

FINAL SUPPORTING STATEMENT
FOR
NRC FORM 531 "REQUEST FOR TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER"

OMB 3150-0188

EXTENSION

Description of Information Collection

The Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-134) was signed into law on April 26, 1996. Under this law, Federal agencies are required to collect Taxpayer Identification Numbers (TINs) from all persons who do business with the government. NRC Form 531 is used to collect TINs and information sufficient to identify the licensee or applicant for licenses, certificates, approvals and registrations. For small businesses the TIN maybe the owner's Social Security Number (SSN). Based on experience, 300 requests for TINs will be mailed to new licensees each year.

A. JUSTIFICATION

1. Need for and Practical Utility of the Collection of Information

The Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 requires all Federal agencies to obtain TINs from all persons who do business with the Government including contractors and recipients of credit, licenses, permits, and benefits.

2. Agency Use of Information

The TIN will be requested from all licensees and applicants for which we have not previously collected a TIN. The TIN will be used on payments (refunds) made to licensees by electronic funds transfer by the Department of the Treasury. The Department of the Treasury will use the TIN to determine whether the refund can be used to administratively offset any delinquent debts reported to the Treasury by other government agencies. In addition, the TIN will be used to collect and report to the Department of the Treasury any delinquent indebtedness arising out of the licensee's or applicant's relationship with the NRC.

3. Reduction of Burden Through Information Technology

The NRC has issued [Guidance for Electronic Submissions to the NRC](#) which provides direction for the electronic transmission and submittal of documents to the NRC. Electronic transmission and submittal of documents can be accomplished via the following avenues: the Electronic Information Exchange process, which is available from the NRC's "Electronic Submittals" Web page, by Optical Storage Media (e.g. CD-ROM, DVD), by facsimile, or by e-mail. It is anticipated that 75% of all request will be submitted electronically.

4. Effort to Identify Duplication and Use Similar Information

No sources of similar information are available. There is no duplication of requirements.

5. Effort to Reduce Small Business Burden

The information required by NRC Form 531 is needed for both small and large businesses in order to issue refunds owed to licensees. Approximately 300 responses are received annually of which 75% are small businesses.

6. Consequences to Federal Program or Policy Activities if the Collection is not Conducted or is Conducted Less Frequently

The impact to the NRC of not conducting or conducting the collection of information less frequently will result in licensees and applicants not receiving payment due them from the NRC and will result in the Department of the Treasury being unable to perform administrative offset of delinquent debts. The frequency cannot be reduced because this is a one-time request for information from the public.

7. Circumstances Which Justify Variation from OMB Guidelines

This request does not vary from OMB guidelines.

8. Consultations Outside the NRC

Opportunity for public comment on the information collection requirements for this clearance package was published in the *Federal Register* on October 8, 2021 (86 FR 56298). Four potential respondents were contacted by phone as part of the consultation process. No responses or comments were received as a result of the FRN or the staff's direct solicitation of comment.

9. Payment or Gift to Respondents

Not applicable.

10. Confidentiality of Information

Confidential and proprietary information is protected in accordance with NRC regulations at 10 CFR 9.17 (a) and 10 CFR 2.390 (b).

NRC Form 531 specifies the use of the individual's SSN or Employer Identification Number. This information is necessary to ensure the proper identification of the individual.

There is a Privacy Act System of Records Notice for this information that is maintained in a system of records designated as NRC-32 and described at 81 Federal Register 81342 (November 17, 2016), or the most recent Federal Register publication of the NRC's Systems of Records Notices.
<https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/foia/privacy-systems.html>.

11. Justification for Sensitive Questions

Not applicable

12. Estimate of Annualized Burden and Burden Hour Cost

The estimated time to complete the form is fifteen minutes. The annual number of requests for TINs is 300. The estimated annual burden is 75 hours (0.25 hr x 300 TINs). The public cost is: 75 hours x \$288 per hour = \$21,600.

The \$288 hourly rate used in the burden estimates is based on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's fee for hourly rates as noted in 10 CFR 170.20 "Average cost per professional staff-hour." For more information on the basis of this rate, see the Revision of Fee Schedules; Fee Recovery for Fiscal Year 2021 (86 FR 32146, June 16, 2021).

13. Estimate of Other Additional Costs

There are no additional costs.

14. Estimated Annualized Cost to the Federal Government

The estimated annual cost to the Federal Government for data entry is \$21,600. (15 minutes per form x 300)/60 x \$288 = \$21,600.

The staff has developed estimates of annualized costs to the Federal Government related to the conduct of this collection of information. These estimates are based on staff experience and subject matter expertise and include the burden needed to review, analyze, and process the collected information and any relevant operational expenses.

15. Reasons for Change in Burden or Cost

There has been no change in the estimated burden for this information collection. The cost has increased because of the increase in the hourly rate from \$263 to \$288.

16. Publication for Statistical Use

This information will not be published for statistical use.

17. Reason for Not Displaying the Expiration Date

The clearance expiration date is displayed on NRC Form 531.

18. Exceptions to the Certification Statement

There are no exceptions.

B. COLLECTION OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS

Not applicable.