

*abstract: Primary:* Business or other for-profit. The information furnished on Form I-140 will be used by USCIS to classify aliens under sections 203(b)(1), 203(b)(2) or 203(b)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (Act).

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* The estimated total number of respondents for the information collection I-140 is 77,149 and the estimated hour burden per response is 1.08 hours (1 hour and 5 minutes).

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* The total estimated annual hour burden associated with this collection is 83,321 hours.

(7) *An estimate of the total public burden (in cost) associated with the collection:* The estimated total annual cost burden associated with this collection of information is \$32,132,559.

Dated: February 9, 2016.

**Samantha Deshommes,**

*Acting Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division, Office of Policy and Strategy, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.*

[FR Doc. 2016-02915 Filed 2-11-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 9111-97-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

[OMB Control Number 1615-0111]

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Petition for CNMI-Only Nonimmigrant Transitional Worker, Form I-129CW; Extension, Without Change, of a Currently Approved Collection.

**AGENCY:** U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

**ACTION:** 30-Day notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The information collection notice was previously published in the **Federal Register** on September 10, 2015, at 80 FR 54574, allowing for a 60-day public comment period. USCIS did receive one comment in connection with the 60-day notice.

**DATES:** The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 days for public comments. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted until March 14, 2016. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.10.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time, must be directed to the OMB USCIS Desk Officer via email at [oir\\_submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:oir_submission@omb.eop.gov). Comments may also be submitted via fax at (202) 395-5806 (This is not a toll-free number). All submissions received must include the agency name and the OMB Control Number 1615-0111.

You may wish to consider limiting the amount of personal information that you provide in any voluntary submission you make. For additional information please read the Privacy Act notice that is available via the link in the footer of <http://www.regulations.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** USCIS, Office of Policy and Strategy, Regulatory Coordination Division, Samantha Deshommes, Acting Chief, 20 Massachusetts Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20529-2140, Telephone number (202) 272-8377 (This is not a toll-free number. Comments are not accepted via telephone message). Please note contact information provided here is solely for questions regarding this notice. It is not for individual case status inquiries. Applicants seeking information about the status of their individual cases can check Case Status Online, available at the USCIS Web site at <http://www.uscis.gov>, or call the USCIS National Customer Service Center at (800) 375-5283; TTY (800) 767-1833.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Comments

You may access the information collection instrument with instructions, or additional information by visiting the Federal eRulemaking Portal site at: <http://www.regulations.gov> and enter USCIS-2012-0011 in the search box. Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies should address one or more of the following four points:

- (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- (2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information,

including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

#### Overview of This Information Collection

(1) *Type of Information Collection Request:* Extension, Without Change, of a Currently Approved Collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Petition for CNMI-Only Nonimmigrant Transitional Worker.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the DHS sponsoring the collection:* I-129CW; USCIS.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:*

*Primary:* Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; Farms; Federal Government; or State, local or Tribal Government. USCIS uses the data collected on this form to determine eligibility for the requested immigration benefits. An employer uses this form to petition USCIS for an alien to temporarily enter as a nonimmigrant into the CNMI to perform services or labor as a CNMI-Only Transitional Worker (CW-1). An employer also uses this form to request an extension of stay or change of status on behalf of the alien worker. The form serves the purpose of standardizing requests for these benefits, and ensuring that the basic information required to determine eligibility, is provided by the petitioners.

*Secondary:* Individuals or Households. USCIS collects biometrics from aliens present in the CNMI at the time of requesting initial grant of CW-1 status. The information is used to verify the alien's identity, background information and ultimately adjudicate their request for CW-1 status.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* The estimated total number of respondents for the information collection I-129CW is 18,000 (6,000 respondents from Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; Farms; Federal Government; or State, local or Tribal Government and the estimated hour burden per response is 3 hours;

12,000 respondents from Individuals or Households and the estimated hour burden per response is 1.17 hours).

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* The total estimated annual hour burden associated with this collection is 38,160 hours.

(7) *An estimate of the total public burden (in cost) associated with the collection:* The estimated total annual cost burden associated with this collection of information is \$2,205,000.

Dated: February 9, 2016.

