Date of Approval: 11/08/2024 Questionnaire Number: 1637

Basic Information/Executive Summary

What is the name of your project (system, database, pilot, product, survey, social media site, etc.)?

National Research Program

Acronym:

NRP

Business Unit

National Headquarters

Preparer

For Official Use Only

Subject Matter Expert

For Official Use Only

Program Manager

For Official Use Only

Designated Executive Representative

For Official Use Only

Executive Sponsor

For Official Use Only

Executive Summary: Provide a clear and concise description of your project and how it will allow the IRS to achieve its mission.

The National Research Program (NRP), which is part of Research, Applied Analytics and Statistics (RAAS), was designed to facilitate the collection and use of data that describe taxpayer compliance with federal requirements for filing tax returns, reporting income, deductions, taxes and credits, and paying taxes owed. In 2000, IRS established the NRP office as part of its efforts to develop and

monitor strategic measures of taxpayer compliance. The NRP seeks to increase public confidence in the fairness of our tax system by helping the IRS identify where voluntary compliance problems occur so that the IRS can efficiently utilize its resources to address those problems. The NRP application is a web-based application that provides general users including examiners, classifiers, managers, Report Generation System (RGS) coordinators, NRP coordinators, national office staff, and transcribers with both current information on NRP studies and historical information on completed NRP studies.

Personally Identifiable Information (PII)

Will this project use, collect, receive, display, store, maintain, or disseminate any type of Sensitive but Unclassified (SBU), Personally Identifiable Information (PII), or Federal Tax Information (FTI)?

Yes

Please explain in detail how this project uses sensitive data from inception to destruction (data lifecycle).

NRP audits are extremely thorough and have detailed information from both the tax return and various third-party documents pertaining to the taxpayer. When cases are selected for an NRP study, the taxpayer data are loaded into the NRP database. This is a Windows client-server web-based application with backend database. The database servers store information from each study, including the audit results. Once the studies are complete, the data are provided to CDW. On CDW, TINs are masked to protect taxpayer privacy, and unmasked TINs are available with permission. SSNs are the primary key, used by auditors and analysts to tie together tax forms relating to a tax case. Other tax information associated with tax returns and results of taxpayer examinations are needed to allow for analysis concerning the nature of noncompliance in the taxpayer population and to develop algorithms to determine efficient workload selection. This information is also used to answer congressionally mandated reporting requirements and to inform policy making for Treasury and other agencies. There is no other feasible way to perform the work of NRP without having the ability to use SBU/PII for this purpose.

Please select all types of Sensitive but Unclassified data (SBU)/Personally Identifiable Information (PII)/Federal Tax Information (FTI) that this project uses.

Address

Driver's License Number

Email Address

Employer Identification Number

Employment Information

Family Members

Federal Tax Information (FTI)

Financial Account Number

Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)

Internet Protocol Address (IP Address)

Name

Official Use Only (OUO) or Limited Office Use (LOU)

Preparer Taxpayer Identification Number (PTIN)

Professional License Number

Protected Information

Social Security Number (including masked or last four digits)

Standard Employee Identifier (SEID)

Tax ID Number

Telephone Numbers

Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)

Cite the authority for collecting SBU/PII/FTI (including SSN if relevant).

PII for federal tax administration - generally IRC Sections $6001\ 6011$ or 6012

SSN for tax returns and return information - IRC section 6109

Product Information (Questions)

1.1 Is this PCLIA a result of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)?

No

1.3 What type of project is this (system, project, application, database, pilot/proof of concept, power platform/visualization tool)?

System

1.35 Is there a data dictionary for this system?

Yes

1.36 Explain in detail how PII and SBU data flow into, through and out of this system.

Data are loaded into NRP via the systems Business Master File / Individual Master File (BMF/IMF), XML Returns Data Base (XRDB), Examination Operation Automation Database (EOAD), Compliance Data Environment (CDE), Information Returns Processing (IRP), and Service Center Replacement System (SCRS). Final audit data go to Compliance Data Warehouse (CDW) for publication. Data also flow to Correspondence Examination Automation Support (CEAS) for batch case creation. The method used for each of these systems is described later in this document.

1.4 Is this a new system?

No

- 1.5 Is there a Privacy and Civil Liberties Impact Assessment (PCLIA) for this system?
 Yes
- 1.6 What is the PCLIA number?

7432

1.7 What are the changes and why?

We are updating to show that we capture IP Address as part of PII. Also, we are adding SORNS 34.037 (IRD Audit Trail and Security System) and 36.003 (General Personnel and Payroll Records) to our SORN list.

