

samples from the post-hide/pre-evisceration and pre-chill locations; following the same safety procedures provided for employees at that establishment which may require the use of a harness; slowing or stopping production lines; and acquiring needed tools to safely collect samples.

Information on the Beef-Veal carcass baseline can be found at the following link <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/wcm/connect/5d3552e7-9b81-4b2c-aa20-cfaeef77f251/36-14.pdf?MOD=AJPERES>.

**Comment:** One industry organization asked what type of carcass sampling the Agency will use for the carcass baseline study.

**Response:** As was done during the shakedown, FSIS is obtaining samples following the procedures described in the United States Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service Meat Animal Research Center Carcass Sampling Protocol<sup>2</sup> available at the following link: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/SP2UserFiles/Place/54380530/protocols/USMARC%20Carcass%20Sampling%20Protocol.pdf>.

**Comment:** One consumer organization stated that FSIS should conduct a baseline study to estimate the prevalence of *E. coli* O157:H7 in beef manufacturing trimmings and ground beef in order to improve the confidence in FSIS's efforts to detect contaminated product and effectively verify process controls.

**Response:** FSIS decided to focus on sampling carcasses for this baseline and not trimmings and ground beef because of resource limitations. The Beef-Veal carcass baseline survey will provide FSIS the necessary data on percent positives and quantitative levels of select foodborne bacterial pathogens (e.g., *Salmonella*, STEC, and certain indicator organisms). FSIS will use the data from the Beef-Veal carcass baseline survey to estimate the national prevalence of select microorganisms in carcasses, not trimmings and ground beef; to develop industry performance guidelines; to assess process control across the industry; and to inform additional policy considerations. Results of this study will be used to estimate volume-weighted prevalence and bacterial loads immediately after hide removal and at pre-chill. Moreover, FSIS has made changes to both the trimmings and ground beef verification testing programs to be able to obtain on-going prevalence of both *E. coli* O157:H7 and *Salmonella* (79 FR 32437).

## Other Topics

The following comment topics that were received are outside the scope of this notice: disappearing schedule dates from PHIS, returned FedEx sample boxes, FSIS training materials, and purge studies.

### USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

No agency, officer, or employee of the USDA shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, or political beliefs, exclude from participation in, deny the benefits of, or subject to discrimination any person in the United States under any program or activity conducted by the USDA.

### How To File a Complaint of Discrimination

To file a complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which may be accessed online at [http://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain\\_combined\\_6\\_8\\_12.pdf](http://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain_combined_6_8_12.pdf), or write a letter signed by you or your authorized representative.

Send your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by mail, fax, or email: Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-9410, Fax: (202) 690-7442, Email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.), should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

### Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, FSIS will announce this **Federal Register** publication on-line through the FSIS Web page located at: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/federal-register>.

FSIS also will make copies of this publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents and stakeholders. The Update is available on the FSIS Web page. Through the Web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. In addition, FSIS offers an email subscription service which provides

automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/subscribe>. Options range from recalls to export information, regulations, directives, and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves, and have the option to password protect their accounts.

Done, at Washington, DC.

Dated: April 23, 2015.

**Alfred V. Almanza,**  
Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2015-09957 Filed 4-28-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food and Nutrition Service

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request—Special Milk Program for Children

**AGENCY:** Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice invites the general public and other public agencies to comment on this information collection. This collection is a revision of a currently approved collection which FNS employs to determine public participation in Special Milk Program for Children.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before June 29, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions that were used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments may be sent to: Lynn Rodgers-Kuperman, Branch Chief, Program Monitoring, Child Nutrition Programs, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 636,

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Meat Animal Research Center (MARC) Carcass Sampling Protocol.

Alexandria, VA 22302–1594. Comments may also be submitted via fax to the attention of Lynn Rodgers-Kuperman at 703–305–2879 or via email to [lynn.rodgers@fns.usda.gov](mailto:lynn.rodgers@fns.usda.gov). Comments will also be accepted through the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, and follow the online instructions for submitting comments electronically.

All written comments will be open for public inspection at the office of the Food and Nutrition Service during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday) at 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 640, Alexandria, Virginia 22302.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will be a matter of public record.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of this information collection should be directed to Lynn Rodgers-Kuperman at 703–305–2595.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* 7 CFR part 215, Special Milk Program for Children.

