

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Docket: FAR-2016-0053

Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Information Collections - 2016

Comment On: FAR-2016-0053-0009

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposals, Submissions, and Approvals: Use of Data Universal Numbering System as Primary Contractor Identification (OMB Control No. 9000-0145)

Document: FAR-2016-0053-DRAFT-0004

Comment on FR Doc # 2016-02517

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General Comment

Attached is filing from the business community.

Attachments

Business submission 9000-0145 transparency



April 11, 2016

General Services Administration
Washington, DC

Re: Information Collection 9000-0145, Use of Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) as Primary Contractor Identification

Dear Administrator:

We, the 72 undersigned businesses, call on the Administration to replace the system it now uses to track bidders on federal contracts with a more open, efficient, and nonproprietary system, the Global Legal Entity Identifier (LEI). Also, we call on it to require contract bidders to identify the real people who own or control them—the beneficial owners.

We urge the Administration to make public the beneficial owners of bidding firms. The Administration can do this without Congressional action, and it would be a major step toward making the procurement process more fair.

The U.S. government has a right to know who's bidding on federal contracts. Contracting officers need to know who is bidding to safeguard the use of taxpayer dollars. Legitimate businesses need to know who's bidding if they're to compete for contracts fairly.

We call on the Administration to encourage Congress to pass the Incorporation Transparency and Law Enforcement Assistance Act (ITLEAA), legislation that would require the collection of the beneficial owners of the companies incorporated in all 50 states and for the information to remain updated.

Requiring U.S. businesses to disclose beneficial owners will neither burden them and nor undermine their ability to compete globally. In fact, disclosing beneficial owners will create more competitive markets.

Sincerely,

Bryan McGannon
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