1.8 If the system is on the As-Built-Architecture, what is the ABA ID of the system? If this PCLIA covers multiple applications shown on the ABA, please indicate the ABA ID for each application covered separated by a comma.

The ABA ID is 210799.

- 1.9 What OneSDLC State is the system in (Allocation, Readiness, Execution)? Execution
- 1.95 If this system has a parent system, what is the PCLIA Number of the parent system?

 NRP does not have a parent system.

2.1 If this system discloses any PII to any third party outside the IRS, does the system have a process in place to account for such disclosures in compliance with IRC 6103(p)(3)(A) or Subsection c of the Privacy Act? Contact Disclosure to determine if an accounting is required. Enter "Yes" or "No". If Exempt, type "Exempt".

Exempt

2.2 Please provide the full name of and acronym of the governance board or Executive Steering Committee (ESC) this system reports to.

Research Directors' Coordinating Council (RDCC)

3.1 Does your project/system involve any use of artificial intelligence (AI), including virtual assistant, chat bot, and robotic process automation, as defined in Executive Order 13960?

No

3.3 Does this system use cloud computing?

No

3.6 Does this system interact with the public through a web interface?

No

3.7 Describe the business process allowing an individual to access or correct their information.

An individual taxpayer cannot access or correct anything on the NRP databases. If an IRS employee would like to change something in an NRP table, he or she can submit a request through a special website. The changes will then be processed and archived.

4.1 Who owns and operates the system (IRS Owned and Operated, IRS Owned and Contractor Operated, Contractor Owned and Operated)?

IRS Owned and Operated

- 4.2 If a contractor owns or operates the system, does the contractor use subcontractors?
- 4.5 Identify the roles and their access level to the PII data. For contractors, indicate whether their background investigation is complete or not.

NRP employees have access to study data, with logs created to show any query done against the NRP databases. NRP IT professionals maintain access to each of

NRP's subsystem websites, such as the Form 1040 homepage. Access can be removed at any time, including inactivity. A BEARS request is necessary to see NRP data on CDW, and an additional BEARS request is necessary for unmasked TINS. NRP has nothing to do with background checks.

4.51 How many records in the system are attributable to IRS Employees? Enter "Under 50,000", "50,000 to 100,000", "More than 100,000" or "Not Applicable".

More Than 100,000

4.52 How many records in the system are attributable to contractors? Enter "Under 5,000", "5,000 to 10,000", "More than 10,000" or "Not Applicable".

Not Applicable

4.53 How many records in the system are attributable to members of the public? Enter "Under 5,000", "5,000 to 10,000", "More than 10,000" or "Not applicable".

Not Applicable

4.54 If records are attributable to a category not mentioned above in 4.51 through 4.53, please identify the category and the number of corresponding records to the nearest 10,000. If none, enter "Not Applicable".

Not Applicable

4.6 How is access to SBU/PII determined and by whom?

Anyone who wants NRP access needs to fill out a BEARS request form and have it approved by NRP management.

5.1 Please describe any privacy risks, civil liberties and/or security risks identified for the system that need to be resolved and what is the mitigation plan?

None

5.11 Is there a Risk Assessment Form and Tool (RAFT) associated with this system on file with your organization or the IRS Risk Office.

No

5.2 Does this system use or plan to use SBU data in a non-production environment?

No

Interfaces

Interface Type

IRS Systems, file, or database

Agency Name

Information Returns Processing (IRP)

Incoming/Outgoing

Incoming (Receiving)

Agency Agreement

No

Transfer Method

Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP)

Interface Type

IRS Systems, file, or database

Agency Name

Business Master File (BMF)

Incoming/Outgoing

Incoming (Receiving)

Agency Agreement

No

Transfer Method

Secure email/Zixmail

Interface Type

IRS Systems, file, or database

Agency Name

Correspondence Examination Automation Support (CEAS)

Incoming/Outgoing

Outgoing (Sending)

Agency Agreement

No

Transfer Method

Secure email/Zixmail

Interface Type

IRS Systems, file, or database

Agency Name

Compliance Data Warehouse (CDW)

Incoming/Outgoing

Outgoing (Sending)

Agency Agreement

No

Transfer Method

Electronic File Transfer Utility (EFTU)

Interface Type

IRS Systems, file, or database

Agency Name

Individual Master File (IMF)

Incoming/Outgoing

Incoming (Receiving)

Agency Agreement

No

Transfer Method

Secure email/Zixmail

Interface Type

IRS Systems, file, or database

Agency Name

Compliance Data Environment (CDE)