**Samantha Deshommes,**

*Acting Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division, Office of Policy and Strategy, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.*

[FR Doc. 2016-02942 Filed 2-11-16; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-5696-N-18]

### **Additional Clarifying Guidance, Waivers and Alternative Requirements for Grantees in Receipt of Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds Under Public Law 113-2 for the Submission of Expenditure Deadline Extension Requests and Urgent Need Certification Extensions and for the Provision of Interim Mortgage Assistance by the State of New York**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development, HUD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice provides additional clarifying guidance for all Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) grantees in receipt of funds under the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013 (the Appropriations Act), with regard to the submission of requests for an extension of the 2-year expenditure deadline established for funds provided under the Appropriations Act and the continued use of the alternative urgent need national objective. This notice also provides an alternative requirement for New York State as a grantee in receipt of CDBG-DR funds under the Appropriations Act. This alternative requirement addresses the period of time in which interim mortgage assistance may be provided to beneficiaries in the State's housing recovery programs.

**DATES:** Effective Date: *February 17, 2016.*

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Stanley Gimont, Director, Office of Block Grant Assistance, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW., Room 7286, Washington, DC 20410, telephone number 202-708-3587. Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number via TTY by calling the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339. Facsimile inquiries may be sent to Mr. Gimont at 202-401-2044. (Except for the "800" number, these telephone numbers are not toll-free.) Email inquiries may be sent to [disaster\\_recovery@hud.gov](mailto:disaster_recovery@hud.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

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##### **I. Background**

The Appropriations Act (Pub. L. 113-2, approved January 29, 2013) made available \$16 billion in CDBG-DR funds for necessary expenses related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, and economic revitalization in the most impacted and distressed areas, resulting from a major disaster declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5121 *et. seq.*) (Stafford Act) due to Hurricane Sandy and other eligible events in calendar years 2011, 2012, and 2013. On March 1, 2013, the President issued a sequestration order pursuant to section 251A of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act, as amended (2 U.S.C. 901a), and reduced the amount of funding for CDBG-DR grants under the Appropriations Act to \$15.18 billion. To date, a total of \$15.18 billion has been allocated or set aside: \$13 billion in response to Hurricane Sandy, \$514 million in response to disasters occurring in 2011 or 2012, \$655 million in response to 2013 disasters, and \$1 billion set aside for the National Disaster Resilience Competition.

This notice applies to all CDBG-DR grantees in receipt of allocations under the Appropriations Act, which are described within the **Federal Register** notices published by the Department on March 5, 2013 (78 FR 14329), April 19, 2013 (78 FR 23578), May 29, 2013 (78 FR 32262), August 2, 2013 (78 FR 46999), November 18, 2013 (78 FR 69104), December 16, 2013 (78 FR 76154), March 27, 2014 (79 FR 17173), June 3, 2014 (79 FR 31964), July 11, 2014 (79 FR 40133), October 7, 2014 (79

FR 60490), October 16, 2014 (79 FR 62182), January 8, 2015 (80 FR 1039), April 2, 2015 (80 FR 17772), May 11, 2015 (80 FR 26942), August 25, 2015 (80 FR 51589), and November 18, 2015 (80 FR 72102), referred to collectively in this notice as the "prior notices." The requirements of the prior notices continue to apply, except as modified by this notice.<sup>1</sup>

##### **II. Applicable Rules (Including Clarifying Guidance), Statutes, Waivers, and Alternative Requirements**

The Appropriations Act authorizes the Secretary to waive, or specify alternative requirements for, any provision of any statute or regulation that the Secretary administers in connection with HUD's obligation, or use by the recipient, of these funds (except for requirements related to fair housing, nondiscrimination, labor standards, and the environment). Waivers and alternative requirements are based upon a determination by the Secretary that good cause exists and that the waiver or alternative requirement is not inconsistent with the overall purposes of title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 *et seq.*) (HCD Act). Regulatory waiver authority is also provided by 24 CFR 5.110, 91.600, and 570.5.

For the waivers and alternative requirements described in this notice, the Secretary has determined that good cause exists and that the waiver and alternative requirements are not inconsistent with the overall purpose of the HCD Act. Grantees may request waivers and alternative requirements from the Department as needed to address specific needs related to their recovery activities. Under the requirements of the Appropriations Act, waivers must be published in the **Federal Register** at least 5 days before the effective date of such waiver.

1. *Timeline for the submission of expenditure deadline extension requests.* The Appropriations Act requires the Department to obligate all funds provided under the Appropriations Act by September 30, 2017, and requires grantees to expend funds within 24-months of the date on which the Department obligates funds to a grantee. The Appropriations Act also authorizes the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to grant waivers of the 24-month expenditure deadline.

<sup>1</sup> Links to the prior notices, the text of the Appropriations Act, and additional guidance prepared by the Department for CDBG-DR grants, are available on the HUD Exchange Web site: <https://www.hudexchange.info/cdbg-dr/cdbg-dr-laws-regulations-and-federal-register-notices/>.