

Management, Records Management Division, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street, SW., Washington, DC 20472.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Contact Mark Whitney, Fire Program Specialist, United States Fire Administration, National Fire Data Center, (301) 447-1836 for additional information. You may contact the Records Management Branch for copies of the proposed collection of information at facsimile number (202) 646-3347 or e-mail address: *FEMA-Information-Collections@dhs.gov*.

Dated: December 19, 2008.

**Samuel C. Smith,**

*Acting Director, Records Management Division, Office of Management, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.*

[FR Doc. E8-30719 Filed 12-23-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 9110-12-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**

**Federal Emergency Management Agency**

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice; 60-day notice and request for comments; Revision of a

currently approved collection, 1660-0045, No Forms.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Emergency Management Agency, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on a revised information collection. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice seeks comments concerning the collection of information to assure appropriate flood insurance rates being placed on the affected public within Monroe County in Florida.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Title 44 CFR Parts 59 and 61, National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP); Inspection of Insured Structures by Communities implements the inspection procedures in Monroe County, the City of Marathon, and the Village of Islamorada, Florida and any other community that incorporates in Monroe County on or after January 1, 1999. The inspection procedure has two major purposes: (1) To help the communities of Monroe County, the City of Marathon, and the Village of Islamorada, Florida, and any other communities in Monroe County that incorporate after January 1, 1999, verify that structures in their communities (those built after the effective date of the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)), referred to as post-FIRM, comply with the community's

floodplain management ordinance; and (2) to ensure that property owners pay flood insurance premiums commensurate with their flood risk. The inspection procedure requires owners of insured buildings (policyholders) to obtain an inspection from community floodplain management officials and submit a community inspection report as a condition of renewing the Standard Flood Insurance Policy (SFIP) on buildings.

**Collection of Information**

*Title:* Inspection of Insured Structures by Communities.

*Type of Information Collection:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

*OMB Number:* 1660-0045.

*Form Numbers:* No Forms.

*Abstract:* The community inspection report is used for the implementation of the inspection procedures to help communities in Monroe County, the City of Marathon and the Village of Islamorada, Florida verify buildings are compliant with their floodplain management ordinance and to help FEMA ensure that policyholders are paying flood insurance premiums that are commensurate with their flood risk.

*Affected Public:* Individuals and Households, State, local and Tribal governments.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 1,041 hours.

TABLE A.12—ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS AND COSTS

Type of respondent	Form name/form number	No. of respondents	No. of responses per respondent	Avg. burden per response (in hours)	Total annual burden (in hours)	Avg. hourly wage rate	Total annual respondent cost
Individuals/Households.	Inspection acquisition/No form.	833	1	.25	208	\$19.29	\$4,012
State/Local/Tribal Governments.	Inspection results submission/No Form.	833	1	1	833	23.15	19,284
<b>Total</b> .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	<b>1,041</b>	.....	<b>23,296</b>

*Estimated Cost:* The estimated annualized cost to respondents based on wage rate categories is \$23,296. The estimated annualized cost burden to respondents or recordkeepers is \$168,266. The estimated annual cost to the Federal Government is \$10,173.

*Comments:* Written comments are solicited to (a) Evaluate whether the proposed data collection is necessary for the proper performance of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of

information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses. Comments must be submitted on or before February 23, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons should submit written comments to Office of Management, Records Management Division, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street, SW., Washington, DC 20472, Mail Drop Room 301.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Contact Jennifer Tylander, Program Specialist, FEMA Mitigation Directorate, (202) 646-2607 for additional information. You may contact the Records Management Branch for copies of the proposed collection of information at facsimile number (202)

646–3347 or e-mail address: *FEMA-Information-Collections@dhs.gov*.

Dated: December 18, 2008.

**Samuel C. Smith,**

*Acting Director, Records Management Division, Office of Management, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.*

[FR Doc. E8–30721 Filed 12–23–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110–11–P

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Docket ID FEMA–2008–0017]

#### Voluntary Private Sector Accreditation and Certification Preparedness Program

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice; request for recommendations.

**SUMMARY:** In the “Implementing the Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007” (the 9/11 Act), Congress authorized the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to establish a voluntary private sector preparedness accreditation and certification program. This program, now known as “PS-Prep,” will assess whether a private sector entity complies with one or more voluntary preparedness standards adopted by DHS, through a system of accreditation and certification set up by DHS in close coordination with the private sector.

