



United States Department of Agriculture

Food Safety and
Inspection Service

1400 Independence
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Washington, D.C.
20250

6/5/2024

TO: Dominic Mancini
Deputy Director
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Office of Management and Budget

THROUGH: Levi S. Harrell
Departmental Clearance Officer
Information Management Division
Office of the Chief Information Officer

FROM: Dr. Jose Emilio Esteban
Under Secretary for Food Safety

Paul Kiecker
Administrator
Food Safety and Inspection Service

SUBJECT: Request for Emergency Approval of a New Information Collection for Voluntary Bison or Buffalo Inspection at Establishments Owned by Native Americans or Operating on Tribal Lands

DISCUSSION: Pursuant to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) procedures established at 5 CFR Part 1320, Controlling Paperwork Burdens on the Public, the Food Safety and Inspection Service, (FSIS) requests that the proposed information collection project, *Voluntary Bison or Buffalo Inspection at Establishments Owned by Native Americans or Operating on Tribal Lands*, be processed in accordance with section 1320.13, Emergency Processing.

SEC. 765 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024, (Public Law No: 118-42) states that: “Notwithstanding the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622 et seq.) and 9 CFR part 352, the Committee provides an additional \$700,000 to the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service to cover voluntary meat inspection fees for the slaughtering or processing of bison/buffalo at Native American owned establishments or establishments operating on tribal lands.”

FSIS needs to collect information from establishments to determine eligibility for the additional appropriated funding. FSIS has 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 distribute the funding Congress provided to cover voluntary inspection fees for the slaughtering or processing of bison or buffalo at establishments

owned by Native Americans or operating on tribal lands during fiscal year 2024. FSIS requests that OMB approve this new information collection for at least 4 months, so that FSIS can distribute congressional funding for the current fiscal year.

Please provide an approval/disapproval determination of this request to collect information under an emergency clearance by close of business June 14, 2024.

Thank you for your time and consideration.