Incoming/Outgoing

Incoming (Receiving)

Agency Agreement

No

Transfer Method

Secure email/Zixmail

Interface Type

IRS Systems, file, or database

Agency Name

Individual Master File (IMF) Pre-Posting

Incoming/Outgoing

Outgoing (Sending)

Agency Agreement

No

Transfer Method

Secure email/Zixmail

Interface Type

IRS Systems, file, or database

Agency Name

XML Returns Data Base (XRDB)

Incoming/Outgoing

Incoming (Receiving)

Agency Agreement

No

Transfer Method

Secure email/Zixmail

Interface Type

IRS Systems, file, or database

Agency Name

Examination Operational Automation Database (EOAD)

Incoming/Outgoing

Incoming (Receiving)

Agency Agreement

No

Transfer Method

Secure email/Zixmail

Interface Type

IRS Systems, file, or database

Agency Name

Service Center Replacement System (SCRS)

Incoming/Outgoing

Incoming (Receiving)

Agency Agreement

No

Transfer Method

Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP)

Systems of Records Notices (SORNs)

SORN Number & Name

IRS 34.037 - Audit Trail and Security Records

Describe the IRS use and relevance of this SORN.

To identify and track any unauthorized accesses to sensitive but unclassified information and potential breaches or unauthorized disclosures of such information or inappropriate use of government computers to access Internet sites for any purpose forbidden by IRS policy (gambling, playing computer games, or engaging in illegal activity), or to detect electronic communications sent using IRS systems in violation of IRS security policy.

SORN Number & Name

IRS 36.003 - General Personnel and Payroll Records

Describe the IRS use and relevance of this SORN.

To administer personnel and payroll programs.

SORN Number & Name

IRS 24.030 - Customer Account Data Engine Individual Master File

Describe the IRS use and relevance of this SORN.

To maintain records of tax returns, return transactions, and authorized taxpayer representatives.

SORN Number & Name

IRS 22.061 - Information Return Master File

Describe the IRS use and relevance of this SORN.

To administer tax accounts related to the filing of information returns.

SORN Number & Name

IRS 42.021 - Compliance Programs and Projects Files

Describe the IRS use and relevance of this SORN.

To track information relating to special programs and projects to identify non-compliance schemes and to select individuals involved in such schemes for enforcement actions.

SORN Number & Name

IRS 24.046 - Customer Account Data Engine Business Master File

Describe the IRS use and relevance of this SORN.

To maintain records of business tax returns, return transactions, and authorized taxpayer representatives.

Records Retention

What is the Record Schedule System?

General Record Schedule (GRS)

What is the retention series title?

GRS 5.1

What is the GRS/RCS Item Number?

010

What type of Records is this for?

Both (Paper and Electronic)

Please provide a brief description of the chosen GRS or RCS item.

Administrative records maintained in any agency office.

What is the disposition schedule?

Destroy when business use ceases.

What is the Record Schedule System?

Record Control Schedule (RCS)

What is the retention series title?

RCS 27

What is the GRS/RCS Item Number?

What type of Records is this for?

Both (Paper and Electronic)

Please provide a brief description of the chosen GRS or RCS item. Final Definition or Data Dictionary

What is the disposition schedule?

Retire to Records Center when 5 years old. Transfer to NARA when 30 years old.

What is the Record Schedule System?

Record Control Schedule (RCS)

What is the retention series title?

RCS 22

What is the GRS/RCS Item Number?

What type of Records is this for?

Both (Paper and Electronic)

Please provide a brief description of the chosen GRS or RCS item.

Official records

What is the disposition schedule?

For microfilm or hard copy: Destroy when 15 years old. For All other copies: Destroy when no longer needed in current operations or when 5 years old, whichever is earlier.

What is the Record Schedule System?

Record Control Schedule (RCS)

What is the retention series title?

RCS 23

What is the GRS/RCS Item Number?

14

What type of Records is this for?

Both (Paper and Electronic)

Please provide a brief description of the chosen GRS or RCS item.

General NRP Documents

What is the disposition schedule?

Destroy when 25 years old

Data Locations

What type of site is this?

System

What is the name of the System?

Design, Develop, Test (DDT) Web Server

What is the sensitivity of the System?

Personally Identifiable Information (PII) including Linkable Data

What is the URL of the item, if applicable?

VL0SRASWEBNRP01.DDT.DSDT.IRSNET.GOV

Please provide a brief description of the System.

Development

What are the incoming connections to this System?

BMF/IMF, XRDB, EOAD, CDE, IRP, SCRS. These provide the information needed to build NRP cases and perform the audits. The methods of loading data are described in the "Interfaces" section of the PCLIA.

