

verification is derived from the total number of WIC state agencies, which has decreased by one since the previous burden collection.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:*

The estimated number of responses per respondent for the WIC local agency is one, as each eligible WIC local agency can submit one application. The estimated number of responses per respondent for the WIC state agency is 2.0, as each WIC state agency will evaluate approximately 2.0 applications annually. These estimates were derived by dividing the total number of responses for the WIC local agency application or the WIC state agency

evaluation by the respective number of respondents. Overall, the estimated number of responses per respondent across the entire collection is 1.3, which is derived by dividing the total number of annual responses (346) by the total estimated number of respondents (258).

*Estimated Total Annual Responses:* 346.

*Estimated Time per Response:* FNS estimates the WIC local agency application response is 2.0 hours, and the WIC state agency response is 1.2 hours. Overall, the average estimated time for all the award participants is 1.6 hours. The estimated average number of hours per response was derived by dividing the number of estimated total

hours (551), by the number of total annual responses by all respondents (346). The time for the WIC local agency is an estimated time for the agency to voluntarily review the instructions, fill out the “WIC Breastfeeding Award of Excellence” application, and attach supportive documentation. The time for the WIC state agency is an estimated time for the agency to review the instructions, evaluate the components of the local WIC agencies applications, and make a recommendation for an award.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 551.2 hours.

See the Burden table below for estimated total annual burden for each type of respondent.

Respondent	Estimated # respondent	Responses annually per respondent	Total annual responses	Estimated avg. # of hours per response*	Estimated total hours
<b>Reporting Burden</b>					
Small Entity Application .....	13.0	1.0	13.0	2.0	26.0
WIC Local Agency Application .....	157.0	1.0	157.0	2.0	314.0
WIC State Agency Evaluation .....	88.0	2.0	176.0	1.2	211.2
<b>Total Reporting Burden .....</b>	<b>258.0</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>346.0</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>551.2</b>

\* Estimated average # of hours per response includes .5 hours for reviewing instructions.

**Parick A. Penn,**  
Deputy Under Secretary, Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services.

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**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Food and Nutrition Service**

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Trafficking Controls and Fraud Investigations (Card Replacement)**

**AGENCY:** Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice. Renewal of a previously approved information collection.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice invites the general public and other public agencies to comment on this proposed information collection. This collection is a revision of a currently approved collection. This information collection announces the intent of the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to revise and report on the activities associated with the replacement of multiple Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards,

as well as the monitoring and notices associated with excessive requests for replacement SNAP EBT cards.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before May 11, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be sent to Maribelle Balbes, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1320 Braddock Place, 5th Floor, Alexandria, VA 22314, or (703) 605-4272. Comments may also be submitted via email to [snapsab@usda.gov](mailto:snapsab@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 responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of this information collection should be directed to Dr. Casey Lowe at (703) 659-7361 or [snapsab@usda.gov](mailto:snapsab@usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** 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.

*Title:* Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Trafficking Controls and Fraud Investigations (Card Replacement).

*Form Number:* N/A.

*OMB Control Number:* 0584-0587.

*Expiration Date:* 04/30/2026.

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

*Abstract:* Per Federal regulations at 274.6(b)(6),<sup>1</sup> state agencies are required to monitor EBT card replacement requests and send notices to the household upon their fourth request for a replacement card within a 12-month period. Upon requesting the fourth replacement card, state agencies are required to send a notice to the

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-7/part-274/section-274.6#p-274.6\(b\)\(6\)](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-7/part-274/section-274.6#p-274.6(b)(6)).

household specifying the number of cards requested over what period of time, an explanation of what is considered misuse or fraudulent use of their benefits, and that their account is being monitored for potential trafficking activity.

State agencies also have the option to withhold the replacement card if the household has reached the excessive card replacement threshold set by the state agency. The threshold set by the state agency must not be less than four cards within a 12-month period. Per Federal regulations at 7 CFR

274.6(b)(5),<sup>2</sup> state agencies have the option to require that a household member contact the state agency to explain the reason for requesting a new EBT card if the state agency determines that the requests are excessive. State agencies must notify the household in writing when they reach their replacement card threshold. The state agency will withhold the replacement card until the household provides an explanation by contacting the state agency. If fraud is suspected, the state agency will refer the household for investigation and, when deemed

necessary, provide written notification to the household.

**Reporting**

*Affected Public:* Individual/Household.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 292,064.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Estimated Total Annual Responses:* 292,064.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 0.0607.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 17,737.92.

**FY26 0584–0587**

Section of reg		Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Total annual responses	Hours per response	Total annual burden hours
<b>Individuals/Households</b>						
274.6(b)(5) ..	Reading Withhold Replacement Card Warning Notice.	32,127	1	32,127	0.0334	1,073.04
274.6(b)(5) ..	Reading Replacement Card Withheld Notice and Making Contact with State agency.	* 16,064	1	16,064	0.5000	8,031.76
274.6(b)(6) ..	Reading Excessive Replacement Card Notice.	258,477	1	258,477	0.0334	8,633.12
Household Total.	.....	292,064	1	292,064	0.0607	17,737.92

\* 16,064 Individuals/Households (I/H) SNAP participants are the same I/H accounted for in the 32,127 and therefore not double counted.

*Affected Public:* State Agencies.  
*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 53.  
*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 5,511.  
*Estimated Total Annual Responses:* 292,064.  
*Estimated Time per Response:* 0.0334.  
*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 10,242.68.

