## SUPPORTING STATEMENT OMB No. 1545-2195

### 1. CIRCUMSTANCES NECESSITATING COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

The collection of information in Form 8938 will be the means by which taxpayers will comply with self-reporting obligations imposed under section 6038D with respect to foreign financial assets.

### 2. USE OF DATA

The IRS will use the information to determine whether to audit this taxpayer or transaction, including whether to impose penalties. The information is also required to begin the running of the statute of limitations under section 6501.

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

We have attempted to minimize the burden on small businesses or other small entities wherever possible.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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

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 Form 8938. Originally, in response to the *Federal Register* notice (75 FR 67166), dated November 1, 2010, we received numerous comments.

In response to the *Federal Register* notice dated June 27, 2013 (78 FR 38807), we received one comment during the comment period regarding the form. The comment has been forwarded to the originating offices for consideration and feedback. After reviewing the comments submitted by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC), by letter dated August 26, 2013, regarding the draft Form 8938, under the Notice dated June 27, 2013 (FR Doc. 2013-15362). PWC's requested changes to Form 8938 and its accompanying Instructions uniformly require amending either section 6038D or that section's temporary regulations. Accordingly, PWC's requested changes cannot be implemented as amendments to Form 8938 and its Instructions for TY 2013. No changes to Form 8938 or its Instructions are recommended. The comment has been provided within the supplementary material of this submission.

# 9. <u>EXPLANATION OF DECISION TO PROVIDE ANY PAYMENT OR GIFT TO RESPONDENTS</u>

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

A privacy impact assessment (PIA) has been conducted for information collected under this request as part of the "Business Master File (BMF)" system and a Privacy Act System of Records notice (SORN) has been issued for this system under IRS 24.046-Customer Account Data Engine Business Master File. The Department of Treasury PIAs can be found at http://www.treasury.gov/privacy/PIAs/Pages/default.aspx.

Title 26 USC 6109 requires inclusion of identifying numbers in returns, statements, or other documents for securing proper identification of persons required to make such returns, statements, or documents and is the authority for social security numbers (SSNs) in IRS systems.

### 12. ESTIMATED BURDEN OF INFORMATION COLLECTION

The burden estimate is as follows:

Form Number of Responses Time Per Response Total Hours

Form 8938 350,000 4.6

4.65 hours 1,627,500

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 June 27, 2013, (78 FR 38807), 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 responses 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 are changes to the burden previously approved by OMB because of statutes, which added 1,249,500 hours, due to Public Law 111-147 (HIRE), Title V (FATCA), and IRC 6038D.

16. PLANS FOR TABULATION, STATISTICAL ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION Not applicable.

### 17. <u>REASONS WHY DISPLAYING THE OMB EXPIRATION DATE IS</u> INAPPROPRIATE

We believe that displaying the OMB expiration date is inappropriate because it could cause confusion by leading taxpayers to believe that Form 8938 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. <u>EXCEPTIONS TO THE CERTIFICATION STATEMENT ON OMB FORM 83-I</u> Not applicable.

<u>Note</u>: 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.