*Form Number:* FNS–66B.

*OMB Number:* 0584–0005.

*Expiration Date:* October 31, 2015.

*Type of Request:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

**The Special Milk Program for Children**

*Abstract:* Section 3 of the Child Nutrition Act (CNA) of 1966, (42 U.S.C. 1772) authorizes the Special Milk Program (SMP). It provides for the

appropriation of such sums as may be necessary to enable the Secretary of Agriculture to encourage the consumption of fluid milk by children in the United States in: (1) Nonprofit schools of high school grade and under; and (2) nonprofit nursery schools, child care centers, settlement houses, summer camps, and similar nonprofit institutions devoted to the care and training of children, which do not participate in a food service program authorized under the CNA or the National School Lunch Act.

Section 10 of the CNA (42 U.S.C. 1779) requires the Secretary of Agriculture to prescribe such regulations as deemed necessary to carry out this Act and the National School Lunch Act. Pursuant to that provision, the Secretary has issued 7 CFR part 215, which sets forth policies and procedures for the administration and operation of the SMP. State and local operators of the SMP are required to meet Federal reporting and accountability requirements. This information collection is required to administer and operate this program. The Program is administered at the State, school food authority (SFA), and child care institution levels; and operations include the submission of applications and agreements, submission and payment of claims, and maintenance of records. The reporting and record keeping burden associated with this revision has decreased from 21,246 to 14,914 hours. This change is mainly due to adjustments, such as corrections in the number of institutions

and the amount of burden per response. All of the reporting and recordkeeping requirements associated with the SMP are currently approved by the Office of Management and Budget and are in force. This is a revision of the currently approved information collection.

*Affected Public:* State agencies, Non-profit Institutions.

*Number of Respondents:* 3,933 (54 State Agencies, 3,879 Non-profit Institutions).

*Frequency of Responses per Respondent:* 1.32.

*Total Annual Responses:* 5,175.

*Reporting Time per Response:* .25.

*Estimated Annual Reporting Burden:* 1,294.

*Number of Recordkeepers:* 3,933 (54 State Agencies, 3,879 Non-profit Institutions).

*Number of Records per Recordkeeper:* 23.87.

*Estimated Total Number of Records/Response to Keep:* 93,876.

*Recordkeeping time per Response:* 0.15.

*Total Estimated Recordkeeping Burden:* 13,620.

*Total Annual Responses for Reporting/Recordkeeping:* 99,051.

*Annual Recordkeeping and Reporting Burden:* 14,914.

*Current OMB Inventory for Part 215:* 21,246.

*Difference (change in burden with this renewal):* (6,332).

Refer to the table below for estimated total annual burden for each type of respondent.

| Affected public                            | Estimated number of respondents | Frequency of responses per respondent | Total annual responses | Hours per response                 | Estimated total burden |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Reporting</b>                           |                                 |                                       |                        |                                    |                        |
| State agencies .....                       | 54                              | 24                                    | 1,296                  | 0.25                               | 324                    |
| Non-profit Institutions .....              | 3,879                           | 1                                     | 3,879                  | 0.25                               | 970                    |
| Total Estimated Reporting Burden .....     | 3,933                           | 1.32                                  | 5,175                  | 0.25                               | 1,294                  |
| <b>Recordkeeping</b>                       |                                 |                                       |                        |                                    |                        |
| State agencies .....                       | 54                              | 965.83                                | 52,155                 | 0.10                               | 5,276                  |
| Non-profit Institutions .....              | 3,879                           | 10.76                                 | 41,721                 | 0.20                               | 8,344                  |
| Total Estimated Recordkeeping Burden ..... | 3,933                           | 23.87                                 | 93,876                 | 0.15                               | 13,620                 |
| <b>Total Reporting and Recordkeeping</b>   |                                 |                                       |                        |                                    |                        |
|                                            | Estimated number of respondents | Number of responses per respondent    | Total annual responses | Estimated total hours per response | Estimated total burden |
| Reporting .....                            | 3,933                           | 1.32                                  | 5,175                  | 0.25                               | 1,294                  |
| Recordkeeping .....                        | 3,933                           | 23.87                                 | 93,876                 | 0.15                               | 13,620                 |
| Total .....                                |                                 |                                       | 99,051                 |                                    | 14,914                 |

Dated: April 20, 2015.

