DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; The Environmental Questionnaire and Checklist (EQC)

AGENCY: Office of the Chief Information Officer, Office of the Secretary, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment.

DATES: To ensure consideration, written comments must be submitted on or before June 13, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at PRAcomments@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Jennifer Jessup at PRAcomments@doc.gov or by telephone (202) 482–3306.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

This request is for an extension of a currently approved information collection. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321–4347) and the Council on Environmental Quality’s (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508) require that federal agencies complete an environmental analysis for all major federal actions significantly affecting the environment. These actions may include a federal agency’s decision to fund non-federal projects under grants and cooperative agreements, including infrastructure projects. In order to determine NEPA compliance requirements for a project receiving Department of Commerce (DOC) bureau-level funding, DOC must assess information which can only be provided by the applicant for federal financial assistance (grant).

The Environmental Questionnaire and Checklist (EQC) provides federal financial assistance applicants and DOC staff with a tool to ensure that the necessary project and environmental information is obtained. The EQC was developed to collect data concerning potential environmental impacts that the applicant for federal financial assistance possesses and to transmit that information to the Federal reviewer. The EQC will allow for a more rapid review of projects and facilitate DOC’s evaluation of the potential environmental impacts of a project and level of NEPA documentation required. DOC staff will use the information provided in answers to the questionnaire to determine compliance requirements for NEPA and conduct subsequent NEPA analysis as needed. Information provided in the questionnaire may also be used for other regulatory review requirements associated with the proposed project, such as the National Historic Preservation Act.

II. Method of Collection

The primary method of collection will be the Internet (electronically). Some supporting documents may be emailed, or mailed.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0690–0028.

Type of Review: Regular submission (extension of a currently approved collection).

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations; individuals or households; not-for-profit institutions; state, local, or tribal government; and Federal government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,000.

Estimated Time per Response: 3 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 3,000.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: $1,000 in miscellaneous costs ($5 × approximately 200 respondents who would mail attachments rather than emailing them).

IV. Request for Comments

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 (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (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 respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Sheleen Dumas,
Departmental PRA Lead, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 167—Brown County, Wisconsin, Notification of Proposed Production Activity, Polaris Industries, Inc., (Spark-Ignition Internal Combustion Engines), Osceola, Wisconsin

Polaris Industries, Inc. (Polaris), operator of Subzone 167B, submitted a notification of proposed production activity to the FTZ Board for its facility in Osceola, Wisconsin. The notification conforming to the regulations of the FTZ Board (15 CFR 400.22) was received on April 4, 2017. Polaris already has authority to produce spark-ignition internal combustion engines to equip snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, and motorcycles within Subzone 167B. The current request would add finished spark-ignition internal combustion engines for on-road vehicles and foreign status components to the scope of authority. Pursuant to 15 CFR 400.14(b), FTZ activity would be limited to the specific foreign-status components and specific finished products described in the submitted notification (as described below) and subsequently authorized by the FTZ Board.

Production under FTZ procedures could exempt Polaris from customs duty payments on the foreign-status components used in export production.
On its domestic sales, Polaris would be able to choose the duty rates during customs entry procedures that apply to spark-ignition internal combustion engines for snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles and on-road vehicles (duty rate 2.5%) for the foreign-status inputs noted below and in the existing scope of authority. Customs duties also could possibly be deferred or reduced on foreign-status production equipment.

The components sourced from abroad include: Engine housings/covers; covers for crankcases; valve parts; oil sump covers; valve covers; oil pans; tensioners; oil inlets; pump shaft gears; shafts; pump covers; oil inlet screens; torque limiter gears; starter assembly components; rotary switches; motorcycle sprockets; cam chain guides; motorcycle assembly covers; rotors; sprockets; screws of steel; gaskets of steel; gears for engines; switches; seals of plastic; gaskets of rubber; chains; bolts of steel; nuts of steel; brackets/mountings/fitting; valves; adapter hubs; oil pump caps; rocker covers; cam drives; cam drive blades; cam drive covers; oil pumps; water pump covers; oil pump parts; water pump parts; air box assemblies; oil filter adapters; air box adapters; engine thermostats; thermostat housings; needle roller bearings; camshfts; engine shafts; rod bearings; gears; flywheels; stator assemblies; chain sprockets; crankshaft sleeves; seals; alternators; alternator parts; fixed guides; thermostat covers; cam drive kits; brand emblems; clutch spacers; and, actuators (duty rate ranges from free to 8.5%).

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions shall be addressed to the Board’s Executive Secretary at the address below. The closing period for their receipt is May 24, 2017.

A copy of the notification will be available for public inspection at the Office of the Executive Secretary, Foreign-Trade Zones Board, Room 21013, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230–0002, and in the “Reading Room” section of the Board’s Web site, which is accessible via www.trade.gov/ftz.

For further information, contact Christopher Wedderburn at Chris.Wedderburn@trade.gov or (202) 482–1963.


Andrew McGillvray, Executive Secretary.