**SUPPORTING STATEMENT JUSTIFICATION** **FOR**

**ANIMAL DISPOSITION REPORTING**

**1. Circumstances Making Collection Of Information Necessary**:

This is a request to renew the information collection for Animal Disposition Reporting entered into the Public Health Information System.

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has been delegated the authority to exercise the functions of the Secretary as provided in the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (21 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) and the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA) (21 U.S.C. 451 et seq.). These statutes mandate that FSIS protect the public by ensuring that meat and poultry products are safe, wholesome, and properly labeled. FSIS also inspects exotic animals and rabbits under the authority of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1621 et seq.).

In accordance with 9 CFR 320.6, 381.180, 352.15, and 354.91, establishments that slaughter meat, poultry, exotic animals, and rabbits are required to maintain certain records regarding their business operations and to report this information to the Agency as required.

**2. How, By Whom and Purpose Information Is To Be Used**:

The following is a discussion of the information collection activities.

Poultry slaughter establishments complete FSIS Form 6510-7 after each shift and submit it to the Agency. Other slaughter establishments provide their business records to FSIS to report the necessary information.

FSIS uses this information to plan inspection activities, to develop sampling plans, to target establishments for testing, to develop the Agency budget, and to develop reports to Congress. FSIS also provides this data to other USDA agencies, including the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), and the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA), for their publications and for other functions.

There are 23,180 total burden hours for the information collection request relating to Animal Disposition Reporting.

**3.** **Use Of Improved Information Technology:**

Under the E-Gov Act, 2002, firms may submit data electronically. Records may be maintained electronically provided that appropriate controls are implemented to ensure the integrity of the electronic data.

**4. Efforts To Identify Duplication:**

No other USDA agency or any other Government agency requires information relating to the slaughter of meat, poultry, exotic animals, and rabbit. There is no other available information that can be used or modified.

**5. Methods To Minimize Burden On Small Business Entities:**

Data required of small entities are the same as for large ones. The information collections must apply to all appropriate establishments. Of the 1,159 respondents, 200 are considered small entities.

**6. Consequences If Information Were Collected Less Frequently:**

To conduct the information collections less frequently will reduce the effectiveness of the meat and poultry inspection program.

**7. Circumstances That Would Cause The Information Collection To Be Conducted In A Different Manner:**

* **requiring respondents to report informa­tion to the agency more often than quarterly;**

Firms of necessity will submit data more than once per quarter

* **requiring respondents to prepare a writ­ten response to a collection of infor­ma­tion in fewer than 30 days after receipt of it;**
* **requiring respondents to submit more than an original and two copies of any docu­ment;**
* **requiring respondents to retain re­cords, other than health, medical, governm­ent contract, grant-in-aid, or tax records for more than three years;**
* **in connection with a statisti­cal sur­vey, that is not de­signed to produce valid and reli­able results that can be general­ized to the uni­verse of study;**
* **requiring the use of a statis­tical data classi­fication that has not been re­vie­wed and approved by OMB;**
* **that includes a pledge of confiden­tiali­ty that is not supported by au­thority estab­lished in statute or regu­la­tion, that is not sup­ported by dis­closure and data security policies that are consistent with the pledge, or which unneces­sarily impedes shar­ing of data with other agencies for com­patible confiden­tial use; or**
* **requiring respondents to submit propri­etary trade secret, or other confidential information unless the agency can demon­strate that it has instituted procedures to protect the information's confidentiality to the extent permit­ted by law.**

The information collection and recordkeeping activities in this submission are consistent with the guidelines in 5 CFR 1320.6. There are no special circumstances that require the collection of information to be inconsistent with 5 CFR 1320.6.

**8. Consultation With Persons Outside The Agency:**

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, FSIS published a 60-day notice, *Notice of Request to Renew an Approved Information Collection (Animal Disposition Reporting)* in the *Federal Register* on April 16, 2024, (89 FR 26858). The Agency received no comments on the information collection. FSIS also contacted three establishments for comments on the Agency’s burden estimates: Accounting Clerk, Pilgrims, (334) 308-5292; Shipping Clerk, Wayne Sanderson Farms, (334) 853-0754; Quality Assurance Manager, Wayne Sanderson Farms, (334) 702-6224. Based on their input, the Agency is making no change to the estimated time for completion of the form which is 2 minutes.

**9. Payment or Gifts to Respondents:**

Respondents will not receive any gifts or payments.

**10. Confidentiality Provided To Respondents:**

No assurances other than routine protection provided under the Freedom of Information Act have been provided to respondents.

**11. Questions Of A Sensitive Nature:**

The applicants are not asked to furnish any information of a sensitive nature.

**12. Estimate of Burden**

The total burden estimate for the reporting and recordkeeping requirements associated with this information collection is 23,180 hours.

The Agency estimates that 1,159 establishments will respond 600 times annually taking 2 minutes to supply the information needed for Animal Disposition Reporting for a total of 23,180 hours.

**ANIMAL DISPOSITION REPORTING**

(9 CFR 320.6, 381.180, 352.15, and 354.91)

| Type of  Establish-  Ment | No. of  Respon-dents | No. of  Responses per Respondent | Total  Annual  Responses | Time for Response in Mins. | Total Annual Time in Hours |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ests. | 1,159 | 600 | 695,400 | 2 | 23,180 |

The cost to the respondents is estimated at $1,306,425 annually. The Agency estimates that it will cost respondents $56.36 an hour, including fringe benefits, in fulfilling these information collection requirements. Respondents will spend an annual total of 23,180 hours and $1,306,425. The hourly rate for the respondents was attained from the Department of Labor Bureau of Labor and Statistics wage data, May, 2023.

**13. Capital and Start-up Cost and Subsequent Maintenance**

There are no capital and start-up costs and subsequent maintenance burdens.

**14. Annual Cost To Federal Government:**

The cost to the Federal Government for these information collection requirements is $103,580 annually. The costs arise primarily from the time spent by FSIS staff reviewing the Animal Disposition Reporting data. The Agency estimates a cost of $51.79 per hour, including fringe benefits, for the FSIS staff.

**15.** **Reasons For Changes In Burden:**

There is no change in burden for this information collection.

**16.** **Tabulation, Analyses And Publication Plans:**

There are no plans to publish the data for statistical use by FSIS.

**17. OMB Approval Number Display:**

The OMB approval number will appear on the required FSIS forms.

**18. Exceptions to the Certification:**

There are no exceptions to the certification. This information collection accords with the certification in item 19 of the OMB 83-I.