**Audrey Rowe,**

*Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.*

[FR Doc. 2015-09997 Filed 4-28-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food and Nutrition Service

#### **Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request—Annual State Report on Verification of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Participation**

**AGENCY:** Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice invites the general public and other public agencies to comment on the proposed information collection for the Annual State Report of Verification of SNAP Participation. This is a new collection. The purpose of the Annual State Report of Verification of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Participants is to ensure that no person who is deceased, or has been permanently disqualified from SNAP, improperly received SNAP benefits for the fiscal year preceding the report submission. Section 4032 of the Agriculture Act of 2014 is the basis for this collection. Section 4032 mandates that States will “submit to the Secretary a report containing sufficient information for the Secretary to determine whether the State agency has, for the most recently concluded fiscal year preceding that annual date, verified that the State agency in that fiscal year—(1) did not issue benefits to a deceased individual; and (2) did not issue benefits to an individual who had been permanently disqualified from receiving benefits.” An annual email from each State agency to the corresponding Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Regional SNAP Program Director will be used as the mechanism for State agencies to report their compliance with section 4032 of the Agriculture Act of 2014.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before June 29, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimated burden for the proposed information

collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments may be sent to Jane Duffield, Branch Chief, State Administration Branch, Program Accountability and Administration Division, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 818, Alexandria, VA 22302. You may also download an electronic version of this notice at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/federal-register-documents/rules/view-all> and comment via email at [SNAPSAB@fns.usda.gov](mailto:SNAPSAB@fns.usda.gov) or the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and follow the online instructions for submitting comments electronically.

All written comments will be open for public inspection at the office of the Food and Nutrition Service during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday) at 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 822, Alexandria, Virginia 22302.

All comments to this notice will be included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Requests for additional information or copies of this information collection should be directed to Clyde Thompson at (703) 305-2461.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Annual State Report on Verification of SNAP Participation.

*OMB Number:* 0584-NEW.

*Expiration Date:* Not Yet Determined.

*Type of Request:* New collection.

*Abstract:* SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 273.16 require that State agencies disqualify an individual who has committed an intentional program violation (IPV). Paragraph 7 CFR 273.16(e)(8) requires that these individuals “be disqualified in accordance with the disqualification periods and procedures in paragraph (b) of this section” (273.16(b)). Paragraph 7 CFR 273.16(i) requires State agencies to report information concerning each individual disqualified for an IPV to the disqualified recipient database, the electronic Disqualified Recipient System (eDRS), and to use eDRS data to determine the eligibility of individual

applicants prior to certification. SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 272.14 require that each State agency establish a system to verify and ensure that benefits are not issued to individuals who are deceased, and that data source is the Social Security Administration’s (SSA) Death Master File. The information required for the Annual State Report on Verification of SNAP Participation is obtained by validating that the State had the appropriate systems in place and followed procedures currently mandated at 7 CFR 272.14 and 7 CFR 273.16 for the preceding fiscal year.

The burdens associated with the activity of establishing a system to verify and ensure that benefits are not issued to deceased individuals or those permanently disqualified from SNAP using both the SSA Death Master File and eDRS are already conducted during the SNAP eligibility benefit process and is currently approved under OMB burden number 0584-0064, expiration date April 30, 2016.

In order to meet the reporting requirements specified in section 4032 of the Act, States are required to confirm via email to their FNS Regional SNAP Program Director that in the immediately preceding Federal fiscal year, they had the appropriate systems in place to meet the requirements of regulations at 7 CFR 272.14 and 273.16(i)(4) and that they conducted the matches required by these regulations. States are required to submit their section 4032 reports to the FNS Regional SNAP Director by March 31 each year for the preceding Federal fiscal year. The estimated annual burden for this collection is 57.41 hours. This estimate includes the time it takes each State agency to confirm that they have complied with FNS regulations for performing mandated checks against both eDRS and the SSA Death Master File, send an email to their FNS Regional Office SNAP Program Director to provide the verification, and any additional recordkeeping associated with this burden. States must perform this verification once a year and must retain these records for 3 years.

#### **Annual Reporting Burden Estimates**

*Affected Public:* State, Local and Tribal Government Agencies.

*Number of Respondents:* 53 State Agencies.

*Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Total Annual Responses:* 53.

*Reporting Time per Response:* 1 Hour.

*Estimated Annual Reporting Burden Hours:* 53.