


SUPPORTING STATEMENT
Notice 2006-54

1. CIRCUMSTANCES NECESSITATING COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

Section 30B of the Internal Revenue Code allows a credit for alternative motor vehicles. Section 30B(a)(4) and (e) of the Internal Revenue Code provides a credit for alternative fuel motor vehicles.

This notice sets forth a process that allows taxpayers who purchase alternative fuel motor vehicles to rely on the domestic manufacturer's (or, in the case of a foreign manufacturer, its domestic distributor's) certification that both a particular make, model, and year of vehicle qualifies as an alternative fuel motor vehicle under § 30B(a)(4) and (e) of the Internal Revenue Code and the amount of the credit allowable with respect to the vehicle. 

Under the procedures prescribed in this notice, a manufacturer submits to the Service, under penalties of perjury, a certification containing certain information relevant to the determination that a particular make, model, and year of vehicle qualifies for the alternative fuel motor vehicle credit, as well as the amount of the credit. After reviewing the original signed certification, the Service will issue an acknowledgement letter stating whether purchasers may rely on the certification. The acknowledgment letter, however, will not constitute a determination by the Service that a vehicle qualifies for the credit, or that the amount of the credit is correct. If a manufacturer files an erroneous certification, the manufacturer's right to provide a certification to future purchasers of vehicles will be withdrawn. However, purchasers may continue to rely on the certification for vehicles they acquired before the date of withdrawal (including in cases in which the vehicle is not placed in service and the credit is not claimed until after the withdrawal).

2. USE OF DATA

The data will be used by (1) manufacturers to certify both that a particular make, model, and year of an automobile that is an alternative fuel motor vehicle that meets certain requirements of § 30B, and amount of the credit allowable with respect to the vehicle; and (2) the data will notify purchasers of these vehicles if the vehicles qualify for the credit and the amount of the credit.

3. USE OF IMPROVED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE BURDEN

IRS Publications, 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. METHODS TO MINIMIZE BURDEN ON SMALL BUSINESSES OR OTHER SMALL ENTITIES

Not applicable.

6. CONSEQUENCES OF LESS FREQUENT COLLECTION ON FEDERAL PROGRAMS OR POLICY ACTIVITIES

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

8. 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 IRS forms and documents that solicit information.

In response to the Federal Register notice (77 FR 57191), dated September 17, 2012, we received no comments during the comment period regarding this notice.

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

Section 30B(i) provides that the Secretary shall promulgate regulations as necessary to carry out the provisions of section 30B.

It is estimated that the total annual average reporting burden will be 600 hours. The estimated average annual burden per respondent will be 20 hours to complete the requests for certification required under this notice. This estimated burden is based upon the approximated amount of time it will take the average respondent to gather the necessary data and mail that data to the IRS. The estimated number of respondents is 30. This estimate is based upon the approximated number of total manufacturers of alternative fuel vehicles.

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 September 17, 2012, 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 regulations sunset 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.