

allow the record to be supplemented to address the market need for the proposed project. The purpose of the conference is to provide an opportunity for parties to provide new information, not to restate positions or information already in the record. In addition, the Commission is particularly interested in hearing from elected officials concerning their analysis and views of the project.

The conference will be held in the offices of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, in the Commission Meeting Room, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20426, starting at 1:00 p.m.

Any party wishing to participate in the conference should submit a written request to the Secretary of the Commission by September 21, 1999. The request should indicate the scope of the participants' planned remarks. Because of time constraints, parties with common interests are encouraged to designate a single speaker to represent their views. The Commission will review the requests and the requesters, and will select the participants in the conference based on the number of requests to speak and the issues to be addressed. Speakers that have audio/visual requirements should contact Wanda Washington at (202) 208-1460.

Any written comments may be filed within 15 days after the conference.

The Capitol Connection offers all Open and special FERC meetings live over the Internet as well as via telephone and satellite. For a reasonable fee, you can receive these meetings in your office, at home, or anywhere in the world. To find out more about The Capitol Connection's live Internet, phone bridge, or satellite coverage, contact David Reininger or Julia Morelli at (703) 993-3100 or visit the web site ([www.capitolconnection.gmu.edu](http://www.capitolconnection.gmu.edu)). The Capitol Connection also offers FERC Open meetings through its Washington, D.C. area telephone service.

In addition, National Narrowcast Network's Hearing-On-The-Line service covers all FERC meetings live by telephone so that interested persons can listen at their desks, from their homes, or from any phone without special equipment. Billing is based on time on-line. Call (202) 966-2211. Anyone interested in purchasing videotapes of the meeting should also call VISCOM at (703) 715-7999.

All questions concerning the format of this conference should be directed to: Joel Arneson, Office of the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, (202) 208-2169.

By direction of the Commission.

**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,**

*Acting Secretary.*

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BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. PL98-1-001]

#### Public Access to Information and Electronic Filing; Staff Notice of Pilot Project for Electronic Filing

September 15, 1999.

**AGENCY:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of pilot project for electronic filing of documents.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) notifies interested persons that, beginning on October 1, 1999, the Commission will conduct a Pilot Project that will allow selected participants in Commission proceedings to submit to the pilot specified categories of documents electronically. This pilot is intended to test the Commission's systems for receiving electronic filings in preparation for implementing electronic filing as the principal means of filing documents in its proceedings.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Brooks Carter, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Room 42-29, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 501-8145, FAX: (202) 208-2425, E-Mail: [brooks.carter@ferc.fed.us](mailto:brooks.carter@ferc.fed.us)

Wilbur Miller, Office of the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Room 91-17, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 208-0953, FAX: (202) 208-0056, E-Mail: [wilbur.miller@ferc.fed.us](mailto:wilbur.miller@ferc.fed.us)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In addition to publishing the full text of this document in the **Federal Register**, the Commission provides all interested persons an opportunity to view and/or print the contents of this document via the Internet through FERC's Home Page (<http://www.ferc.fed.us>) and in FERC's Public Reference Room during normal business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern time) at 888 First Street, NE, Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426.

From FERC's Home Page on the Internet, this information is available in both the Commission Issuance Posting System (CIPS) and the Records and Information Management System (RIMS).

—CIPS provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission since November 14, 1994. CIPS can be accessed using the CIPS link or the Energy Information Online icon. The full text of this document will be available on CIPS in ASCII and WordPerfect 8.0 format for viewing, printing, and/or downloading.

—RIMS contains images of documents submitted to and issued by the Commission after November 16, 1981. Documents from November 1995 to the present can be viewed and printed from FERC's Home Page using the RIMS link or the Energy Information Online icon. Descriptions of documents back to November 16, 1981, are also available from RIMS-on-the-Web; requests for copies of these and other older documents should be submitted to the Public Reference Room.

