

effect the solution (e.g., the outline of a research plan).

Funding: Approximately \$1.0 million is expected to be available in Fiscal Year 1998 for award in this solicitation. The projected award may be up to \$150,000 for one year. Applicants will be expected to budget for and participate in a workshop on environmental futures with EPA scientists, other agency officials, and other grantees in Washington, DC, to report on their research activities and to discuss issues of mutual interest.

Eligibility

Academic and not-for-profit institutions located in the U.S., and state or local governments are eligible under all existing authorizations. Profit-making firms and other federal agencies are not eligible to receive grants from EPA under this program. Federal agencies, national laboratories funded by federal agencies (FFRDCs), and federal employees are not eligible to submit applications to this program and may not serve in a principal leadership role on a grant.

The final RFA will also include instructions to potential applicants on the specific format to be used for applications. These instructions will be similar to such instructions found in other EPA/ORD solicitations which may be reviewed on the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/ncerqa>.

Dated: January 28, 1998.

Henry L. Longest, II,

Acting Assistant Administrator for Research and Development.

[FR Doc. 98-3322 Filed 2-9-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5964-9]

Notice of Teleconference, Board of Scientific Counselors (BOSC) Executive Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, as amended (5 U.S.C., App. 2), notice is hereby given that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Research and Development (ORD), Board of Scientific Counselors (BOSC), will hold a teleconference on February 25, 1998. On Wednesday, February 25, the teleconference will begin at 11:30 a.m. and will adjourn at 1:30 p.m. All times noted are Eastern Time. The purpose of

the teleconference is for the BOSC to review the draft report of ORD's, National Center for Environmental Research and Quality Assurance (NCERQA). The call-in number will be 202/260-7280; 6655# will access the teleconference. The teleconference is open to the public. Any member of the public wishing to make a presentation at the teleconference should contact Shirley Hamilton, Designated Federal Officer, Office of Research and Development (8701R), 401 M Street, SW., Washington, DC 20460; by telephone at (202) 564-6853. In general, each individual making an oral presentation will be limited to a total of three minutes.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shirley R. Hamilton, Designated Federal Officer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development, NCERQA (MC8701R), 401 M Street, SW., Washington, DC 20460, (202) 564-6854.

Dated: February 3, 1998.

J.K. Alexander,

Acting Assistant Administrator for Research and Development.

[FR Doc. 98-3323 Filed 2-9-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-M

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Public Information Collection Requirements Submitted to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review

February 4, 1998.

The Federal Communications Commission has submitted the following information collection requirements to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. Section 3507. Persons wishing to comment on the information collections should contact Timothy Fain, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10236, NEOB, Washington, D.C. 20503, (202) 395-3561. For further information, contact Judy Boley, Federal Communications Commission, (202) 418-0214.

Please note: The Commission has requested emergency review of the following collections by February 9, 1998 under the provisions of 5 CFR Section 1320.13.

Title: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45 (47 CFR 36.611-36.612 and 47 CFR Part 54).

Form No.: N/A.

OMB Control No.: 3060-0774.

Action: Revised collection.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities; individuals or households, state.

Estimated Annual Burden: 5,565,451 respondents; .32 hours per response (avg.); 1,801,570 hours total annual burden for all collections. See estimates provided below for burden for requirements for which approval is sought.

Needs and Uses: On December 30, 1997, the Commission released the *Fourth Order on Reconsideration* in Federal-Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket 96-45, Access Charge Reform, Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers, Transport Rate Structure and Pricing, End User Common Line Charge, CC Docket Nos. 96-262, 94-1, 91-213, 95-72 (Order). Following publication of the Commission's May 8th *Report and Order* on Universal Service, the Commission received significant comment from the public regarding universal service in the form of petitions for reconsideration, oppositions to those petitions, and comments on those petitions. In the Order, the Commission responded to various issues raised in the petitions for reconsideration and/or clarification of the Commission's May 8th *Report and Order* on Universal Service. Several of the rules adopted in the Order reduce existing reporting requirements or impose new reporting requirements.

a. *47 C.F.R. § 54.201(a)(2)—Submission of eligibility criteria.* Pursuant to section 214(e), a carrier must be designated an eligible telecommunications carrier by a state commission before receiving universal service support in accordance with section 254. A state commission that is unable to designate as an eligible telecommunications carrier, by January 1, 1998, a carrier that sought such designation before January 1, 1998, may, once it has designated such carrier, file with the Commission a petition for waiver of paragraph (a)(1) of this section requesting that the carrier receive universal service support retroactive to January 1, 1998. The state commission must demonstrate in its petition that exceptional circumstances prevented it from designating such carrier as an eligible telecommunications carrier by January 1, 1998. (No. of respondents: 100; avg. hours per response: 4 hours; total annual burden: 400 hours).

b. *Demonstration of Reasonable Steps.* Carriers also are encouraged to file with the Commission information demonstrating that they took reasonable steps to be designated as eligible telecommunications carriers by January 1, 1998. (No. of respondents: 50; avg.

hours per response: 1 hour; total annual burden: 50 hours).