PS-Prep will raise the level of private sector preparedness through a number of means, including (i) Establishing a system for DHS to adopt private sector preparedness standards; (ii) encouraging creation of those standards; (iii) developing a method for a private sector entity to obtain a certification of conformity with a particular DHS-adopted private sector standard, and encouraging such certification; and (iv) making preparedness standards adopted by DHS more widely available.

This Notice discusses essential elements of the program, describes the consultation that has taken place and will take place with the private sector, and seeks additional recommendations in a number of areas, including the private sector preparedness standards that DHS should adopt, both initially and over time.

**DATES:** *Comment period:* Anyone may submit comments on this guidance at any time, and comments will be considered as they are received. We

would appreciate any recommendations for adoption of currently-existing private sector preparedness standards by January 23, 2009, though, as made clear below, we will accept submissions of private sector preparedness standards for adoption as well as comments on this notice at any time.

*Public Meetings:* DHS intends to hold two public meetings in Washington, DC to provide a forum for public comment on the subject of private sector preparedness standards, one in January and another in February, 2009. Meeting details and registration information will be published in the **Federal Register** and posted at <http://www.fema.gov/privatesectorpreparedness>.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by Docket ID FEMA–2008–0017, by one of the following methods:

*Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. (All government requests for comments—even if, as in this case, they are not for regulatory purposes—are sent to this portal.)

*E-mail:* [FEMA-POLICY@dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-POLICY@dhs.gov). Include Docket ID FEMA–2008–0017 in the subject line of the message.

*Fax:* 866–466–5370.

*Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier:* Office of Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street, SW., Room 845, Washington, DC 20472.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number (if available). Regardless of the method used for submitting comments or material, all submissions will be posted, without change, to the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>, and will include any personal information you provide. Therefore, submitting this information makes it public. You may wish to read the Privacy Act notice that is available on the Privacy and Use Notice link on the Administration Navigation Bar of <http://www.regulations.gov>.

*Docket:* For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Submitted comments may also be inspected at FEMA, Office of Chief Counsel, 500 C Street, SW., Room 840, Washington, DC 20472.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Don Grant, Incident Management Systems Director, National Preparedness Directorate, FEMA, 500 C Street SW., Washington, DC 20472. Phone: (202) 646–8243 or e-mail: [Donald.Grant@dhs.gov](mailto:Donald.Grant@dhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This supplementary information section is organized as follows:

#### Table of Contents

- I. Background
  - A. Preparedness in the Wake of 9/11
  - B. Purpose and Structure of the Program
- II. Establishment of PS-Prep
  - A. Statutory Authorization
  - B. The Designated Officer
  - C. The PS-Prep Coordinating Council (PSPCC)
  - D. Coordination with the Private Sector and Other Non-DHS Entities
- III. DHS’s Adoption of Voluntary Preparedness Standards
  - A. Call for Recommendations
  - B. Principles for Standards Adoption
  - C. Elements to be Considered for DHS Adoption of a Standard
- IV. Accreditation
  - A. The Selected Entity
  - B. Procedures and Requirements for the Accreditation Process
  - C. Review of Certifiers
- V. Certification of Qualified Private Sector Entities
- VI. Small Business Concerns
- VII. Other Relevant Issues
  - A. SAFETY Act
  - B. Access to Sensitive Information
  - C. Availability of Standards
- VIII. Public Listing of Certified Private Sector Entities
  - IX. Ongoing and Regular Activities of the PS-Prep Coordinating Council
- X. Next Steps
  - XI. Draft List of Possible Elements to Consider in Standards Development (Target Criteria)

#### I. Background

##### A. Preparedness in the Wake of 9/11

Private-sector preparedness is not a luxury; it is a cost of doing business in the post-9/11 world. It is ignored at a tremendous potential cost in lives, money, and national security.

This conclusion was reached by the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States—the 9/11 Commission—in making a specific finding about private sector preparedness. During the course of its inquiry, the Commission found that the private sector was not prepared for the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks, and that, despite 9/11, the private sector remained largely unprepared at the time of its final report. The 9/11 Commission Report: Final Report of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States at 398 (2004) (9/11 Commission Report). The 9/11 Commission’s central recommendation in this area was that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) promote private sector preparedness standards that establish a common set of criteria and terminology for preparedness, disaster management, emergency