



August 23, 2016

Dominic Mancini
Deputy Director
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, DC

Subject: Request for Emergency Review and Clearance

Dear Mr. Mancini:


Pursuant to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) procedures established at 5 CFR Part 1320, *Controlling Paperwork Burdens on the Public*, I request that the proposed information collection project, "Assessment to Estimate the Effect of Community-Wide Vector Control Initiatives on Zika Virus Transmission in Puerto Rico, 2016" be processed in accordance with section 1320.13, Emergency Processing.

I have determined that this information must be collected prior to the expiration of time periods established under Part 1320, and that this information is essential to the CDC's mission to protect America from health, safety and security threats, both foreign and in the U.S. The purpose of this study is to assess the effect of community-wide vector control initiatives on Zika Virus transmission in Puerto Rico.

CDC cannot reasonably comply with the normal clearance procedures because Puerto Rico is in the middle of an unprecedented outbreak with devastating associated health outcomes. Rapid implementation of this assessment will allow the response team to gather timely information about infection rates and healthcare seeking behaviors that can inform public health action. Therefore, CDC requests a 180-day emergency clearance to conduct household-based cluster investigations in areas with and without ongoing community-wide vector control activities. Findings will be used to develop or refine messaging to the public and medical communities.

Please provide an approval/disapproval determination of this request to collect information under an emergency clearance by close of business September 2, 2016.

Respectfully,


Beth P. Bell, MD, MPH
Director, National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic
Infectious Diseases (NCEZID), Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention (CDC)