DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[OMB Control No. 9000-0201]

[Docket No. 2020-0053; Sequence No. 6]

Information Collection; Prohibition on Contracting with Entities Using Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment (FAR Case 2019-009)

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations, DoD, GSA, and NASA invite the public to comment on an extension of information collection 9000-0201 concerning representations and reporting associated with implementation of Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) rule 2019-009, Prohibition on Contracting with Entities Using Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment. OMB authorized information collection 9000-0201 as an emergency collection. DoD, GSA, and NASA propose that OMB extend its approval for use for three additional years beyond the current expiration date.
DATES: DoD, GSA, and NASA will consider all comments received by [Insert date 60 days after date of publication in the Federal Register].

ADDRESSES: DoD, GSA, and NASA invite interested persons to submit comments on this collection through http://www.regulations.gov and follow the instructions on the site. This website provides the ability to type short comments directly into the comment field or attach a file for lengthier comments. If there are difficulties submitting comments, contact the GSA Regulatory Secretariat Division at 202-501-4755 or GSARegSec@gsa.gov

Instructions: All items submitted must cite Information Collection 9000-0201, Prohibition on Contracting with Entities Using Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment (FAR Case 2019-009). Comments received generally will be posted without change to regulations.gov, including any personal and/or business confidential information provided. To confirm receipt of your comment(s), please check regulations.gov, approximately two-to-three days after submission to verify posting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: FAR Policy at telephone 202-969-4075, or farpolicy@gsa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
A. OMB control number, Title, and any Associated Form(s):
9000-0201, Prohibition on Contracting with Entities Using Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment (FAR Case 2019-009).

B. Need and Uses

This information collection supports implementation of subparagraph (a)(1)(B) of Section 889 of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2019 (Pub. L. 115-232). DoD, GSA, and NASA published an interim rule (FAR Case 2019-009) at 85 FR 42665 on July 14, 2020 to implement section 889(a)(1)(B) of the NDAA. This section prohibits executive agencies from entering into, or extending or renewing, a contract with an entity that uses any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system, on or after August 13, 2020, unless an exception applies or a waiver has been granted.

This requirement is implemented in the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) through the provision at FAR 52.204-24, Representation Regarding Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment and the clause at FAR 52.204-25, Prohibition on
Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.

Information collected under the provision at 52.204-24 will be used to identify if an offeror uses any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system, and their intended use in order to determine whether the prohibition applies.

Information collected under the clause at FAR 52.204-25 will consist of reports from contractors who have identified, post-award, the use of any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunications equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system, and requires a disclosure that will be used by agency personnel to identify and consult with legal counsel and the program office on next steps regarding the prohibited equipment or services.

If the Government seeks a waiver from the prohibition, the offeror will be required to provide a full and complete laydown of the presences of covered telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services in the entity’s supply chain, a phase-out plan to eliminate such covered
telecommunications equipment or services from the offeror’s systems, and any other information necessary for the agency to process the waiver.

C. Annual Burden

The annual public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated as follows:

Agency: DoD, GSA, and NASA.
Type of Information Collection: New Collection.
Title of Collection: Representation Regarding Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.
FAR Clause: 52.204-24
Affected Public: Private Sector – Business.
Total Estimated Number of Respondents: 102,792.
Average Responses per Respondents: 378.
Total Estimated Number of Responses: 38,854,291.
Average Time (for both positive and negative representations) per Response: 3 hours.
Total Annual Time Burden: 116,562,873.

Agency: DoD, GSA, and NASA.
Type of Information Collection: New Collection.
Title of Collection: Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.
FAR Clause: 52.204-25
Affected Public: Private Sector – Business.
Total Estimated Number of Respondents: 5,140.
Average Responses per Respondents: 5.
Total Estimated Number of Responses: 25,700.
Average Time per Response: 3 hours.
Total Annual Time Burden: 77,100.

Agency: DoD, GSA, and NASA.
Type of Information Collection: New Collection.
Title of Collection: Waiver from Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.
FAR Clause: 52.204-25
Affected Public: Private Sector – Business.
Total Estimated Number of Respondents: 20,000.
Average Responses per Respondents: 1.
Total Estimated Number of Responses: 20,000.
Average Time per Response: 160 hours.
Total Annual Time Burden: 3,200,000.

The public reporting burden for this collection of information consists of a representation to identify whether an offeror uses covered telecommunications equipment or services for each offer as required by 52.204-24 and reports of identified use of covered telecommunications equipment or services as required by 52.204-25. The representation at 52.204-24 is estimated to average 3 hours per response to review the prohibitions, research the source of the product or service, and complete the additional detailed disclosure, if applicable. Reports required by 52.204-25 are estimated to average 3 hours per response, including the time for reviewing definitions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the report.

If the Government seeks a waiver from the prohibition, the offeror will be required to provide a full and complete laydown of the presences of covered telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services in the entity’s
supply chain and a phase-out plan to eliminate such covered telecommunications equipment or services from the offeror’s systems. There is no way to estimate the total number of waivers at this time. For the purposes of complying with the PRA analysis, the FAR Council estimates 20,000 waivers; however there is no data for the basis of this estimate. This estimate may be higher or lower once the rule is in effect.

D. Public Comments

DoD, GSA, and NASA invite comments on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of Federal Government acquisitions, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

OBTAINING COPIES: Requesters may obtain a copy of the information collection documents from the GSA Regulatory Secretariat Division by calling 202-501-4755 or emailing GSARegSec@gsa.gov. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0201,
Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment (FAR Case 2019-009).

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