Partners in Recovery Act – please see the below alert and guidance relative to recipient reporting and an issue with the Treasury Account Symbol (TAS) codes.

Nancy J. Gunderson
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary
  Acquisition Management and Policy (OS-ASAM)
Nancy.Gunderson@hhs.gov

From: Recovery Act [mailto:RECOVERYACT@LISTSERV.GSA.GOV] **On Behalf Of** CFO Council Support
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2009 8:04 AM
To: RECOVERYACT@LISTSERV.GSA.GOV
Subject: [RecoveryAct] Emergency OMB Guidance to Agencies Regarding Recovery Act Recipient Reporting
Importance: High

This message is being sent on behalf of Danny Werfel, Deputy Controller, and Lesley Field, Deputy Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy.

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A major issued related to the Treasury Account Symbol (TAS) codes has been identified.   If agencies have provided Federal contractors or recipients of Federal assistance an incorrect TAS – one that is not an official TAS per the Treasury FAST book, contractors and recipients of Federal assistance will get an error message in FederalReporting.gov and will be unable to report. In these cases, the Recovery Act Help Desk will advise the Federal contractor/recipient to use the two digit agency code and "xxxx" for the fund code. For example, the Department of Commerce would be "13-xxxx," and the Department of Agriculture would be "12-xxxx." This is a temporary code that will facilitate identification of records with invalid TAS codes which must be fixed through coordination between the Federal agency and funding recipient.

Please note this requires new action for the Federal agencies: OMB Guidance provided the Federal agencies discretion in defining the scope and method for detecting material omissions and significant reporting errors. In order to minimize the impact of this issue, Federal agencies must identify instances where a temporary TAS Code may result in a significant misrepresentation of the reporting results. In these instances, completed submissions that contain a temporary TAS Code (e.g., in the form 12-xxxx) should be prioritized to correct the submission for large contracts or grants. The Federal agencies must correct any invalid TAS codes for these programs as soon as possible, in order to allow the recipient to resubmit its report within the 21-day window.

For all other temporary TAS Codes not updated through the above process, Federal agencies are required to take action within FederalReporting.gov by December 31, 2009 for the reporting period beginning January 1, 2010.

When agencies perform their review of Federal contractor/recipient reports, they will be able to search on "xxxx" to identify the awards that must be modified. Agencies will need to provide the valid TAS codes to their

contractors and recipients. Agencies should also update this data in their internal systems (e.g., correct the TAS in the FPDS record) and any applicable external systems. Valid TAS codes can be found at http://www.fms.treas.gov/fastbook/index.html.

If you need assistance or have questions regarding TAS codes, please contact Karen McBride at 202-395-3993 or at KMcBride@omb.eop.gov.