User assistance is available for RIMS, CIPS, and the Website during normal business hours from our Help line at (202) 208-2222 (E-Mail to [WebMaster@ferc.fed.us](mailto:WebMaster@ferc.fed.us)) or the Public Reference Room at (202) 208-1371 (E-Mail to [public.referenceroom@ferc.fed.us](mailto:public.referenceroom@ferc.fed.us)).

During normal business hours, documents can also be viewed and/or printed in FERC's Public Reference Room, where RIMS, CIPS, and the FERC Website are available. User assistance is also available.

Take notice that Commission Staff is seeking volunteers to participate in a Pilot Project for electronic filing of documents in Commission proceedings over the Internet. This Pilot Project will commence on October 1, 1999, and will continue until further notice by the Commission. Because this is a test of the electronic system, participants in the pilot will still be required to comply with existing filing requirements, by filing paper copies of documents in accordance with the Commission's existing regulations.

This pilot is part of the Commission Staff's effort to implement electronic filing. Eventually, Staff expects to recommend that the Commission require that all filings by regulated entities be made in electronic form, with limited exceptions. Participants in this pilot will have the opportunity not only to assist the Commission in making its determination on electronic filing, but to familiarize themselves with the process at an early stage of development. At the outset of the pilot only a few participants may be selected, but Commission Staff anticipates that the number of testers will be increased incrementally as more experience is gained with electronic filing. Staff will be particularly interested in working

with participants that anticipate filing during the course of the pilot, documents of the types that will be accepted for the pilot.

The pilot will test a prototype for electronic filing over the Internet limited to motions and notices to intervene, protests, comments and related filings. The attachment describes the pilot and contains a general description of the requirements and specifications for electronic submissions during the pilot. The Commission Staff is not testing electronic filings made on diskette, CD-ROM, or other media as part of this pilot, although ultimately some filings may be made using these media.

The Commission Staff encourages those interested in participating in the pilot to contact: Brooks Carter, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Room 42-29, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 501-8145, FAX: (202) 208-2425, E-Mail: brooks.carter@ferc.fed.us.

Please include the name, mailing address, telephone number, and E-Mail address of the company contact. It would also be helpful if interested parties would be prepared to give Staff some indication of whether they anticipate filing documents of the types that will be accepted for the pilot. A link on the Commission's Website for the Electronic Filing Initiative provides information about the pilot (<http://www.ferc.fed.us/efi/efi.htm>). Questions may also be addressed to Brooks Carter.

**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,**  
*Acting Secretary.*

## Attachment—Summary of Staff Pilot Project for Electronic Filing

### I. Initial Approach

Initially, a limited group of voluntary participants will take part in testing the electronic filing prototype. This group will be incrementally enlarged during the pilot to ensure that as many volunteers as possible get the opportunity to participate and that all functional components of the system are adequately tested. The initial group of participants will include those that anticipate making several filings of the types being accepted for purposes of the pilot during the early stages of the pilot.

Coordination with Commission Staff will be essential. During the pilot, participants will work closely with Staff in testing specific aspects of the prototype and the initial filing profile, and will provide technical feedback.

### II. Scope

The following categories of documents, and no others, may be submitted in connection with the Pilot Project (all citations are to 18 CFR):

1. Motions to Intervene and Notices to Intervene pursuant to § 385.214.
2. Protests pursuant to § 385.211, and protests and responses pursuant to § 343.3.
3. Comments on any pleading listed in 1. or 2. other than (a) those in proceedings set for hearing under Subpart E of the regulations and (b) settlement comments.
4. Comments filed in rulemaking proceedings and in connection with Environmental Impact Statements on Environmental Assessments.
5. Answers to, withdrawals of, and amendments to pleadings and rulemaking comments listed in 1., 2., or 4., filed pursuant to § 385.213, 385.215 and 385.216, other than those in proceedings set for hearing under Subpart E of the regulations.

