

United States Department of Agriculture

Marketing and Regulatory Programs

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services

Washington, DC 20250

Subject: Request for Expedited Processing of

OMB Paperwork Reduction Act C earance

Through: Ruth Brown

OCIO

To:

Andrew Perraut

Desk Officer

APHIS is requesting emergency review, processing, and approval of an information collection activity in support of an interim rule that will amend title 9, Code of the Federal Regulations, Parts 93, 94, and 95. The regulation is needed immediately to continue protecting the United States from the introduction of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) subtype H5N1 and exotic Newcastle disease, especially since there is currently an outbreak of HPAI in Japan. This interim rule will also restrict the importation of bird and poultry products from regions where other subtypes of HPAI are considered to exist.

We are also adding restrictions concerning importation of live poultry and birds that have been vaccinated for avian influenza or that have moved through regions where any subtype of HPAI is considered to exist. These restrictions supplement existing restrictions on the importation of live birds and poultry and bird and poultry products and byproducts from regions where exotic Newcastle disease or HPAI subtype H5N1 are considered to exist. They are necessary to prevent the introduction into the United States of these extremely infectious and often fatal diseases of poultry.

Therefore, we are requesting a 6-month approval of the paperwork clearance package by December 31, 2010.

John R. Clifford

Deputy Administrator

Veterinary Services

