

Synopsis of the Public Notice**A. Introduction**

1. On December 15, 1998, the Federal Communications Commission ("Commission") is scheduled to hold an auction for 528 multilateration Location and Monitoring Service ("LMS") licenses to operate in the 902–928 MHz band.

2. In a letter dated October 22, 1998, to the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau ("Bureau"), MicroTrax™ ("MicroTrax") requested a temporary delay of the LMS auction. MicroTrax contends that a six-month delay will allow it, "and possibly other similarly situated companies, much needed time to organize and fully participate in the LMS auction." MicroTrax further contends that absent such a delay, it will not be able to participate in the LMS auction.

3. To assist the Bureau in making recommendations to the Commission, the Bureau seeks comment on all aspects and each of the concerns raised in the request for temporary delay from MicroTrax. Comments are due November 2, 1998.

Federal Communications Commission.

Amy Zoslov,

Chief, Auctions and Industry Analysis
Division, Wireless Telecommunications
Bureau.

[FR Doc. 98–28931 Filed 10–27–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION****Public Information Collections
Approved By Office of Management
and Budget**

October 20, 1998.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has received Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the following public information collections pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. An agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. For further information contact Shoko B. Hair, Federal Communications Commission, (202) 418–1379.

Federal Communications Commission

OMB Control No.: 3060–0856.

Expiration Date: 04/30/99.

Title: Universal Service—Schools and Libraries Universal Service Program Reimbursement Forms.

Form No.: FCC Form 472, FCC Form 473, FCC Form 474.

Respondents: Business or other for profit; Not for profit institutions.

Estimated Annual Burden: 61,800 respondents; 1.42 hours per response (avg.); 88,050 total annual burden hours.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden: \$0.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Description: The Commission adopted rules providing universal service support for all telecommunications services, Internet access, and internal connections for all eligible schools and libraries. The Telecommunications Act of 1996 contemplates that discounts on eligible services shall be provided to schools and libraries, and that service providers shall seek reimbursement for the amount of the discounts. FCC Form 472—*Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement Form*. The information to be collected in the Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement Form is necessary to enable the fund administrator, the SLC, to pay universal service support to service providers who provide discounted services to eligible schools, libraries, and consortia of those entities. The information is to be collected from each Form 471 Billed Entity Applicant (Applicant) that received a funding Commitment Decisions Letter from the administrator and filed a Form 486 to indicate the applicant intended to prepare and submit to the SLC an invoice for reimbursement. The information to be collected on the Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement Form should be completed by an applicant to seek reimbursement for payments on approved services and/or products delivered to the applicant from the actual service start date, as reported in the applicant's Form 486 Column (E), through no later than December 31, 1998. This information is necessary to identify the amount of the discounts due and owing from the service provider to the applicant, so that the service provider may reimburse this amount to the applicant. (*No. of respondents:* 50,000; *annual burden per respondent:* 1.5 hours; *total annual burden:* 75,000 hours). FCC Form 473—*Submission of Service Provider Annual Certification Form*. The Service Provider Annual Certification Form is to be submitted by each service provider or vendor, hereinafter collectively referred to as service providers, that was assigned a service provider identification number (SPIN) by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) and that participates in the universal service support mechanism for schools and libraries.

The purpose of the Annual Certification Form is to confirm that, for each Invoice Form submitted by the service provider, the Invoice form is in compliance with the FCC's rules governing the schools and libraries universal service support mechanism, and the Invoice Form is true, accurate and complete. (*No. of respondents:* 9300; *annual burden per respondent:* 1 hour; *total annual burden:* 9300 hours). FCC Form 474—*Submission of Service Provider Invoice Form*. The Service Provider Invoice Form is to be used by all service providers or vendors, hereinafter collectively referred to as service providers, who were assigned a SPIN by the USAC and participate in the universal service support mechanism for schools and libraries. The purpose of the Invoice Form is for the service provider/vendor to seek reimbursement for the cost of discounts. The information to be collected on the Service Provider Invoice Form must be received by the SLC before a service provider participating in the universal service program for schools and libraries can receive payment for the discounted portion of its bill for eligible services to eligible entities. (*No. of respondents:* 2500; *annual burden per respondent:* 1.5 hours; *total annual burden:* 3750 hours). All of the information collected is used to administer the universal service schools and libraries program. Copies of the forms may be obtained via e-mail <www.neca.org> or by calling 1–888–203–8100. Obligation to comply: required to obtain or retain benefits.

OMB Control No.: 3060–0470.

Expiration Date: 10/31/2001.

Title: Allocation of Cost, Cost Allocation Manual, RAO Letters 19 and 26.

Form No.: N/A.