### III. Existing Filing Requirements

Existing filing requirements will not be waived, suspended or modified for purposes of this Pilot Project. Thus, participants, filing electronic copies of documents must also file paper copies in accordance with the Commission's existing filing requirements. The paper copy will serve as the official copy in accordance with existing regulations during the pilot. Questions of timeliness will be determined according to the paper submission.

### IV. Technical Requirements

The following sections describe in general terms the technical requirements and operations of the pilot. Commission Staff will provide detailed instructions to participants.

#### A. Filing Format

During the pilot, the participants may submit electronic documents in the following formats:

1. Microsoft Word: Versions from 2.x for Windows to MS Office 97. The file name extension must be ".doc."
2. Corel WordPerfect: Versions 4.2 through 8.0. The file name extension must be ".wpd."
3. Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF): All versions. The file name extension must be ".pdf."
4. Rich Text Format. The file name extension must be ".rtf."
5. ASCII. The file name extension must be ".txt."

Participants may submit files with long file names.

As the Commission Staff expands its electronic filing initiative, it will add other formats (e.g., spreadsheets, graphics) to accommodate specific requirements.

#### B. Method of Submission

The following steps generally outline the method of submission that participants will be required to follow during the pilot:

1. The participant will access the Commission's web site and follow the instructions for submitting an electronic document.
2. Upon submission of the document, the Commission's computer system will immediately generate a web-based response confirming successful transmission. The Commission's computer system will shortly thereafter send an E-Mail message confirming receipt and containing an accession number for the document's image.

3. The E-Mail that the Commission's computer system sends will also contain an Internet link, so the participant can view the document's electronic image, which the Commission's system will have generated. The participant will be able to view the Commission-generated electronic image of the submitted document, thus allowing the participant to compare the image's content and appearance with the original document sent.

4. The participant will make a paper copy of the document (either from the participant's electronic version or from the document's Commission-generated electronic image). The participant will also print out a copy of the confirmation received from the Commission's computer system (which will include the accession number), and place the confirmation on top of the original paper version of the document. The participant will then submit the original with the confirmation and the prescribed number of paper copies of the document in accordance with the Commission's existing regulations. *The paper copy and not the electronic version governs issues of timeliness.*

5. The Commission will make available on its web site, through RIMS, both the electronic version of the document in its native format and the Commission's electronic image of the paper copy. Users of the Commission's web site will be able to download the native format version or, if they have the appropriate viewer, to view it on screen.

#### C. Formatting of Documents To Permit Accurate Citation

Paragraph numbering is not necessary for documents filed in PDF format. For documents filed in other formats (WordPerfect, MS Word, RTF and ASCII), accurate citation may be difficult unless documents contain paragraph numbers. The Commission Staff thus encourages participants filing documents in those formats to include paragraph numbers. During the pilot, paragraph numbering will not be required and documents that do not contain it will not be rejected solely for that reason.

For purposes of this pilot, participants choosing to include paragraph numbering should number every paragraph of the document consecutively. Participants can use any format for paragraph numbering, but they are encouraged to use the format [¶number] and place the number at the left margin to each paragraph, as follows: [¶1] [Paragraph text beginning here.].

Participants can use either the automatic paragraph numbering features of the application (such as Word™ or WordPerfect™) or can use ASCII characters for numbering.

Commission Staff will create an electronic image of the submitted electronic file, as long as the file format used is one of those stated above as acceptable. At this time, RIMS is not able to convert non-PDF file formats to PDF.

#### D. Authentication and Verification

Participants in the Pilot Project will establish a User ID and Password to authenticate an electronic submission. Each

person submitting an electronic filing must establish his/her own ID and Password.

