

Supporting Statement A
National Security Entry-Exit Registration System
OMB No. 1653 - 0036

A. Justification:

- 1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary. Identify any legal or administrative requirements that necessitate the collection. Attach a copy of the appropriate section of each statute and regulation mandating or authorizing the collection of information.**

The National Security Entry-Exit Registration System (NSEERS) was put in place after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in order to comply with the development of a congressionally mandated requirement for a comprehensive entry-exit program. NSEERS is used to track nonimmigrant alien visitors entering and leaving the country on the basis of tourism, medical treatment, business, temporary work, study or other similar reasons. 8 U.S.C. §1303 provides authority for the registration requirements associated with this collection.

- 2. Indicate how, by whom, and for what purpose the information is to be used. Except for a new collection, indicate the actual use the agency has made of the information received from the current collection.**

The information is collected by border/immigration inspectors from qualified aliens and is used to investigate compliance with visa and admission conditions, to complete administrative, civil and criminal enforcement activities, and to further other national security and law enforcement objectives.

- 3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses, and the basis for the decision for adopting this means of collection. Also describe any consideration of using information technology to reduce burden.**

Hard copy documents are not used as a part of this information collection. The information is taken directly from the nonimmigrant alien and entered into the ENFORCE law enforcement investigative system.

- 4. Describe efforts to identify duplication. Show specifically why any similar information already available cannot be used or modified for use for the purposes described in Item 2 above.**

This information is not collected in any form, and therefore is not duplicated elsewhere.

- 5. If the collection of information impacts small businesses or other small entities (Item 5 of OMB Form 83-1), describe any methods used to minimize burden.**

This information collection does not have an impact on small businesses or other small entities.

- 6. Describe the consequence to Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently, as well as any technical or legal obstacles to reducing burden.**

If this information is not collected, there would no other vehicle that ICE may employ that would satisfy the requirements of the program as mandated by the interagency decisions creating the program.

- 7. Explain any special circumstances that would cause an information collection to be conducted in a manner:**

- **Requiring respondents to report information to the agency more often than quarterly;**
- **requiring respondents to prepare a written response to a collection of information in fewer than 30 days after receipt of it;**
- **requiring respondents to submit more than an original and two copies of any document;**
- **requiring respondents to retain records, other than health, medical, government contract, grant-in-aid, or tax records for more than three years;**
- **In connection with a statistical survey, that is not designed to produce valid**

and reliable results that can be generalized to the universe of study;

- **requiring the use of a statistical data classification that has not been reviewed and approved by OMB;**
- **that includes a pledge of confidentiality that is not supported by authority established in statute or regulation, that is not supported by disclosure and data security policies that are consistent with the pledge, or which unnecessarily impedes sharing of data with other agencies for compatible confidential use; or**
- **requiring respondents to submit proprietary trade secret, or other confidential information unless the agency can demonstrate that it has instituted procedures to protect the information's confidentiality to the extent permitted by law.**

The special circumstances contained in item 7 of the Supporting Statement are not applicable to this information collection.

- 8. If applicable, provide a copy and identify the data and page number of publication in the Federal Register of the agency's notice, required by 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on the information collection prior to submission to OMB. Summarize public comments received in response to that notice and describe actions taken by the agency in response to these comments. Specifically address comments received on cost and hour burden.**

Describe efforts to consult with persons outside the agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and recordkeeping, disclosure, or reporting format (if any), and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported.

Consultation with representatives of those from whom information is to be obtained or those who must compile records should occur at least once every 3 years -- even if the collection of information activity is the same as in prior periods. There may be circumstances that may preclude consultation in a specific situation. These circumstances should be explained.

On May 5, 2010, ICE published a notice in the Federal Register at 75 FR 24721, soliciting public review and comment for a 60 day period on the proposed extension of this information collection. ICE received nine (9) comments during this period. Most of these comments expressed opposition to the NSEERS program based upon four (4) factors. ICE responded to these comments by advising the commenter's that their comments had been received by ICE and forwarded to the DHS Office of Policy and that

the NSEERS program was currently being reviewed by the Department for modification. On August 31, 2010, ICE published a follow up notice in the Federal Register at 75 FR 53322, soliciting public review and comment for an additional 30 day period on the proposed extension of this information collection.

9. Explain any decision to provide any payment or gift to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.

ICE does not provide payments or gifts to respondents in exchange for a benefit sought.

10. Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for the assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy.

There are no assurances of confidentiality provided to the respondents of this information collection.

11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private. This justification should include the reasons why the agency considers the questions necessary, the specific uses to be made of the information, the explanation to be given to person's form whom the information is requested, and any steps to be taken to obtain their consent.

There are no questions of a sensitive nature.