Respondents: Business or other for profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 18 respondents; 300 hours per response (avg.) (approximately 2 filings annually); 10,800 total annual burden hours.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden: \$0.

Frequency of Response: Annually.

Description: Section 64.903(a) requires local exchange carriers (LECs) with annual operating revenues equal to or above the indexed revenue threshold as defined in 47 CFR 32.9000 to file a cost allocation manual containing the information specified in Section 64.903(a) (1)–(6). Section 64.903(b) requires that carriers update their cost allocation manuals annually, except that changes to the cost apportionment table and to the description of time reporting

procedures must be filed at least 15 days before the carrier plans to implement the changes. The cost allocation manual is reviewed by the FCC to ensure that all costs are properly classified between regulated and nonregulated activity. Uniformity in the CAMs will help improve the joint cost allocation process. In addition, this uniformity will give the Commission greater reliability in financial data submitted by the carriers through the Automated Reporting Management Information System (ARMIS). Obligation to comply: Mandatory.

OMB Control No.: 3060-0853.

Expiration Date: 04/30/99.

Title: Receipt of Service Confirmation Form—Universal Service for Schools and Libraries.

Form No.: FCC Form 486.

Respondents: Business or other for profit; Not for profit institutions; State, local or tribal government.

Estimated Annual Burden: 30,000 respondents; 1.5 hours per response (avg.); 45,000 total annual burden hours.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden: \$0.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Description: The Commission adopted rules providing support for all telecommunications services, Internet access, and internal connections for all eligible schools and libraries. To participate in the program schools and libraries must confirm that they are actually receiving the services eligible for support. FCC Form 486, Receipt of Service Confirmation Form is used by all billed entities who filed a FCC Form 471 on behalf of an eligible school, library, library consortium or consortium of multiple entities, to inform the SLC when they begin receiving or have received service from the service provider. The FCC Form 486 is also used to confirm that technology plans of entities receiving universal service support pursuant to an SLC-approved funding commitment have been approved, indicating that the eligible entities applying for universal service support have a plan in place to utilize the services for which they have contracted, and to indicate the name of the authorized reviewing body, contact name, and contact telephone number. The FCC Form 486 is used to implement the congressional mandate for universal service. See 47 USC 254. The reporting requirements verify that each eligible school or library has received the services it ordered and assure that invoices submitted from service providers for the costs of discounts for eligible services represent services which have been delivered to the

eligible school or library. Copies of the forms may be obtained via e-mail <www.slcfund.org> or by calling 1-888-203-8100. Obligation to respond: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

OMB Control No.: 3060-0422.

Expiration Date: 10/31/2001.

Title: Section 68.5, Waivers (Application for Waiver of Hearing Aid Compatibility Requirement).

Form No.: N/A.

Respondents: Business or other for profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 10 respondents; 3 hours per response (avg.); 30 total annual burden hours.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden: \$0.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Description: Section 710(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, requires that almost all telephones manufactured in or imported into this country after August 15, 1989 be hearing aid compatible. Refurbished, repaired or resold telephones, telephones used with public and private mobile radio services, and secure telephones used for classified communications are exempt. The HAC Act provides a three year grace period for cordless telephones before they must comply with the requirement. Congress recognized, however, that there may be technological and/or economical reasons some new telephones may not meet the hearing aid compatibility requirement. Therefore, it provided for a waiver requirement for new telephone based on technological and economical grounds. Section 68.5 of the Commission's rules provides the criteria to be used to assess waivers. Applicants seeking waivers must submit sufficient information for the Commission to make an informed decision. Obligation to comply: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

OMB Control No.: 3060-0736.

Expiration Date: 10/31/2001.

Title: Implementation of the Non-Accounting Safeguards of Sections 271 and 272 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, CC Docket No. 96-149.

Form No.: N/A.

Respondents: Business or other for profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 5 respondents; 5 hours per response (avg.) (about 12 responses per year); 303 total annual burden hours.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden: \$0.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Description: Section 272 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 requires that BOCs make information

available to third parties if it makes that information available to its section 272(a) affiliates. In an Order released February 6, 1998, the Commission's Common Carrier Bureau resolved questions regarding the application of sections 10 and 272 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, to the provision of E911 services by the Bell Operating Companies. Bell Operating Companies, Petitions for Forbearance from the Application of Section 272 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, to Certain Activities, CC Docket No. 96-149, DA 98-220, Memorandum Opinion and Order (Com. Car. Bur. Feb. 6, 1998) (February 6 Order). E911 services enable emergency service personnel to identify the location of the party calling 911, and are essential to the safety of many Americans. In the February 6 Order, the Bureau determined that the BOCs' E911 services are interLATA information services. One consequence of this determination was that each BOC had an obligation under section 272(a)(2)(c) of the Act to provide E911 services only through a separate affiliate. In the February 6 Order, the Bureau forbore from the application of this separate affiliate requirement pursuant to the forbearance authority in section 10 of the Act, thus permitting the BOCs to provide E911 services on an integrated basis. The Bureau determined that requiring the BOCs to provide E911 services only through separate affiliates would have increased the cost, but not the quality, of those services. In the February 6 Order, the Bureau maintained the substance of the statutory nondiscrimination requirement by requiring each BOC to provide unaffiliated entities with all listing information, including unlisted and unpublished numbers as well as the numbers of other local exchange carriers' customers, that the BOC uses to provide E911 services, even though that Order was permitting the BOCs to provide those services on an integrated basis. The Bureau required that this listing information be provided at the same rates, terms, and conditions, if any, the BOC charges or imposes on its own E911 services. The BOCs are already required to account for their E911 services on the books of account that they maintain in accordance with Part 32 of the Commission's rules. The Commission requires that the BOCs treat their E911 services as nonregulated activities for federal accounting purposes to the extent they involve storage and retrieval functions included within the statutory definition of

information service. The BOCs shall record any charges they impute for their E911 services in their revenue accounts. The BOCs shall account for any imputed charges by debiting their nonregulated operating revenue accounts and crediting their regulated revenue accounts by the amounts of the imputed charges. The BOCs shall make any changes to their cost allocation manuals necessary to reflect this account. The BOCs' independent auditors shall include this accounting in their review of the BOCs compliance with their cost allocation manuals. The requirements will be used to ensure that BOCs comply with the nondiscrimination requirements under the 1996 Act. OMB also approved the proposals contained in the Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking issued in CC Docket No. 96-149. In the FNPRM the Commission proposed that BOCs make certain information disclosures available to "unaffiliated entities" as defined under Commission rules. This disclosure include the amount of time, measured in percentages and averages, that it takes a BOC to respond to its section 272 affiliates. BOCs must submit an annual affidavit to the Commission certifying, *inter alia*, that they are maintaining the information according to the required format. Obligation to comply: Mandatory.

OMB Control No.: 3060-0804.

Expiration Date: 03/31/99.

Title: Universal Service—Health Care Providers Universal Service Program.

Form No.: FCC Form 465, FCC Form 466, FCC Form 467, and FCC Form 468.

Respondents: Businesses or other for profit entities; Not for profit institutions.

Estimated Annual Burden: 18,400 respondents; 6.6 hours per response (avg.); 121,500 total annual burden hours.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden: \$0.

Frequency of Response: . On occasion.

Description: The Commission adopted rules providing support for all telecommunications services, limited distance charges, and Internet access for all eligible health care providers. Health care providers who want to participate in the universal service program must file the following forms. FCC Form 465 to request eligible services (*no. of respondents:* 12,000; *annual burden per response:* 2.5 hours; *total annual burden:* 30,000 hours); FCC Form 466 to certify that the most cost effective method of providing the services has been requested (*no. of respondents:* 15,000; *annual burden per respondent:* 1.5 hours; *total annual burden:* 22,500 hours); FCC Form 467 to confirm the

receipt of the requested services (*no. of respondents:* 12,000; *annual burden per respondent:* 1.5 hours; *total annual burden:* 18,000 hours); and FCC Form 468 to ensure that the proper amount of universal service support has been calculated (*no. of respondents:* 3400; *annual burden per respondent:* 1.5 hours; *total annual burden:* 51,000 hours). All the information is used to administer the universal service health care program. Copies of the forms may be obtained via e-mail

<www.rhccfund.org> or by calling 1-888-203-8100. Obligation to comply: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

OMB Control No.: 3060-0824.

Expiration Date: 09/30/2001.

Title: Service Provider Information Form.

Form No.: FCC Form 498.

Respondents: Business or other for profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 10,000 respondents; 1 hours per response (avg.); 10,000 total annual burden hours.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden: \$0.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Description: Pursuant to Sections 54.515 and 54.611 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR Sections 54.515 and 54.611, the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), must obtain information relating to: service provider name and address, telephone number, Federal employer identification number, contact names and telephone numbers, and billing and collection information. To that end, USAC has developed a Service Provider Information Form, FCC Form 498 to collect this information from carriers and service providers participating in the universal service programs. The FCC Form 498 is designed to collect only the information necessary to fulfill the obligation of USAC to bill and collect funds for the various universal service programs. All the requirements contained herein are necessary to implement the congressional mandate for universal service. See 47 USC 254. Copies of the form may be obtained via e-mail <www.neca.org/usacform.html> or by calling 1-888-641-8722.

OMB Control No.: 3060-0819.