What are the outgoing connections from this System?

None.

What type of site is this?

System

What is the name of the System?

Data Store Test (DSTEST) DB Server

What is the sensitivity of the System?

Personally Identifiable Information (PII) including Linkable Data

What is the URL of the item, if applicable?

VL0SRASSQLNRP02.DSTEST.IRSNET.GOV

Please provide a brief description of the System.

Test Server

What are the incoming connections to this System?

BMF/IMF, XRDB, EOAD, CDE, IRP, SCRS. These provide the information needed to build NRP cases and perform the audits. The methods of loading data are described in the "Interfaces" section of the PCLIA.

What are the outgoing connections from this System?

None.

What type of site is this?

System

What is the name of the System?

Data Store (DS) Web Server

What is the sensitivity of the System?

Personally Identifiable Information (PII) including Linkable Data

What is the URL of the item, if applicable?

VP0SRASWEBNRP03.ds.irsnet.gov

Please provide a brief description of the System.

Production Server

What are the incoming connections to this System?

BMF/IMF, XRDB, EOAD, CDE, IRP, SCRS. These provide the information needed to build NRP cases and perform the audits. The methods of loading data are described in the "Interfaces" section of the PCLIA.

What are the outgoing connections from this System?

Final audit data goes to CDW for publication, and data goes to CEAS for batch case creation.

What type of site is this?

System

What is the name of the System?

Data Store (DS) DB Server

What is the sensitivity of the System?

Personally Identifiable Information (PII) including Linkable Data

What is the URL of the item, if applicable? VP0SRASSQLNRP03.ds.irsnet.gov

Please provide a brief description of the System.

Production Server

What are the incoming connections to this System?

BMF/IMF, XRDB, EOAD, CDE, IRP, SCRS. These provide the information needed to build NRP cases and perform the audits. The methods of loading data are described in the "Interfaces" section of the PCLIA.

What are the outgoing connections from this System?

Final audit data goes to CDW for publication, and data goes to CEAS for batch case creation.

What type of site is this?

System

What is the name of the System?

Data Store (DS) Web Server - Disaster

What is the sensitivity of the System?

Personally Identifiable Information (PII) including Linkable Data

What is the URL of the item, if applicable?

VD0SRASWEBNRP04.ds.irsnet.gov

Please provide a brief description of the System.

Disaster Recovery Server

What are the incoming connections to this System?

BMF/IMF, XRDB, EOAD, CDE, IRP, SCRS. These provide the information needed to build NRP cases and perform the audits. The methods of loading data are described in the "Interfaces" section of the PCLIA.

What are the outgoing connections from this System?

None.

What type of site is this?

System

What is the name of the System?

Data Store Test (DSTEST) Web Server

What is the sensitivity of the System?

Personally Identifiable Information (PII) including Linkable Data

What is the URL of the item, if applicable?
VL0SRASWEBNRP02.DSTEST.IRSNET.GOV

Please provide a brief description of the System.

Test Server

What are the incoming connections to this System?

BMF/IMF, XRDB, EOAD, CDE, IRP, SCRS. These provide the information needed to build NRP cases and perform the audits. The methods of loading data are described in the "Interfaces" section of the PCLIA.

What are the outgoing connections from this System?

None.

What type of site is this?

System

What is the name of the System?

Design, Develop, Test (DDT) DB Server

What is the sensitivity of the System?

Personally Identifiable Information (PII) including Linkable Data

What is the URL of the item, if applicable? VL0SRASSQLNRP01.DDT.DSDT.IRSNET.GOV

Please provide a brief description of the System.

Development

What are the incoming connections to this System?

BMF/IMF, XRDB, EOAD, CDE, IRP, SCRS. These provide the information needed to build NRP cases and perform the audits. The methods of loading data are described in the "Interfaces" section of the PCLIA.

What are the outgoing connections from this System?

None.

What type of site is this?

System

What is the name of the System?

Data Store (DS) DB Server - Disaster

What is the sensitivity of the System?

Personally Identifiable Information (PII) including Linkable Data

What is the URL of the item, if applicable?

VD0SRASSQLNRP04.ds.irsnet.gov

Please provide a brief description of the System.

Disaster Recovery Server

What are the incoming connections to this System?

BMF/IMF, XRDB, EOAD, CDE, IRP, SCRS. These provide the information needed to build NRP cases and perform the audits. The methods of loading data are described in the "Interfaces" section of the PCLIA.

What are the outgoing connections from this System?

None.