

- Inform governance structures enabling scalable replication of SMR-powered vessels; and
- What lessons can be learned from the development and construction of nuclear-powered vessels that could inform us how a commercial nuclear-powered vessel could be economically viable.

2. Notional Development Roadmap

The following progressive framework is provided solely to support industry and stakeholder discussion:

- Early regulatory alignment, liability architecture, and maturation of U.S. SMR concepts.
- Port-based deployments and operational demonstrations to foster stakeholder support.
- Integration into strategic sealift new construction platforms currently under development or other government owned new construction as prototype platforms to validate operational capability and to provide actual operating information/data to further commercial risk analysis and enhance public perception of the technology.

3. System-First Principles

MARAD seeks information and insight into the following specific areas:

- Liability architecture and insurability before hull construction;
- Port access and standards alignment prior to deployment;
- Workforce pathways developed ahead of vessel launch;
- Replication and commercial scheduling viability as primary success metrics; and
- Integration into existing maritime logistics systems.

4. Technical Scope

Reactor Technology and Integration. Safe and secure SMR architectures emphasizing modularity and maintainability, including proposed solutions for the back end of the fuel cycle.

Integration of SMR-Powered Vessels into Shipyard Operations. Concepts demonstrating modular production and integration with U.S. shipyard capacity. The emphasis on U.S. construction, both ships and SMRs, is critical.

Legal and Regulatory Pathways. Approaches enabling predictable licensing timelines and standardized approval pathways for SMR-related technologies. This includes determining whether existing civilian nuclear frameworks with other countries may allow for cooperation to develop clear documentation, inspection, and classification regimes.

Liability, Insurance, and Financial Architecture. Frameworks enabling

routine financing and underwriting of nuclear-powered commercial vessels.

Ports, Standards, and International Acceptance. Inspection regimes, vessel classification rules, and strategies for shaping international norms.

Workforce and Operational Model. Seafarer Certification Including standards for U.S. Coast Guard merchant mariner credentialing and competence requirements for endorsements for vessels with nuclear powered propulsion.

Commercial Integration and Market Pull. Trade lanes and cargo flows demonstrating economically repeatable deployment.

5. Strategic Themes

MARAD is particularly interested in concepts that treat nuclear propulsion as commercial infrastructure rather than a technology demonstration, and that demonstrate clear pathways to scalable, repeatable maritime operations.

6. Specific Information Requests and Questions for Industry and the Public

- Please provide any input on the core technology and innovative features of the SMR concept and how such concept would differ from existing solutions?
 - What key advantages would a particular concept of a modular reactor design offer in terms of safety, efficiency, and environmental impact compared to current technologies?
 - Please describe how a SMR concept is or can become sufficiently scalable and adaptable for various maritime applications, including potential integration with existing infrastructures?
 - How does a SMR concept enable repeatable deployment across multiple vessels or classes?
 - What liability or insurance structures are required before commercial financing becomes viable?
 - What port and vessel legal or regulatory barriers must be resolved prior to deployment?
 - How can workforce pipelines be established to prepare our Nation to develop a sufficient number of trained workers to build and crew SMR-powered vessels?
 - What system-level risks could prevent replication even if a single vessel succeeds?
 - How does a SMR concept integrate into existing logistics networks and cargo markets?
 - Please identify any other critical factors, risks, or ecosystem dependencies crucial for MARAD and other agencies to consider in supporting the development and deployment of

commercially viable SMR-powered vessels in our marine transportation system.

- Please provide recommendations for law and regulations or sub-regulatory guidance that could be revised, rescinded, or promulgated to support, incentivize, or ensure legal and regulatory consistency for the SMR maritime nuclear propulsion concept from Department of Energy; the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; the Department of Homeland Security, including the U.S. Coast Guard; the Department of War; and other relevant agencies, as appropriate, consistent with applicable financial and budgetary frameworks and statutory authorities.

Docket Appendix

MARAD encourages all interested parties to review the appendix posted on the docket:

The Appendix titled “Illustrative Maritime SMR Concept Development Context” provides a conceptual framework to help respondents better understand the relationship between key components in the maritime SMR concept, guiding their submissions in addressing relevant challenges and opportunities.

