

**Supporting Statement**  
**(Form 6781)**

**1. CIRCUMSTANCES NECESSITATING COLLECTION OF INFORMATION**

Section 1256 contracts held at the end of the year are marked to market at that time, with 60% treated as long-term and 40% treated as short-term. Sixty percent of the gain or loss from section 1256 contracts disposed of during the year are treated as long-term and 40% of the gain or loss from such contracts are treated as short-term. In addition, losses from positions that are part of a straddle are only allowed to the extent they exceed the unrecognized gains from offsetting positions. Parts I and II of Form 6781 provide those computations. Internal Revenue Code section 1092(a)(3)(B) requires each taxpayer to disclose to the Secretary each position, whether or not part of a straddle, having an unrecognized gain at the end of the year. Part III of Form 6781 is provided for such purpose.

**2. USE OF DATA**

Form 6781 is used by the IRS to verify that respondents correctly figured their tax.

**3. USE OF IMPROVED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE BURDEN**

We are currently offering electronic filing for Form 6781.

**4. EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY DUPLICATION**

We have attempted to eliminate duplication within the agency wherever possible.

**5. METHODS TO MINIMIZE BURDEN ON SMALL BUSINESSES OR OTHER SMALL ENTITIES**

Not applicable.

**6. CONSEQUENCES OF LESS FREQUENT COLLECTION ON FEDERAL PROGRAMS OR POLICY ACTIVITIES**

Not applicable.

**7. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING DATA COLLECTION TO BE INCONSISTENT WITH GUIDELINES IN 5 CFR 1320.5(d) (2)**

Not applicable.

**8. CONSULTATION WITH INDIVIDUALS OUTSIDE OF THE AGENCY ON AVAILABILITY OF DATA, FREQUENCY OF COLLECTION, CLARITY OF INSTRUCTIONS AND FORMS, AN DATA ELEMENTS**

Periodic meetings are held between IRS personnel and representatives of the American Bar Association, the National Society of Public Accountants, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and other professional groups to discuss tax law and tax forms. During these meetings, there is an opportunity for those attending to make comments regarding Form 6781. In addition, we receive comments from other interested outside groups and from individuals

In response to the Federal Register Notice dated May 18, 2006 (71 F.R. 28417) we received no comments during the comment regarding Form 6781.

**9. EXPLANATION OF DECISION TO PROVIDE ANY PAYMENT OR GIFT TO RESPONDENTS**

Not applicable.

**10. ASSURANCE OF CONFIDENTIALITY OF RESPONSES**

Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential as required by 26 USC 6103.

**11. JUSTIFICATION OF SENSITIVE QUESTIONS**

Not applicable.

**12. ESTIMATED BURDEN OF INFORMATION COLLECTION**

Form	Number of Responses	Time per Response	Total Hours
6781			56,843 15.89

Estimates of annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens shown above are not available at this time.

**13. ESTIMATED TOTAL ANNUAL COST BURDEN TO RESPONDENTS**

As suggested by OMB, our Federal Register notice dated May 18, 2006, requested public comments on estimates of cost burden that are not captured in the estimates of burden hours, i.e., estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information. However, we did not receive any response from taxpayers on this subject. As a result, estimates of the cost burdens are not available at this time.

**14. ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

The primary cost to the government consists of the cost of printing this form. We estimate that the cost of printing the form is \$1,429.

**15. REASONS FOR CHANGE IN BURDEN**

Not applicable.

**16. PLANS FOR TABULATION, STATISTICAL ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION**

Not applicable.

**17. REASONS WHY DISPLAYING THE OMB EXPIRATION DATE IS INAPPROPRIATE**

See attachment.

**18. EXCEPTION TO THE CERTIFICATION STATEMENT ON OMB FORM 83-I**

Not applicable.

**Note:** The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information in this submission:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.