

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Farm and
Foreign
Agricultural
Services




Foreign
Agricultural
Service

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September 20, 2012

TO: Andrew Perraut,
Office of Management and Budget, USDA

THROUGH: Ruth Brown,
Office of the Chief Information Officer, USDA

FROM: 
Ron Lord
Director, Import Policies and Export Reporting Division, FAS

SUBJECT: Non-substantive Change Request to increase burden hours for information collection authorized under OMB No. 0551-0014 due to Panama Trade Promotion Act.

FAS requests OMB's approval for a non-substantive change to adjust the burden for the approved information collection (IC) for the Certificate for Quota Eligibility (CQE) program. The burden will increase after the United States implements the U.S.-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement because additional certificates will be required to accommodate Panama's increased sugar access.

The United States will likely soon announce implementation of the U.S.-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement (TPA). Under the TPA, the United States committed to administer Panama's sugar tariff-rate quota utilizing certificates of quota eligibility (CQEs).

It is estimated that Panama will utilize 24 copies of the CQE per year, and it is estimated that the form takes 10 minutes to fill out. Thus the burden under the Paperwork Reduction Act, OMB No. 0551-0014, is estimated to increase by 4 hours, or \$157.