Using SNAP participation data, FNS estimates that there are about 292,064 households affected annually by the excessive replacement card procedures outlined in this information collection

request. FNS estimates it will take a total of 17,737.92 hours for these households to complete the tasks associated with this information collection. The most recent SNAP data shows a decrease in participation as compared with fiscal year (FY) 2021 data used in the last submission for this information request; therefore, there is a decrease of 5,001.84 burden hours compared to the previous burden hours approved by the OMB (22,739 (FY23 household burden hours) – 17,737.92 (current household burden hours) = 5,001.84 hours. The household burden

hours include reading excessive replacement card notices from the State agency and when applicable, contacting the state agency to explain the reason for the excessive card requests.

The total burden hours, including household and state agency burden hours, for this information request has decreased by 7,881.86 hours as compared to the most recent information collection approved by OMB in FY23 (35,862.48 (FY23 total burden hours) – 27,980.61 (current total burden hours) = 7,881.86 burden hours).

**FY26 0584–0587**

Section of Reg	Description	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Total annual responses	Hours per response	Total annual burden hours
<b>State Agencies</b>						
274.6(b)(5)	Withhold Replacement Card Warning Notice.	6	5,355	32,127	0.0334	1,073.04
274.6(b)(5)	Replacement Card Withheld Notice .....	6	2,677	16,064	0.0334	536.52
274.6(b)(6)	Excessive Replacement Card Notice ....	47	5,500	258,477	0.0334	8,633.12

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-7/part-274/section-274.6#p-274.6\(b\)\(5\)](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-7/part-274/section-274.6#p-274.6(b)(5)).

FY26 0584–0587—Continued

Section of Reg	Description	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Total annual responses	Hours per response	Total annual burden hours
State Agency Total.	.....	53	5,511	292,064	0.0334	10,242.68

There is no change in the number of state agency respondents, 53. FNS estimates that out of 53 state agencies, 47 send the excessive replacement card notice. The remaining six state agencies implement the option to withhold the replacement SNAP card and require the household to contact the state agency to explain the reason for their excessive SNAP card replacement requests before the card is replaced. This estimation has not changed since the last submission of this information collection request.

FY23 total state agency burden hours were updated from 13,122.72 to 10,242.68 for FY26. The total burden hours for state agencies for this information collection has decreased by 2,880.04 burden hours.

**Patrick A. Penn,**

*Deputy Under Secretary, Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**International Trade Administration**

[C–821–841]

**Unwrought Palladium From the Russian Federation: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination**

**AGENCY:** Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of unwrought palladium (palladium) from the Russian Federation (Russia). The period of investigation is January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

**DATES:** Applicable March 11, 2026.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kelsie Hohenberger or Olivia Woolverton, AD/CVD Operations, Office V, Enforcement and Compliance,

International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–2517 or (202) 482–7452.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

This preliminary determination is made in accordance with section 703(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). On August 22, 2025, Commerce published the notice of initiation of this countervailing duty (CVD) investigation in the **Federal Register**.<sup>1</sup> On September 30, 2025, Commerce postponed the preliminary determination until December 29, 2025.<sup>2</sup>

Due to the lapse in appropriations and Federal Government shutdown, on November 14, 2025, Commerce tolled all deadlines in administrative proceedings by 47 days.<sup>3</sup> Additionally, due to a backlog of documents that were electronically filed via Enforcement and Compliance’s Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS) during the Federal Government shutdown, on November 24, 2025, Commerce tolled all deadlines in administrative proceedings by an additional 21 days.<sup>4</sup> Accordingly the deadline for this preliminary determination is now March 5, 2026.

For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.<sup>5</sup> A list of topics discussed in the Preliminary Decision

<sup>1</sup> See *Unwrought Palladium from the Russian Federation: Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigation*, 90 FR 41039 (August 22, 2025) (*Initiation Notice*).

<sup>2</sup> See *Unwrought Palladium from the Russian Federation: Postponement of Preliminary Determination in the Countervailing Duty Investigation*, 90 FR 46791 (September 30, 2025).

<sup>3</sup> See Memorandum, “Deadlines Affected by the Shutdown of the Federal Government,” dated November 14, 2025.

<sup>4</sup> See Memorandum, “Tolling of all Case Deadlines,” dated November 24, 2025.

<sup>5</sup> See Memorandum, “Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Affirmative Determination in the Countervailing Duty Investigation of Unwrought Palladium from the Russian Federation,” dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via ACCESS. ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at <https://access.trade.gov/public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx>.

**Scope of the Investigation**

The product covered by this investigation is palladium from Russia. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, see Appendix I.

**Scope Comments**

In accordance with the *Preamble* to Commerce’s regulations,<sup>6</sup> the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage (*i.e.*, scope).<sup>7</sup> No interested parties commented on the scope of the investigation as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. Accordingly, Commerce is not preliminarily modifying the scope language as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*.

**Methodology**

Commerce is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 701 of the Act.

For each of the subsidy programs found countervailable, Commerce preliminarily determines that there is a subsidy, *i.e.*, a financial contribution by an “authority” that gives rise to a benefit to the recipient, and that the subsidy is specific.<sup>8</sup> For a full description of the methodology underlying our preliminary determination, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

Commerce notes that, in making these findings, we relied on facts available and, because we find that certain respondents did not act to the best of

<sup>6</sup> See *Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties; Final Rule*, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997) (*Preamble*).

<sup>7</sup> See *Initiation Notice*, 90 FR at 41039.

<sup>8</sup> See sections 771(5)(B) and (D) of the Act regarding financial contribution; section 771(5)(E) of the Act regarding benefit; and section 771(5A) of the Act regarding specificity.