c. *47 C.F.R. § 54.519—State telecommunications networks.* State telecommunications networks that secure discounts on eligible services on behalf of eligible schools and libraries must maintain records listing eligible schools and libraries, showing the basis on which eligibility determinations were made, and demonstrating the discount amount to which each eligible school and library is entitled. The state networks must direct the eligible schools and libraries to pay the discounted price for services and must comply with the competitive bid requirements established in 47 CFR § 54.504. (No. of respondents: 50; avg. hours per response: 4 hours; total annual burden: 200 hours).

d. *Streamlined application process for schools and libraries and for rural health care providers.* An eligible school or library will not be required to undergo the competitive bid process outlined in 47 CFR § 54.504(a) for a minor modification to a universal service contract as defined in 47 CFR § 54.500(h). An eligible school or library making a minor modification to a contract must submit an FCC Form 471 indicating the value of the proposed contract modification. An eligible school or library will not be required to undergo the competitive bid process outlined in 47 CFR § 54.504(a) if the eligible entity elects to order services from a master contract negotiated by a third party as defined in 47 CFR § 54.500(g). An eligible rural health care provider shall not be required to undergo the competitive bid process outlined in § 54.603 for a minor modification to a universal service contract. Such health care provider, however, shall be required to file an FCC Form 466 indicating the value of the proposed contract modification. An eligible rural health care provider shall not be required to undergo the competitive bid process outlined in 47 CFR § 54.603 if the eligible entity elects to order services from a master contract negotiated by a third party. (See Order, Section J, pps. 130–136). (No. of respondents: 16,000; avg. hours per response: 1 hour; total annual burden: 16,000 hours).

e. *47 CFR § 54.604—Existing contracts.* Rural health care providers bound by existing contracts for services shall not be required to comply with the competitive bid process outlined in 47 CFR § 54.603. (This rule reduces the total annual burden of Section 54.603(b)(1) by 1,000 burden hours).

f. *Obligation to notify underlying carrier.* Systems integrators that derive

de minimis amounts of revenue from the resale of telecommunications and small entities that qualify for the *de minimis* exemption are not required to contribute to universal service. They must, however, notify their underlying carriers that they constitute end users for universal service purposes. (No. of respondents: 1700; avg. hours per response: 1 hour; total annual burden: 1,700 hours).

All the requirements contained herein are necessary to implement the congressional mandate for universal service. These reporting requirements are necessary to calculate the contribution amount owed by each telecommunications carrier or to verify that particular carriers and other respondents are eligible to receive universal service support. The recordkeeping requirements should not be burdensome since most businesses ordinarily retain these types of documents.

Title: Changes to the Board of Directors of the National Exchange Carrier Association and the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket Nos. 97–21 and 96–45.

Form No.: FCC Form 457.

OMB Control No.: 3060–0785.

Action: Revised collection.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit entities.

Estimated Annual Burden: 4,000 respondents; 13.9 hours per response (avg.); 55,650 hours total annual burden all requirements.

Needs and Uses: On December 30, 1997, the Commission released the *Fourth Order on Reconsideration* in Federal-Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket 96–45, Access Charge Reform, Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers, Transport Rate Structure and Pricing, End User Common Line Charge, CC Docket Nos. 96–262, 94–1, 91–213, 95–72 (Order). Following publication of the Commission's May 8th *Report and Order* on Universal Service, the Commission received significant comment from the public regarding universal service in the form of petitions for reconsideration, oppositions to those petitions, and comments on those petitions. In the Order, the Commission responded to various issues raised in the petitions for reconsideration and/or clarification of the Commission's May 8th Report and Order on Universal Service. The Commission reconsidered certain aspects of the Universal Service Order and exempted additional entities from universal service contribution and reporting requirements. Broadcasters and schools, colleges, universities, rural health care providers, and systems

integrators that derive *de minimis* amounts of revenue from the resale of telecommunications will not be required to contribute to universal service. See 47 CFR Section 54.703. Entities whose annual contribution would be less than \$10,000 will not be required to contribute to universal service or comply with universal service reporting requirements. See 47 CFR Section 54.705.

The foregoing estimates include the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the burden estimates or any other aspect of the collection of information including suggestions for reducing the burden to the Federal Communications Commission, Performance Evaluation and Records Management, Paperwork Reduction Project, Washington, D.C. 20554.

Federal Communications Commission.

Magalie Roman Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–3350 Filed 2–9–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Sunshine Act Meeting; Notice of a Matter To Be Withdrawn From Consideration at an Agency Meeting and; Notice of Matters Being Moved From the Summary Agenda to the Discussion Agenda

Pursuant to the provisions of the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (5 U.S.C. 552b), notice is hereby given that the following matter will be withdrawn from the "Discussion Agenda" at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's Board of Directors open meeting scheduled to be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 10, 1998:

Memorandum and resolution regarding General Counsel Opinion No. 10.

In addition, the following matters will be moved from the "Summary Agenda" to the "Discussion Agenda:"

Memorandum and resolution regarding final amendments to Part 329—Interest on Deposits.

Memorandum and resolution regarding final amendments to Part 357—Determination of Economically Depressed Regions.

Dated: February 5, 1998.