OFFICE OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT
AND RESEARCH

SEP 3 0 2015

Mr. Joseph Nye
OMB Desk Officer
Office of Management and Budget
 New Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Mr. Nye:

The Department is seeking emergency review of the Paperwork Reduction Act requirements for the ConnectHome Baseline Survey. The Notice of Paperwork Submission (copy enclosed), proposed for immediate *Federal Register* publication, explains the burden of the collection requirements and invites public comments on them.

In compliance with the requirements of 5 CFR 1320.13, this letter requests emergency processing within 14 days from the date of publication. This emergency processing is essential to implement program monitoring and evaluation of the President's ConnectHome initiative, announced in July 2015. ConnectHome, a priority initiative of Secretary Castro, is a demonstration project that will bring the opportunity for high-speed at-home Internet access to low-income families across the nation, including nearly 200,000 children. This initiative is essential to HUD's mission to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all, utilizing housing as a platform for improving quality of life.

HUD requires this documentation to evaluate ConnectHome's performance. The 28 pilot communities will begin implementing ConnectHome by November 2015, and HUD seeks to establish an initial baseline of current at-home high-speed Internet access and adoption among targeted households. The emergency review of the Baseline Survey will enable HUD to establish an accurate baseline before the pilot communities begin implementing the program. The use of normal clearance procedures will prevent or disrupt the collection of this information.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance.

Sincerely,

Calvin C. Johnson
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Research,
 Monitoring, and Evaluation

Enclosures