2520-1 to apply for a desert-land entry to reclaim, irrigate, and cultivate arid and semiarid public lands in the Western United States. The BLM uses this information to determine if the applicant is eligible to make a desert-land entry under the appropriate land entry laws.

**DATES:** You must submit your comments to BLM at the address below on or before November 24, 2008. BLM will not necessarily consider any comments postmarked or received after the above date.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

*Mail:* U.S. Department of the Interior, Director (630), Bureau of Land Management, Mail Stop 401 LS, 1849 C St., NW., (Attention: 1004-0004), Washington, DC 20240.

*Personal or messenger delivery:* 1620 L Street, NW., Room 401, Washington, DC 20036.

*E-mail:* [information\\_collection@blm.gov](mailto:information_collection@blm.gov) (Attn.: 1004-0004)

Comments will be available for public review at the L Street address during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.), Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** You may contact Alzata L. Ransom, Division of Lands, Realty and Cadastral Survey, on (202) 452-7772 (Commercial or FTS). Persons who use a telecommunication device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) on 1-800-877-8330, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to contact Ms. Ransom.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** 5 CFR 1320.12(a) requires that we provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning a collection of information to solicit comments on: