

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

The National Environmental Policy Act—Guidance on Categorical Exclusions

AGENCY: Council on Environmental Quality.

ACTION: Notice extending comment period.

SUMMARY: By **Federal Register** notice of September 19, 2006 (71 FR 54816–54820), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) notified interested parties it was proposing guidance to Federal agencies for establishing and for using categorical exclusions in meeting their responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). CEQ invited comments on the proposed guidance, “Establishing, Revising, and Using Categorical Exclusions under the National Environmental Policy Act.” Interested parties have requested that CEQ extend the public comment. The deadline for comments was October 27, 2006. By this notice, CEQ is extending the public comment period to December 1, 2006. Although the time for comments has been extended, CEQ requests that interested parties provide comments as soon as possible.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted on or before December 1, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Electronic or facsimile comments on the proposed guidance are preferred because federal offices experience intermittent mail delays from security screening. Electronic comments can be sent to NEPA Modernization (CE) at hgrezmiel@ceq.eop.gov. Written comments may be faxed to NEPA Modernization (CE) at (202) 456–0753. Written comments may also be submitted to NEPA Modernization (CE), Attn: Associate Director for NEPA Oversight, 722 Jackson Place NW., Washington DC 20503.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Horst Greczmiel, 202–395–5750.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On September 19, 2006, CEQ published notice in the **Federal Register** requesting public comment on proposed guidance to Federal agencies for establishing and for using categorical exclusions in meeting their responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) established a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Task Force and is now implementing recommendations designed to

modernize the implementation of NEPA and make the NEPA process more effective and efficient. Additional information is available on the task force Web site at <http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/ntf>.

The proposed guidance, “Establishing, Revising, and Using Categorical Exclusions under the National Environmental Policy Act,” was developed to assist agencies with developing and using categorical exclusions for actions that do not have significant effects on the human environment and eliminate the need for unnecessary paperwork and effort under NEPA for categories of actions that normally do not warrant preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) or environmental assessment (EA). Developing and using appropriate categorical exclusions promotes the cost-effective use of agency NEPA related resources.

Interested parties have requested that CEQ extend the public comment period. The Council believes that by extending the comment period we will receive more in-depth comments on the proposed guidance published in the **Federal Register** notice of September 19, 2006 (67 FR 45510–45512) and also available at <http://www.NEPA.gov> in the Current Developments section. Therefore, the comment period is being extended.

Public comments are requested by December 1, 2006.

Dated: October 13, 2006.

James L. Connaughton,

Chairman, Council on Environmental Quality.

[FR Doc. E6–17359 Filed 10–17–06; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Notice of Public Information Collection(s) Being Submitted for Review to the Office of Management and Budget

October 6, 2006.

SUMMARY: The Federal Communications Commission, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burden invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection(s), as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Public Law 104–13. An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. No person shall be subject to

any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) that does not display a valid control number. Comments are requested concerning (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Written Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) comments should be submitted on or before November 17, 2006. If you anticipate that you will be submitting PRA comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, you should advise the contact listed below as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Direct all Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) comments to Judith B. Herman, Federal Communications Commission, Room 1-B441, 445 12th Street, SW., DC 20554 or via the Internet to PRA@fcc.gov. If you would like to obtain or view a copy of this information collection, you may do so by visiting the FCC PRA Web page at: <http://www.fcc.gov/omd/prs>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information or copies of the information collection(s), send an e-mail to PRA@fcc.gov or contact Judith B. Herman at 202–418–0214.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: OMB Control No.: 3060–XXXX.

Title: Prepaid Calling Card Service Provider Certification, WC Docket No. 05–68.

Form No.: N/A.

Type of Review: New collection.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 787 respondents; 3,148 responses.

Estimated Time Per Response: 20 hours for quarterly reporting; 5 hours for certification.

Frequency of Response: Quarterly reporting requirement, recordkeeping requirement and third party disclosure requirement.

Total Annual Burden: 78,700 hours.

