Supporting Statement (Form 982)

23336. CIRCUMSTANCES NECESSITATING COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

Internal Revenue Code section 108 allows taxpayers to exclude from gross income amounts attributable to discharge of indebtedness in title 11 cases, insolvency, or a qualified farm indebtedness. Code section 1081(b) allows corporations to exclude from gross income amounts attributable to certain transfers of property.

23337. USE OF DATA

The data is used to verify adjustments to basis of property and reduction of tax attributes.

23338. USE OF IMPROVED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE BURDEN

We are currently offering electronic filing on Form 982.

23339. EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY DUPLICATION

We have attempted to eliminate duplication within the agency wherever possible.

23340. <u>METHODS TO MINIMIZE BURDEN ON SMALL BUSINESSES OR OTHER</u> SMALL ENTITIES

Not applicable.

23341. <u>CONSEQUENCES OF LESS FREQUENT COLLECTION ON FEDERAL</u> PROGRAMS OR POLICY ACTIVITIES

Not applicable.

23342. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING DATA COLLECTION TO BE INCONSISTENT WITH GUIDELINES IN 5 CFR 1320.5(d)(2)

Not applicable.

23343. CONSULTATION WITH INDIVIDUALS OUTSIDE OF THE AGENCY ON AVAILABILITY OF DATA, FREQUENCY OF COLLECTION, CLARITY OF INSTRUCTIONS AND FORMS, AND DATA ELEMENTS

Periodic meetings are held between IRS personnel and

representatives of the American Bar Association, the National Society of Public Accountants, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and other professional groups to discuss tax law and tax forms. During these meetings, there is an opportunity for those attending to make comments regarding Form 982.

In response to the **Federal Register Notice** dated May 14, 2009 (74 FR 22804), we received no comments during the comment period regarding Form 4136.

23344. <u>EXPLANATION OF DECISION TO PROVIDE ANY PAYMENT OR GIFT</u> TO RESPONDENTS

Not applicable.

10. ASSURANCE OF CONFIDENTIALITY OF RESPONSES

Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential as required by 26 USC 6103.

11. JUSTIFICATION OF SENSITIVE QUESTIONS

Not applicable.

12. ESTIMATED BURDEN OF INFORMATION COLLECTION

Form	Number of	Time Per	Total Burden
	<u>Responses</u>	<u>Responses</u>	<u>Hours</u>
982	667	11.23	7,491

Estimates of annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens shown above are not available at this time.

13. ESTIMATED TOTAL ANNUAL COST BURDEN TO RESPONDENTS

As suggested by OMB, our Federal Register notice dated May 14, 2009 requested public comments on estimates of cost burden that are not captured in the estimates of burden hours, i.e., estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information. However, we did not receive any response from taxpayers on this subject. As a result, estimates of the cost burdens are not available at this time.

14. ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The primary cost to the government consists of the cost of printing this form. We estimate that the cost of printing Form 982 is \$1,051.

15. REASONS FOR CHANGE IN BURDEN

The form was revised to reflect the new exclusion from gross income for discharges of certain indebtedness of a qualified individual because of Midwestern disasters as described in P.L. 110-343, Division C, Tax Extenders and Alternative Minimum Tax Relief, Act Section 702(e)(4). Line 10b was added to reflect the reduction of the basis of an individual's principal residence as permitted in the Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act of 2007 (P.L. 110-142, Act Section 2). The Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 extended the exclusion from gross income for the discharge of qualified principal residence indebtedness by an additional 3 years. This exclusion now applies to debt discharged after 2006 and before 2013. The Heartland Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2008 allows qualified individuals to exclude from gross income discharges of certain indebtedness because of Midwestern disasters. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 allows certain businesses to elect to defer and include ratably over five tax years any income from the discharge of business debt arising from the reacquisition of certain types of business debt repurchased in 2009 and 2010. These changes and updates to the law will result in a total burden increase of 320 hours.

This resulted in the addition of one checkbox and one new line that increased the burden to 7,491 hours.

16. PLANS FOR TABULATION, STATISTICAL ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION

Not applicable.

17. REASONS WHY DISPLAYING THE OMB EXPIRATION DATE IS INAPPROPRIATE

See attachment.

18. EXCEPTION TO THE CERTIFICATION STATEMENT ON OMB FORM 83-I

Not applicable.

<u>Note:</u> The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information in this submission:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

OMB EXPIRATION DATE

We believe the public interest will be better served by not printing an expiration date on the form(s) in this package.

Printing the expiration date on the form will result in increased costs because of the need to replace inventories that become obsolete by passage of the expiration date each time OMB approval is renewed. Without printing the expiration date, supplies of the form could continue to be used.

The time period during which the current edition of the form(s) in this package will continue to be usable cannot be predicted. It could easily span several cycles of review and OMB clearance renewal. In addition, usage fluctuates unpredictably. This makes it necessary to maintain a substantial inventory of forms in the supply line at all times. This includes supplied owned by both the Government and the public. Reprinting of the form cannot be reliably scheduled to coincide with an OMB approval expiration date. This form may be privately printed by users at their own expense. Some businesses print complex and expensive marginally punched continuous versions, their expense, for use in their computers. The form may be printed by commercial printers and stocked for sale. In such cases, printing the expiration date on the form could result in extra costs to the users.

Not printing the expiration date on the form(s) will also avoid confusion among taxpayers who may have identical forms with different expiration dates in their possession.

For the above reasons we request authorization to omit printing the expiration date on the form(s) in this package.