



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Chief Information Officer
Washington, D.C. 20230

August 11, 2009

Mr. Alex Hunt
Chief, Information Policy Branch
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Mr. Hunt:

The Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) requests emergency review of a revision to its existing information collection, Application for Investment Assistance.

The Trade and Globalization Adjustment Assistance Act of 2009 (TGAAA), was passed as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The TGAAA amended chapter 4 of the Trade Act of 1974, establishing the Community Trade Adjustment Assistance (CTAA) Program, which is designed to assist U.S. communities suffering negative effects from trade and globalization. The TGAAA also designated EDA as the agency responsible for administering the CTAA Program. Since the Program is similar to EDA's existing economic development planning and construction programs, EDA plans to use the existing form to process CTAA applications. EDA estimates that it will receive an additional 650 responses annually under the new CTAA Program.

EDA requires emergency review and approval of this revision and to publish the final version of the regulatory changes promulgated in accordance with the TGAAA, establishing the CTAA Program. A notice of proposed rulemaking was published on May 5, 2009.

Therefore, EDA requests that OMB conclude its review of this information collection request by August 12, 2009. We appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,


for Suzanne Hilding