



1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 2055-S, STOP 0201
Washington, D.C. 20250-0201

TO: Dominic Mancini
Deputy Director
Office of Management and Budget

THROUGH: Levi S. Harrell
Departmental Clearance Officer
Office of the Chief Information Officer

FROM: Erin Morris
Associate Administrator

SUBJECT: Request for Emergency Review and Approval for a New Information Collection Request

We are requesting emergency review and approval of an information collection package for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) for a web form to collect complaints and tips from the public as part of a new FarmerFairness.gov complaint web portal.

The laws and regulations relating to competition in the meat and poultry industries confer separate and overlapping jurisdiction to the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Justice. Farmers and other interested persons may not be aware of this and may not know to whom or how to file a complaint or tip if they suspect a violation of those laws or regulations. This joint complaint portal allows those farmers and interested persons to go to one website to submit information and USDA and DOJ will determine the appropriate jurisdiction and any follow up actions. During this pandemic and supply chain challenges, it is vital that the Federal government promptly receives information about potentially illegal activities that may be contributing to those challenges. It is impractical, unnecessary, and contrary to the public interest to deny an immediate opportunity to submit a complaint or tip about potential violations of these types of laws than currently exists, especially given the protections these laws provide to farmers, ranchers, growers, and producers.

In compliance with OMB regulations (5 C.F.R. Part 1320), which implement the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), the information collection and recordkeeping requirements that may be imposed by this action are submitted to OMB for emergency review and approval. The additional reporting requirements would not become effective prior to OMB review. Once approved the collection will be merged with OMB No. 0581-0308, Regulations and Related Reporting and Recording Requirements - Packers and Stockyards Programs-Business Form and Instruction.

Attached are the OMB 83-I, the Supporting Statement, the AMS-71 spreadsheet, and a PDF of the draft webform.

Attachments