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Posted by the **Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service** on Mar 9, 2026

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Comment

To: US Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Docket No. APHIS-2025-0407
Subject: Comment on Revision and Extension of Information Collection (OMB Control Number 0579-0036)

I write in support of the continuation of information gathering activities as described in this request. USDA Animal Care has been successful in modernizing its communication and information gathering processes while maintaining robust accountability and public transparency. In particular, I commend the transition to electronic submission of research facility annual reporting and encourage the organization to similarly digitize other processes where appropriate. Further, the maintenance of the USDA public search tool to review annual and inspection reports benefits the public and reduces the burden on institutions subject to Freedom of Information Act requests.

Animal Care maintains a strong library of forms that may be utilized by institutions to ensure all required information is captured and retained. I support the continued availability and refinement of these forms. However, I encourage APHIS to harmonize the guidance for the use of these forms as optional tools rather than mandatory documents where possible. At present, forms 7005 and 7006 are required, while many others are optional. Optional forms provide clear guidance to institutions while allowing flexibility for internal optimization of recordkeeping; mandating specific forms limits the potential for process refinement through more sophisticated software applications and creates duplication of effort for systems that capture this information.

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