ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request; EPA’s ENERGY STAR Program in the Commercial and Industrial Sectors (Renewal)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency is planning to submit an information collection request (ICR), “EPA’s ENERGY STAR Program in the Commercial and Industrial Sectors” (EPA ICR No. 1772.08, OMB Control No. 2060–0347), to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act. Before doing so, EPA is soliciting public comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below. This is a proposed extension of the ICR, which is currently approved through September 30, 2019. An Agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before February 11, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OAR–2006–0407, online using www.regulations.gov (our preferred method), by email to a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov, or by mail to: EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 29221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460.

EPA’s policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes profanity, threats, information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cynthia Veit, Climate Protection Partnerships Division, (6202A), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: 202–564–9494; fax number: 202–343–2204; email address: veit.cynthia@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Supporting documents which explain in detail the information that the EPA will be collecting are available in the public docket for this ICR. The docket can be viewed online at www.regulations.gov or in person at the EPA Docket Center, EPA West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC. The telephone number for the Docket Center is 202–566–1744. For additional information about EPA’s public docket, visit http://www.epa.gov/dockets.

Pursuant to section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, EPA is soliciting comments and information to enable it to: (i) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (ii) 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; (iii) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (iv) 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. EPA will consider the comments received and amend the ICR as appropriate. The final ICR package will then be submitted to OMB for review and approval. At that time, EPA will issue another Federal Register notice to announce the submission of the ICR to OMB and the opportunity to submit additional comments to OMB.

Abstract: EPA created ENERGY STAR as a voluntary program to help businesses and individuals protect the environment through superior energy efficiency. The program focuses on reducing utility-generated emissions by reducing the demand for energy. In 1991, EPA launched the Green Lights Program to encourage corporations, State and local governments, colleges and universities, and other organizations to adopt energy-efficient lighting as a profitable means of preventing pollution and improving lighting quality. Since then, EPA has rolled Green Lights into ENERGY STAR and expanded ENERGY STAR to encompass organization-wide energy performance improvement, such as building technology upgrades, product purchasing initiatives, and employee training. At the same time, EPA has streamlined the reporting requirements of ENERGY STAR and focused on providing incentives for improvements (e.g., ENERGY STAR awards program). EPA also makes tools and other resources available over the Web to help the public overcome the barriers to evaluating their energy performance and investing in profitable improvements.

To join ENERGY STAR, organizations are asked to complete a Partnership Application that establishes their commitment to energy efficiency. Partners agree to undertake efforts such as measuring, tracking, and benchmarking their organization’s energy performance by using tools such as those offered by ENERGY STAR; developing and implementing a plan to improve energy performance in their facilities and operations by adopting a strategy provided by ENERGY STAR; and educating staff and the public about their Partnership with ENERGY STAR, and highlighting achievements with the ENERGY STAR, where available.

Partners also may be asked to periodically submit information to EPA as needed to assist in program implementation.

Partnership in ENERGY STAR is voluntary and can be terminated by Partners or EPA at any time. EPA does not expect organizations to join the program unless they expect participation to be cost effective and otherwise beneficial for them.

In addition, Partners and other interested parties can seek recognition and help EPA promote energy-efficient technologies by evaluating the efficiency of their buildings using EPA’s on-line tools (e.g., Portfolio Manager) and applying for recognition. EPA does not expect any information collected under ENERGY STAR to be Confidential Business Information (CBI).


Respondents/affected entities: Participants in EPA’s ENERGY STAR Program in the commercial and industrial sectors.

Respondent’s obligation to respond: Voluntary.

Estimated number of respondents: 51,515 (total).

Frequency of response: One-time, annually, or on occasion.

Total estimated burden: 254,084 hours (per year). Burden is defined at 5 CFR 1320.03(b).

Total estimated cost: $21,784,161 (per year), includes $10,827,727 in annualized capital or operation & maintenance costs.

Changes in Estimates: The burden estimates presented in this notice are

Changes in Estimates: The burden estimates presented in this notice are
from the last approval. EPA is currently evaluating and updating these estimates as part of the ICR renewal process. EPA will discuss its updated estimates, as well as changes from the last approval, in the next Federal Register notice to be issued for this renewal.

Dated: November 19, 2018.

Carolyn Snyder,
Director, Climate Protection Partnerships Division.

[FR Doc. 2018–27048 Filed 12–12–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–9987–88–Region 5]

Re-Establishment of the Great Lakes Advisory Board

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of re-establishment of Great Lakes Advisory Board.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing the re-establishment of the Great Lakes Advisory Board (GLAB).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Edlynzia Barnes, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), Great Lakes National Program Office, Environmental Protection Agency, 77 W Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, IL; telephone number: 312–886–6249; email address: Barnes.Edlynzia@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The GLAB is being re-established in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act FACA) of 1972 (5 U.S.C., Appendix 2, as amended) and 41 CFR 102–3.50(d). The Advisory Board will provide advice and recommendations on matters related to the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. The Advisory Board will also advise on domestic matters related to implementation of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement between the U.S. and Canada.

The major objectives will be to provide advice and recommendations on:

a. Great Lakes protection and restoration activities.

b. Long term goals, objectives, and priorities for Great Lakes protection and restoration.

c. Other issues identified by the Great Lakes Interagency Task Force/Regional Working Group.

EPA has determined that this federal advisory committee is in the public interest and will assist the EPA in performing its duties and responsibilities. Copies of the GLAB’s charter will be filed with the appropriate congressional committees and the Library of Congress.

The GLAB expects to meet in person or by electronic means (e.g., telephone, videoconference, webcast, etc.) approximately two (2) times per year, or as needed and approved by the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). Meetings will be held in the Great Lakes region.

Membership: The GLAB will be composed of approximately fifteen (15) members who will generally serve as representative members of non-federal interests. Nominations for membership will be solicited through the Federal Register and other sources. In selecting members, EPA will consider candidates representing a broad range of interests relating to the Great Lakes, including, but not limited to, environmental groups, industry, business groups, agricultural groups, citizen groups, environmental justice groups, foundations, academia and state, local and tribal governments. In selecting members, EPA will consider the differing perspectives and breadth of collective experience needed to address the EPA’s charge.


Cathy Stepp,
Regional Administrator, Great Lakes National Program Manager.

[FR Doc. 2018–27050 Filed 12–12–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

FARM CREDIT SYSTEM INSURANCE CORPORATION

Regular Meeting; Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation Board

AGENCY: Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation.

ACTION: Notice, regular meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the regular meeting of the Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation Board.

DATES: The meeting of the Board will be held at the offices of the Farm Credit Administration in McLean, Virginia, on December 19, 2018, from 11:00 a.m. until such time as the Board concludes its business.

DIRECTIONS: All meeting dates, times and locations are subject to change. Please call (703) 883–4009 for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The notices also will be available for inspection at

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ACTION: Notice, regular meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the regular meeting of the Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation Board.

DATES: The meeting of the Board will be held at the offices of the Farm Credit Administration in McLean, Virginia, on December 13, 2018, from 11:00 a.m. until such time as the Board concludes its business.

DIRECTIONS: All meeting dates, times and locations are subject to change. Please call (703) 883–4009 for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The notices also will be available for inspection at

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