#### E. Document Content Standards

The Commission Staff will place some limitations on the content of electronic documents submitted as part of the pilot. Such documents will have to meet at least the following criteria:

1. Documents must be submitted as a single file, which is neither zipped nor compressed.
  2. Documents must be submitted in connection with a proceeding that has a single Docket Number, or is the lead docket in a consolidated case.
  3. The file size must be less than five megabytes.
  4. Documents must not contain auto-text (such as "date") or macros that may change the document in any way after submission.
  5. Documents must not contain hyperlinks to external documents, except to the Commission's CIPS and RIMS systems as long as the text also contains a regular, full citation to the referenced document.
  6. All documents submitted electronically in connection with the pilot will be public. Non-public or proprietary documents and data may not be submitted electronically as part of the pilot.
- All participants should note that the above technical requirements are subject to change. The Commission Staff will post any updates to the requirements for the pilot on the Website and encourages participants to check regularly for possible changes.

#### F. Additional Contacts

Help lines (202-208-0258, 202-208-2222 and 202-208-1371) for technical assistance or questions about the pilot program are staffed during the Commission's official business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern time). Users needing help or information also are encouraged to send an E-Mail to [efiling@ferc.fed.us](mailto:efiling@ferc.fed.us).

#### V. Paperwork Reduction Act

No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with this collection of information if the collection of information does not display a valid control number. 44 U.S.C. 3512.

[FR Doc. 99-24488 Filed 9-20-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6442-3]

#### Microbial and Disinfectants/Disinfection Byproducts Advisory Committee; Notice of Meetings

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

**SUMMARY:** Under section 10(a)(2) of Public Law 920423, "The Federal Advisory Committee Act," notice is hereby given of a series of meetings of the Microbial and Disinfectants/Disinfection Byproducts Advisory Committee established under the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. S300f *et seq.*). All meetings are scheduled from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. eastern time, and will be held at RESOLVE, Inc., 1255 23rd Street, NW, Suite 275 Washington, DC 20037. The meetings are open to the public.

The meetings are scheduled for: September 22-23, to discuss ICR Occurrence Data, provide overview of drinking water treatment technologies, and review and provide guidance on the Technical Working Group's priorities; October 27-28, to discuss 12 month ICR data, distribution systems, and an update on microbial and DBP health

risks; December 8-9, to discuss Stage 1 baseline, continue discussion on microbial and DBP health risks, and begin discussion of rule options; January 12-13, to discuss post Stage 1 baseline, rule options, and continue discussion of microbial and DBP health risks.

Statements from the public will be taken if time permits.

For more information, please contact Martha M. Kucera, Designated Federal Officer, Microbial Disinfectants/Disinfection Byproducts Advisory Committee, U.S. EPA, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, Mailcode 4607, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460. The telephone number is 202-260-7773 or E-mail [kucera.martha@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:kucera.martha@epamail.epa.gov).

Dated: September 17, 1999.

**Cynthia C. Dougherty,**

*Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water.*

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BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

#### FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

#### Sunshine Act Meeting

September 15, 1999.

#### Deletion of Agenda Items From September 15th Meeting

The following items have been deleted from the list of agenda items scheduled for consideration at the September 15, 1999, Open Meeting and previously listed in the Commission's Notice of September 8, 1999. Items 2 and 3 have been adopted by the Commission.

Item No.	Bureau	Subject
2 .....	International .....	Title: Direct Access to the INTELSAT System (IB Docket No. 98-192, File No. 60-SAT-ISP-97). Summary: The Commission will consider a Report and Order concerning direct access to the INTELSAT system.
3 .....	International .....	Title: Lockheed Martin Corporation Regulux, LLC and Comsat Corporation; Application for Transfer of Control of COMSAT Government Systems, Inc., Holder of an International Section 214 Authorization and Earth Station Licenses E960186 and E960187 (File Nos. SE5-T/C/-19981016-01388(2)ITC-T/C-19981016-00715); and Lockheed Martin Corporation/Regulus, LLC; and Application for authority to Purchase and Hold Shares of Stock in COMSAT Corporation (File No. SAT-ISP-19981016-00072). Summary: The Commission will consider a Memorandum, Order and Authorization concerning applications for transfer of control of a subsidiary of Comsat Corporation to Lockheed Martin Corporation and for authority for Lockheed Martin Corporation to acquire up to 49 percent of Comsat's stock.