## **PUBLIC SUBMISSION**

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National Organic Program: Request for an Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

Comment On: AMS-NOP-13-0051-0001

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposals, Submissions, and Approvals: National Organic Program

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Lejeune, Heath

## **Submitter Information**

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## **General Comment**

It takes Heath & Lejeune roughly about 15 to 20 hours per week to comply with NOP standards. We are an organic produce distributor and tracking down certificates from growers is very difficult and a massive consumption of time. We also waste alot of money and resources on printing and having to keep all the paperwork on file. The cost of all the long distance phone calls is also a burden when all of the certification information could be online and filed with the USDA. We have hired a person to collect all the certificates and to maintain our certification which is also a financial burden. We have to pay to be organically certified. The amount of time and resources it takes to maintain organic certification is wasteful and not efficient in any way and it needs to be revisited and revised.