SUPPORTING STATEMENT Notice 2003-75

1. CIRCUMSTANCES NECESSITATING COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

U.S. citizens and resident aliens with interests in Canadian registered retirement savings plans ("RRSPs") and registered retirement income funds ("RRIFs"), as well as the custodians of such plans, are currently subject to the information reporting rules of section 6048 of the Internal Revenue Code. Persons subject to these information reporting rules are required to file Form 3520 or Form 3520-A.

In early 2003, Treasury and the IRS became aware that many U.S. citizens and resident aliens with interests in RRSPs or RRIFs were unfamiliar with the filing requirements. Treasury and the IRS provided interim guidance in Notice 2003-25 and Notice 2003-57. Those Notices also stated that Treasury and the IRS intended to develop an alternative, simplified reporting regime for RRSPs and RRIFs for future taxable years. The new Notice announces the new simplified reporting regime that Treasury and the IRS have developed and provides that the requirements of section 6048 will not apply for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2002.

2. <u>USE OF DATA</u>

The Internal Revenue Service will use the data collected from United States citizens and resident aliens with interests in RRSPs and RRIFs to ensure that the right amount of tax is collected.

3. USE OF IMPROVED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE BURDEN

IRS publication, regulations, notices and letters are to be electronically enabled on an as practicable basis in accordance with the IRS Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998.

4. EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY DUPLICATION

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

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

8. <u>CONSULTATION WITH INDIVIDUALS OUTSIDE OF THE AGENCY ON</u> <u>AVAILABILITY OF DATA, FREQUENCY OF COLLECTION, CLARITY</u> <u>OF</u> <u>INSTRUCTIONS AND FORMS, AND DATA ELEMENTS</u>

We have consulted with individuals who have interests in RRSPs and RRIFs and with practitioners who represent such individuals.

Notice 2004-75 was published in the **Internal Revenue Bulletin** on December 15, 2003 (2003-50 IRB 1204).

In response to the Federal Register Notice dated February 4, 2010 (75 FR 5861), we received no comments during the comment period regarding Notice 2003-75.

9. EXPLANATION OF DECISION TO PROVIDE ANY PAYMENT OR GIFT 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

We estimate that approximately **750,000 million** U.S. citizens or resident aliens have interests in RRSPs or RRIFs and that each such individual has an interest in two such plans. The average response time per individual is estimated to be **2 hours**. The estimated total burden is **1,500,000 million hours**.

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

13. ESTIMATED TOTAL ANNUAL COST BURDEN TO RESPONDENTS

As suggested by OMB, our **Federal Register** notice dated February 4, 2010, 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

Not applicable.

15. REASONS FOR CHANGE IN BURDEN

There is no change in the paperwork burden previously approved by OMB. We are making this submission to renew the OMB approval.

16. PLANS FOR TABULATION, STATISTICAL ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION

Not applicable.

17. REASONS WHY DISPLAYING THE OMB EXPIRATION DATE IS INAPPROPRIATE

We believe that displaying the OMB expiration date is inappropriate because it could cause confusion by leading taxpayers to believe that the regulation sunsets as of the expiration date. Taxpayers are not likely to be aware that the Service intends to request renewal of the OMB approval and obtain a new expiration date before the old one expires.

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

Not applicable.

Note: 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.