Follow-on Steps and Stakeholder Engagement

Following this RFI, MARAD intends to host a series of engagement activities open to the public, which may include technical exchanges, listening sessions, public workshops, or public meetings. These engagements are intended to clarify broad challenges, support international dialogue, and ensure transparent participation prior to the response deadline.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

T. Mitchell Hudson, Jr.,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 2026–09070 Filed 5–6–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–81–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–NEW]

Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: Establishing Property Suitability for VA Specially Adapted Housing

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of

1995, this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, will submit the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden, and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent by June 8, 2026.

ADDRESSES: To submit comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection, please type the following link into your browser: www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain, select “Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments”, then search the list for the information collection by Title or “OMB Control No. 202503–2900–014.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: VA PRA information: Dorothy Glasgow, 202–461–1084, VAPRA@va.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Establishing Property Suitability for VA Specially Adapted Housing.
OMB Control Number: 2900–NEW
<https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRASearch>.

Type of Review: New Collection (Request for a new OMB Control Number).

Abstract: The Report of Loan Guaranty Existing Housing Unit Inspection of SAH Property Suitability (VA Form 26–1858a–ARE), Report of Loan Guaranty SHA Property Suitability (VA 26–1858b), Report of Loan Guaranty SAH Vacant Lot Inspection (VA Form 26–1858c–ARE), Report of Loan Guaranty Final SAH/SHA Field Review (VA Form 26–1858d) are used to assess the suitability and condition of properties under the VA’s Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) program. The information collected in this process assists Veterans who are entitled to adapted housing grants itemized under 38 U.S.C. Chapter 21 § 2101 (a) who may use their benefit to “acquire a suitable housing unit” that will provide a barrier-free living space based on “the nature of the Veteran’s disability”. Per 38 U.S.C. Chapter 21 § 2101 (a)3, determinations must be made regarding the feasibility and suitability of a proposed property. Information must be gathered to make such determinations. 38 CFR 36.4404 (b) requires that the VA establish if it is medically feasible for the Veteran to reside outside an institutional setting, that the proposed housing unit is suitable for the Veteran’s

needs and that the cost of the proposed housing unit bears a proper relation to the Veteran’s present and anticipated income and expenses. The information being sought is both required and necessary to make an accurate analysis that may support these conclusions.

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. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published at: 90 FR 53066, on November 24, 2025. VA received public comments during the 60-day notice period. These comments were reviewed and considered in the preparation of this 30-day submission.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 2,695 Hours.

Estimated Average Burden per Respondent: 15 minutes (to complete forms)/45 minutes (to take photos and measurements).

Frequency of Response: Annually.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 6,628.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

Shunda Willis,

Alternate, VA PRA Clearance Officer, Office of Enterprise and Integration/Data Governance Analytics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2026–09050 Filed 5–6–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0745]

Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: Request for Certificate of Veteran Status

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, will submit the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments and recommendations for the proposed

information collection should be sent by June 8, 2026.

ADDRESSES: To submit comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection, please type the following link into your browser: www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain, select “Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments”, then search the list for the information collection by Title or “OMB Control No. 2900–XXXX.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dorothy Glasgow, 202–461–1084, VAPRA@va.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Request for Certificate of Veteran Status.

OMB Control Number: 2900–0745
<https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRASearch>.

Type of Review: Reinstatement with change of a previously approved collection.

Abstract: The Request for Certification of Veteran Status information collection is used to determine an applicant’s eligibility for a possible reduced downpayment when obtaining a loan insured by FHA under the provisions of Section 203(b)(2) or 220(d)(a) of the National Housing Act as amended. The information collection is being submitted as a “Reinstatement with change” due to a reduction in respondents from 25 to 10 to reflect fewer submissions under this information collection during the reporting period. This decrease results in a corresponding reduction in burden.

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. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published at insert citation date 91 FR 9929, February 27, 2026.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 2 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 10 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Two-Times per loan.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 10.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

Shunda Willis,

Alternate, VA PRA Clearance Officer, Office of Information Technology/Data Governance Analytics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2026–09044 Filed 5–6–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320–01–P