Total Annual Cost: N/A.

Privacy Act Impact Assessment: N/A.

Needs and Uses: This collection will be submitted as a new collection after this 30 day comment period to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in order to obtain the full three year clearance.

The Commission is requesting review and approval of a new information collection requiring prepaid calling card providers to report quarterly the percentage of interstate, intrastate and international traffic and call volumes to carriers from which they purchase transport services. Prepaid calling card providers must also file certifications with the Commission quarterly that include the above information and a statement that they are contributing to the federal Universal Service Fund (USF) based on all interstate and international revenue, except for revenue from the sale of prepaid calling cards by, to, or pursuant to contract with Department of Defense (DoD) or a DoD entity.

The Commission has found that prepaid calling card providers are telecommunications service providers and therefore are subject to all of the regulations imposed on telecommunications service providers, including contributing to the USF. The new reporting requirements will allow the Commission to ensure that prepaid calling card providers are complying with the requirements of section 254(d) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene H. Dortch,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E6-17184 Filed 10-17-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Notice of Public Information Collection(s) Being Submitted for Review to the Office of Management and Budget

October 10, 2006.

SUMMARY: The Federal Communications Commission, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burden invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection(s), as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Public Law 104-13. An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) that does not display a valid control number. Comments are requested concerning (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the

information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Written Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) comments should be submitted on or before December 18, 2006. If you anticipate that you will be submitting PRA comments but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, you should advise the FCC contact listed below as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Direct all PRA comments to Allison E. Zaleski, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10236 NEOB, Washington, DC 20503, (202) 395-6466, or via fax at 202-395-5167 or via internet at Allison_E_Zaleski@eop.omb.gov and to Judith-B.Herman@fcc.gov, Federal Communications Commission, Room 1-B441, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554 or an e-mail to PRA@fcc.gov. If you would like to obtain or view a copy of this information collection after the 60-day comment period, you may do so by visiting the FCC PRA Web page at: <http://www.fcc.gov/omd/pr>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information or copies of the information collection(s), contact Judith B. Herman at 202-418-0214 or via the Internet at Judith-B.Herman@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB Control Number: 3060-XXXX.

Title: Rural Health Care Support Mechanism.

Form No.: N/A.

Type of Review: New collection.

Respondents: Not-for-profit institutions and State, local and tribal government.

Number of Respondents: 20.

Estimated Time per Response: 25 hours.

Frequency of Response: Annual reporting requirement.

Total Annual Burden: 500 hours.

Total Annual Cost: N/A.

Privacy Act Impact Assessment: N/A.

Needs and Uses: The Commission will submit this new information collection to OMB after this 60-day comment period to obtain the full three-year clearance from them. The Commission is requesting OMB approval for an Order that establishes a pilot program to assist public and non-profit health care providers to build station and regionwide broadband networks dedicated to the provision of

health care services, and connect those networks to Internet2, a dedicated nationwide backbone. The construction of such networks will bring the benefits of innovative telehealth, and particularly, telemedicine services, to those areas of the country where the need for those benefits is most acute.

The pilot program is designed to encourage health care providers to join together to aggregate their needs and develop a strategy for creating statewide and/or regional networks that will connect numerous health care providers, including rural health care providers, through a dedicated, broadband network. The pilot program will fund up to 85% of the costs incurred to deploy state or regional broadband networks dedicated to health care. The pilot program will also fund up to 85% of the costs of connecting the regional and/or statewide to Internet2, a dedicated nationwide backbone that connects a number of government research institutions, as well as academic, public, and private health care institutions that are repositories of medical expertise and information. The information collected will enable the Commission to select participants for the Pilot Program.

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene H. Dortch,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E6-17342 Filed 10-17-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Notice of Public Information Collection(s) Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission for Extension Under Delegated Authority

October 12, 2006.

SUMMARY: The Federal Communications Commission, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burden invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection(s), as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Public Law No. 104-13. An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act that does not display a valid control number. Comments are requested concerning (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary