

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq. The elimination of the information collection components for this action is expected to result in the elimination of 2,305 paperwork burden hours.

In addition, pursuant to Executive Order 12898 (59 FR 7629, February 16, 1994), entitled "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," the Agency has determined that there are no environmental justice related issues with regard to this action since this final rule simply eliminates reporting requirements for a chemical that, under the criteria of EPCRA section 313, does not pose a concern for human health or the environment.

Under 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A) of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) as amended by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Title II of Pub. L. 104-121, 110 Stat. 847), EPA submitted a report containing this rule and other required information to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives and the Comptroller General of the General Accounting Office prior to publication of the rule in today's Federal Register. This rule is not a "major rule" as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2) of the APA as amended.

#### List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 372

Environmental protection, Community right-to-know, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Toxic chemicals.

Dated: July 19, 1996.

Lynn R. Goldman,  
*Assistant Administrator for Prevention,  
Pesticides and Toxic Substances.*

Therefore, 40 CFR part 372 is amended to read as follows:

1. The authority citation for part 372 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 11013 and 11028.

#### § 372.65 [Amended]

Sections 372.65(a) and (b) are amended by removing the entire entry for diethyl phthalate under paragraph (a) and removing the entire CAS No. entry for 84-66-2 under paragraph (b).

[FR Doc. 96-19075 Filed 7-26-96; 8:45 am]

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## GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

### 41 CFR Chapter 201

[FIRMR Amendment 9]

RIN 3090-AG04

### Removal of Chapter 201, Federal Information Resources Management Regulation, From Title 41—Public Contracts and Property Management

**AGENCY:** Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, GSA.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This amendment removes Chapter 201, Federal Information Resources Management Regulation (FIRMR), from Title 41—Public Contracts and Property Management. This action is necessary because the Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996, (Pub. L. 104-106) effectively removes most of the statutory basis for the FIRMR after August 7, 1996.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** August 8, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** R. Stewart Randall, GSA, Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Strategic IT Analysis Division (MKS), 18th and F Streets, NW., Room 3224, Washington, DC 20405, telephone FTS/Commercial (202) 501-4469 (v) or (202) 501-0657 (tdd), or Internet (steward.randall@gsa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** (1) The President signed S. 1124, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) For Fiscal Year 1996, (Pub. L. 104-106) on February 10, 1996. Included in the NDAA was Division E, the Information Technology (IT) Management Reform Act of 1996. Section 5105 of the said Act repeals section 111 of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended (the Brooks Act) (40 U.S.C. 759). The Brooks Act was the authority for most of the provisions in the GSA's Federal Information Resources Management Regulation so that the Brooks Act repeal effectively removes most of the statutory basis for the FIRMR. Any FIRMR provisions that are still needed, such as those regarding records management, are being removed from the FIRMR and are being reestablished as appropriate.

(2) GSA has determined that this rule is not a significant rule for the purposes of Executive Order 12866 of September 30, 1993, because it is not likely to result in any of the impacts noted in Executive Order 12866, affect the rights of specified individuals, or raise issues arising from the policies of the Administration. GSA has based all

administrative decisions underlying this rule on adequate information concerning the need for and consequences of this rule; has determined that the potential benefits to society from this rule outweigh the potential costs; has maximized the net benefits; and has chosen the alternative approach involving the least net cost to society.

List of Subjects in 41 CFR Parts 201-1 Through 201-39

Archives and records, Computer technology, Federal information processing resources activities, Government procurement, Government property management, Records management, Telecommunications.

### CHAPTER 201—FEDERAL INFORMATION RESOURCES MANAGEMENT REGULATION—[REMOVED AND RESERVED]

Accordingly, under the authority of 40 U.S.C. 486(c) and 751(f), Chapter 201 is removed and reserved.

Dated: July 17, 1996.

David J. Barram,

*Acting Administrator of General Services.*

[FR Doc. 96-19184 Filed 7-26-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-25-M

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### 47 CFR Chapter I

[CC Docket No. 96-21, FCC 96-313]

### Bell Operating Company Provision of Out-of-Region Interstate, Interexchange Services

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Final Rule; change of effective date.

**SUMMARY:** In this Order on Reconsideration, the Commission advances the effective date of its recently released Report and Order concerning Bell operating company provision of domestic, out-of-region, interstate, interexchange services. In the Matter of Out-of-Region Interstate, Interexchange Services, CC Docket No. 96-21, FCC 96-288 (rel. July 1, 1996) (*Interim BOC Out-of-Region Order*). The effective date as specified in that *Interim BOC Out-of-Region Order* was thirty days after its publication in the Federal Register, which is August 8, 1996. To further facilitate the efficient and rapid provision of such services by the BOC as contemplated by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, the Order on Reconsideration advances the

effective date of the *Interim BOC Out-of-Region Order* to July 29, 1996.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The interim rule published on July 9, 1996 at 61 FR 35964 will be effective July 29, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Michael Pryor (202) 418-0495 or Melissa Waksman (202) 418-0913, Common Carrier Bureau, Policy and Program Planning Division.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

1. On our own motion, pursuant to Section 1.108 of our rules, 47 CFR § 1.108, we reconsider the effective date of the *Interim BOC Out-of-Region Order*, 61 FR 35964, July 9, 1996. In that decision, we established interim rules governing Bell Operating company (BOC) provision of domestic, interstate, interexchange services originating outside of their in-region states. We sought to facilitate the efficient and rapid provision of such services by the BOCs, as contemplated by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, (1996 Act), Public Law No. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56 (1996) codified at 47 U.S.C. §§ 151 *et seq.* The *Interim BOC Out-of-Region Order* removes dominant carrier regulation for BOCs that provide such services through an affiliate in compliance with certain safeguards. The requirements established in the Order are interim measures that remain in place until we complete our more comprehensive review of the rules that are applicable to both independent local exchange carriers and BOCs in the provision of out-of-region, interstate, interexchange services.

2. We originally established an effective date for the *Interim BOC Out-of-Region Order* of thirty days following publication in the Federal Register. That Order was published in the Federal Register on July 9, 1996, and the scheduled effective date of the Order is August 8, 1996. Under 5 U.S.C. § 553(d)(1), however, a substantive rule which relieves a restriction may become effective prior to thirty days following Federal Register publication. Because the *Interim BOC Out-of-Region Order* lifts dominant carrier regulation for the out-of-region services of BOC affiliates complying with certain minimum safeguards, we find that the Order falls within the exception to the 30-day rule set forth in 5 U.S.C. § 553(d)(1). Accelerating the effective date of that Order will further the goals of the 1996 Act, which provided that upon enactment the BOCs could provide out-of-region, interstate, interexchange services. We find that the effective date of the *Interim BOC Out-of-Region Order* shall be the date of the publication of

this Order on Reconsideration in the Federal Register.

3. Accordingly, *It is ordered* that, pursuant to Sections 4(i), 4(j), 303 and 405 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 154(i), 154(j), 303 and 405, and section 1.108 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR § 1.108, the ORDER ON RECONSIDERATION is hereby ADOPTED and shall become effective on the date of publication in the Federal Register. *It is further ordered* that the effective date of the *Interim BOC Out-of-Region Order*, FCC 96-288 (rel. July 1, 1996), 61 FR 35964 (July 9, 1996), shall be July 29, 1996.

Federal Communications Commission.

William F. Caton,

*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 96-19240 Filed 7-26-96; 8:45 am]

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## OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

### Office of Federal Procurement Policy

#### 48 CFR Part 9903

#### Cost Accounting Standards Board; Applicability of Cost Accounting Standards Coverage

**AGENCY:** Cost Accounting Standards Board, Office of Federal Procurement Policy, OMB.

**ACTION:** Interim rule with request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Cost Accounting Standards (CAS) Board is revising the applicability criteria for application of CAS to negotiated Federal contracts. This rulemaking is authorized pursuant to Section 26 of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act, 41 U.S.C. 422. The Board is taking action on this topic to adjust CAS applicability requirements in accordance with Section 4205 of Pub. L. 104-106, the "Federal Acquisition Reform Act of 1996."

**EFFECTIVE DATES:** This rule is effective July 29, 1996. Comments upon this interim rule must be in writing and must be received by September 27, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Richard C. Loeb, Executive Secretary, Cost Accounting Standards Board, Office of Federal Procurement Policy, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 9001, Washington, DC 20503. Attn: CASB Docket No. 96-01.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Richard C. Loeb, Executive Secretary, Cost Accounting Standards Board (telephone: 202-395-3254).

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### A. Background

Section 4205 of Pub. L. 104-106, the "Federal Acquisition Reform Act of 1996," amends 41 U.S.C. § 422(f)(2)(B) to revise clause (i) and delete clause (iii). The phrase "contracts or subcontracts where the price negotiated is based on established catalog or market prices of commercial items sold in substantial quantities to the general public" has been substituted with the phrase "contracts or subcontracts for the acquisition of commercial items." The CAS Board is today amending its applicability regulations, solicitation provision and contract clauses in recognition of this change. As amended, firm fixed-price contracts and subcontracts for the acquisition of commercial items (see 48 CFR, Chap. 1, part 12) will be exempt from CAS requirements. Consequently, the Board's December 18, 1995 "Memorandum for Agency Senior Procurement Executives" authorizing CAS waivers for individual firm fixed-price contracts for the acquisition of commercial items when cost or pricing data is not obtained is hereby rescinded.

To accomplish these changes, the Board is amending Section 9903.201-1(b)(6) of its rules. Additionally, the solicitation provision found at 9903.201-3, the contract clauses at 9903.201-4, and the definition found at 9903.301 are amended to reflect this change.

The conference report to Pub. L. 104-106 directs the CAS Board, in consultation with the Director of the Defense Contract Audit Agency, to issue guidance, consistent with commercial accounting systems and practices, to ensure that contractors appropriately assign costs to commercial item contracts, other than firm fixed-price commercial item contracts. At the present time, however, commercial item contracts are limited by regulation to the fixed-price variety. Accordingly, after consideration and review of this issue, the Board has concluded that development of the requested guidance should appropriately await the time when other than fixed-price commercial item contracts are authorized, or until another need for such guidance arises. At the time that a need arises for guidance to address the allocation of costs to other than firm fixed-price commercial item contracts, the Board will, of course, pursue the development of guidance to address the issue.

### B. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act, Public Law 96-511, does not apply to this