12. Provide estimates of the hour burden of the collection of information. The statement should:

- **Indicate the number of respondents, frequency of response, annual hour burden, and an explanation of how the burden was estimated. Unless directed to do so, agencies should not conduct special surveys to obtain information on which to base hour burden estimates. Consultation with a sample (fewer than 10) of potential respondents is desirable. If the hour burden on respondents is expected to vary widely because of differences in activity, size, or complexity, show the range of estimated hour burden, and explain the reasons for the variance. Generally, estimates should not include burden hours for customary and usual business practices.**
- **If this request for approval covers more than one form, provide separate hour burden estimates for each form and aggregate the hour burdens in Item 13 of OMB Form 83-I.**
- **Provide estimates of annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens for**

collections of information, identifying and using appropriate wage rate categories. The cost of contracting out or paying outside parties for information collection activities should not be included here. Instead, this cost should be included in Item 14.

Annual Reporting Burden

a. Number of Respondents:	58,000
b. Number of Responses per each Respondent:	1
c. Total Annual Responses:	58,000
d. Hours per Response:	.50 Hours (30 min.)
e. Total Annual Reporting Burden:	29,000

The projected hours per response for this collection of information were derived by first breaking the process into three basic components:

Learning about the legal requirements:	10 Minutes
Entry Registration:	15 Minutes
Exit Registration:	5 Minutes
Total Hours per Response:	30 Minutes

Note: USICE has the authority to require any alien to appear for interview and provide information at any time. The authorizing statute further provides that the Assistant Secretary designate any class of alien already in the United States to specifically at any time, 8 U.S.C. §1303(a)(6).

Annual Reporting Burden

Total annual reporting burden hours are 29,000 Hrs. This figure was derived by multiplying the number of respondents (58,000) x frequency of response (1) x (.50 hours) per response.

Annual Cost Burden

The estimated annual cost burden is \$ 290,000. This estimate is based on the number of respondents (58,000) multiplied by the frequency of responses (1) multiplied by .50 hours (30 minutes) per response multiplied by the (\$10) average hourly rate;

- 13. Provide an estimate of the total annual cost burden to respondents or record keepers resulting from the collection of information. (Do not include the cost of any hour burden shown in Items 12 and 14).**

- **The cost estimate should be split into two components: (a) a total capital and start-up cost component (annualized over its expected useful life); and (b) a total operation and maintenance and purchase of services component. The estimates should take into account costs associated with generating, maintaining, and disclosing or providing the information. Include descriptions of methods used to estimate major cost factors including system and technology acquisition, expected useful life of capital equipment, the discount rate(s), and the time period over which costs will be incurred. Capital and start-up costs include, among other items, preparations for collecting information such as purchasing computers and software; monitoring, sampling, drilling and testing equipment; and record storage facilities.**
- **If cost estimates are expected to vary widely, agencies should present ranges of cost burdens and explain the reasons for the variance. The cost of purchasing or contracting out information collection services should be a part of this cost burden estimate. In developing cost burden estimates, agencies may consult with a sample of respondents (fewer than 10), utilize the 60-day pre-OMB submission public comment process and use existing economic or regulatory impact analysis associated with the rulemaking containing the information collection, as appropriate.**
- **Generally, estimates should not include purchases of equipment or services, or portions thereof, made: (1) prior to October 1, 1995, (2) to achieve regulatory compliance with requirements not associated with the information collection, (3) for reasons other than to provide information or keep records for the government or (4) as part of customary and usual business or private practices.**

There are no record keeping, capital, start-up or maintenance costs associated with this information collection.

- 14. Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government. Also, provide a description of the method used to estimate cost, which should include quantification of hours, operational expenses (such as equipment, overhead, printing, and support staff), and any other expense that would not have been incurred without this collection of information. Agencies also may aggregate cost estimates from Items 12, 13, and 14 in a single table.**

Annualized Cost Analysis:

a. Printing Cost:	\$0
b. Collecting and Processing:	\$1,160,000
c. Total Cost to Program:	\$1,160,000

d. Fee Charge:	\$0
e. Total Annual Cost to Government	\$1,160,000

Government Cost

The estimated cost of the program to the Government is calculated by subtracting the Total Cost of Program from the Fee Charge. Total Cost of Program is calculated by using the estimated number of respondents (58,000) x .50 hour (30 min.) (time required to collect and process) x \$40 (Suggested average hourly rate for clerical, officer, and managerial time with benefits).

15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments reporting in Items 13 or 14 of the OMB Form 83-I.

There has been no increase or decrease in the estimated annual burden hours previously reported for this information collection.

16. For collections of information whose results will be published, outline plans for tabulation, and publication. Address any complex analytical techniques that will be used. Provide the time schedule for the entire project, including beginning and ending dates of the collection of information, completion of report, publication dates, and other actions.

ICE does not intend to employ the use of statistics or the publication thereof for this collection information.

17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons that display would be inappropriate.

ICE is seeking approval to not display the expiration date of OMB approval of this information collection, as it will only be physically accessed by Federal personnel.

18. Explain each exception to the certification statement identified in Item 19, "Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submission," of OMB 83-I.

ICE does not request an exception to the certification of this information collection.