Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—National Spectrum Consortium

Notice is hereby given that, on May 14, 2018, pursuant to Section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 et seq. ("the Act"), National Spectrum Consortium ("NSC") has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act’s provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, Peraton Inc., Herndon, VA; Colorado Engineering Inc., Colorado, CO; and General Dynamics SATCOM Technologies, Inc., State College, PA, have been added as parties to this venture.

Also, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH; University of Dayton, Dayton, OH; University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI; Cloud Front Group, Inc., Reston, VA; EMC Corporation, McLean, VA; NEBENS, LLC, Deer Park, IL; Digital Global Systems, Beltsville, MD; and Charles River Analytics Inc., Cambridge, MA, have withdrawn as parties to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and NSC intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On May 24, 2014, NSC filed its original notification pursuant to Section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the Federal Register pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act on November 4, 2014 (79 FR 65424).

The last notification was filed with the Department on January 16, 2018. A notice was published in the Federal Register pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act on March 6, 2018 (83 FR 9544).

Patricia A. Brink,
Director of Civil Enforcement, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 2018–13063 Filed 6–18–18; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Federal Bureau of Investigation

[OMB Number 1110–NEW]

Office of Private Sector; Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed eCollection eComments Requested; New Collection

AGENCY: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Office of Private Sector, Department of Justice.

ACTION: 60 Day notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Office of Private Sector, is submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: The Department of Justice encourages public comment and will accept input until August 20, 2018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have additional comments especially on the estimated public burden or associated response time, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions or additional information, please contact Michael Whitaker, Supervisory Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Office of Private Sector, 935 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20535, MJWhitaker@fbi.gov, 202–324–3000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information are encouraged. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

➢ Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Office of Private Sector, including whether the information will have practical utility;
➢ Evaluate the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
➢ Evaluate whether and if so how the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected can be enhanced; and
➢ Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of this information collection:

1. Type of Information Collection: New Collection.
2. The Title of the Form/Collection: Annual Private Sector Survey.
3. The agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department sponsoring the collection: Un-Numbered. The applicable component within the Department of Justice is the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Office of Private Sector.
4. Affect ed public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract: Survey will affect businesses or other for-profit, and not-for-profit institutions. The survey is intended to measure the effectiveness of the FBI’s Office of Private Sector’s engagement efforts with the Private Sector.
5. An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond: Approximately 600 respondents. Average response time: 15 minutes per respondent.
6. An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection: 150 hours (15 min x 600 respondents).

If additional information is required contact: Melody Braswell, Department Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice, Justice Management Division, Policy and Planning Staff, Two Constitution Square, 145 N Street NE, 3E.405A, Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: June 14, 2018.

Melody Braswell,
Department Clearance Officer for PRA, U.S. Department of Justice.

[FR Doc. 2018–13099 Filed 6–18–18; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Lodging Proposed Consent Decree

In accordance with Departmental Policy, 28 CFR 50.7, notice is hereby given that a proposed Consent Decree in United States v. Jack Noble, Case No. 4:16–cv–06178–SBA, was lodged with the United States District Court for the Northern District of California on June 11, 2018.

This proposed Consent Decree concerns a complaint filed by the United States against Defendant Jack Noble, pursuant to the Clean Water Act Section 301(a), 33 U.S.C. 1311(a), and Endangered Species Act Section 9, 16
U.S.C. 1528, to obtain injunctive relief from and impose civil penalties against the Defendant for violating these statutes by discharging pollutants without a permit into waters of the United States and taking protected species. The proposed Consent Decree resolves these allegations by requiring the Defendant to remove the offending material, restore the impacted areas, enhance fish habitat, and pay a civil penalty.

The Department of Justice will accept written comments relating to this proposed Consent Decree for thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this Notice. Please address comments to John Thomas H. Do, United States Department of Justice, Environment & Natural Resources Division, Post Office Box 7611, Washington, DC 20044–7611 and refer to United States v. Jack Noble, DJ # 90–5–1–1–20923.

The proposed Consent Decree may be examined at the Clerk’s Office, United States District Court for the Northern District of California, 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102. In addition, the proposed Consent Decree may be examined electronically at http://www.justice.gov/enrd/Consent-Decrees.html.

Cherie L. Rogers, Assistant Section Chief, Environmental Defense Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nora Kincaid, BLS Clearance Officer, 202–691–7628 (this is not a toll free number). (See ADDRESSES section.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The U.S. Import and Export Price Indexes, produced by the Bureau of Labor Statistics’ International Price Program (IPP), measure price change over time for all categories of imported and exported products, as well as selected services. The IPP has produced the U.S. Import Price Indexes continuously since 1973 and the U.S. Export Price Indexes continuously since 1971. The Office of Management and Budget has listed the Import and Export Price Indexes as a Principal Federal Economic Indicator since 1982. The indexes are widely used in both the public and private sectors. The primary public sector use is the deflation of the U.S. monthly Trade Statistics and the quarterly estimates of U.S. Gross Domestic Product; the indexes also are used in calculating U.S. trade policy and in trade negotiations with other countries. In the private sector, uses of the Import Price Indexes include market analysis, inflation forecasting, contract escalation, and replacement cost accounting.

The IPP indexes are closely followed by economists, and are viewed as a key indicator of the economic environment. The U.S. Department of Commerce uses the monthly statistics to produce monthly and quarterly estimates of inflation-adjusted trade flows. Without continuation of data collection, it would be extremely difficult to construct accurate estimates of the U.S. Gross Domestic Product. In fact, DOL–BLS’ attempt to curtail publication of the export price indexes beginning in FY15 was met with resistance from the Commerce Department who explained that a viable substitute is not available. The Beyond the Numbers article “Analyzing alternatives to export price indexes” (http://www.bls.gov/opub/btn/volume-3/analyzing-alternatives-to-export-price-indexes.htm) explores alternatives to using IPP’s export price indexes to deflate the U.S. Gross Domestic Product and explains why there are currently no comparable replacements.

Additionally, Federal policymakers in the Department of Treasury, the Council of Economic Advisers, and the Federal Reserve Board utilize these statistics on a regular basis to improve these agencies’ formulation and evaluation of monetary and fiscal policy and evaluation of the general business environment.

II. Current Action

Office of Management and Budget clearance is being sought for the U.S. Import and Export Price Indexes. The IPP continues to modernize data collection and processing to permit more timely release of its indexes, and to reduce reporter burden. The IPP has expanded the use of its web application, introduced in 2003 to allow respondents to update their data online and more rapidly than using a paper-based form. As of March 2018, 91 percent of IPP respondents were providing prices via the web application or had agreed to start using this repricing method. Field Economists currently offer web repricing to all new respondents and at initiation, it is the preferred method of collection offered to companies.

The Program continues its multi-year effort to develop a more effective sampling and collection strategy for companies that are considered major importers or exporters. Research has shown that, while hundreds of thousands of companies import and export goods into and from the United States each year, the volume of trade (in terms of dollar value) is heavily concentrated on a very small percentage of these companies. IPP’s sampling methodology results in the large companies being sampled on a frequent basis. As a result of the continual fielding of these companies, Field Economists combine collection efforts for multiple IPP samples, as they deem appropriate. The collection of multiple IPP samples at once results in fewer visits and consequently, reduced burden.

Also, IPP has started revising its Data Collection Procedures, with the goal of improving collection methods for