Expiration Date: 09/30/2001.

Title: Lifeline Assistance (Lifeline) Connection Assistance (Link Up) Reporting Worksheet and Instructions (47 CFR 54.400-54.417).

Form No.: FCC Form 497.

Respondents: Business or other for profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 1500 respondents; 28 hours per response (avg.) (about 12 submissions per

respondent annually); 42,000 total annual burden hours.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden: \$0.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Description: Pursuant to Section 54.405 all eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) are required to provide Lifeline service. In turn, these ETCs are permitted under Section 54.407 (Lifeline) or Section 54.413 (Link Up) to receive support for offering Lifeline service to qualifying low-income customers or reduced service-connection charges through Link Up. Pursuant to Section 54.403(c), carriers providing toll-limitation services (TLS) for qualifying low-income subscribers will be compensated from universal service mechanisms for the incremental cost of providing TLS. In addition, pursuant to Section 54.403(d), the cost of the Presubscribed Carriers Charge (PICC) for Lifeline customers who elect toll blocking is also recoverable from the low-income program. FCC Form 497, Lifeline and Link Up Worksheet, is to be used to request reimbursement for participating in the low-income program. The information is necessary in order for ETCs to receive universal service support reimbursement for providing Lifeline and Link Up. Copies of the form may be obtained via e-mail <www.neca.org/usacform.html> or by calling 1-888-641-8722. Obligation to comply: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

OMB Control No.: 3060-0815.

Expiration Date: 09/30/2001.

Title: North American Numbering Plan Funding Worksheet.

Form No.: FCC Form 496.

Respondents: Business or other for profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 3700 respondents; .50 hours per response (avg.); 1850 total annual burden hours.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden: \$0.

Frequency of Response: On occasion; annually.

Description: Pursuant to Congress's directive in the Telecommunications Act of 1996 that the Commission establish an independent entity to administer telecommunications numbering, the Commission determined on July 13, 1995, that the costs associated with administering numbering duties should be based on each telecommunications carrier's gross revenues less payments made to other carriers. The costs the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA) incurs from establishing telecommunications numbering administration arrangements and other number portability are to be borne by all

telecommunications carriers on a competitively neutral basis. See 47 USC 251(e)(2). Section 52.16(b) of the Commission's rules require the Billing and Collection agent to design a standard reporting worksheet to collect information for assessment calculations from carriers and to distribute it to carriers. FCC Form 498, is the instrument used to request that telecommunications carriers provide information regarding their yearly gross revenues less payments made to other telecommunications carriers. The Commission and the NANPA's billing and collection agent will use the information collected in the worksheet to determine the total revenue received from telecommunications carriers in order to arrive at an amount that each carrier must pay to fund the NANPA. Copies of the form were mailed to respondents. Copies of the form may be obtained via email <www.fcc.gov>. Obligation to respond: Mandatory.

OMB Control No.: 3060-0845.

Expiration Date: 10/31/2001.

Title: 1998 Annual Biennial Review of ARMIS Reporting Requirements.

Form No.: FCC 43-01-FCC 43-08, FCC 495A, FCC 495B.

Respondents: Business or other for profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 150 respondents; 1092 hours per response (avg.); 163,846 total annual burden hours.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden: \$0.

Frequency of Response: Annual.

Description: Section 220 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 USC 220, allows the Commission, at its discretion, to prescribe the forms of any and all accounts, records, and memoranda to be kept by carriers subject to this Act, including the accounts, records, and memoranda of the movement of traffic, as well as of the receipts and expenditures of moneys. Section 219(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 USC 219(b), authorizes the Commission by general or special orders to require any carriers subject to this Act to file annual reports concerning any matters with respect to which the Commission is authorized or required by law to act. Section 43.21 of the Commission's rules details that requirement. The Automated Reporting Management Information System (ARMIS) was implemented to facilitate the timely and efficient analysis of revenue requirements and rate of return to provide an improved basis for audits and other oversight functions, and to enhance the Commission's ability to

quantify the effects of alternative policy. Section 11 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, requires the Commission, in every even-numbered year beginning in 1998, to review its regulations applicable to providers of telecommunications service to determine whether the regulations are no longer in the public interest due to meaningful economic competition between providers of such service and whether such regulations should be repealed or modified. (See 47 USC 161). In a NPRM issued in CC Docket No. 98-117, released 7/17/98, we proposed as part of the biennial review to reduce the reporting requirements of our ARMIS. These modifications are designed to minimize the reporting burden on carriers, improve the quality and use of the reported information and reduce the cost to the Commission of collection, verification, and distribution of the data. The Common Carrier Bureau currently requires carriers to submit both paper and electronic copies of the ARMIS reports. The Commission has, in recent years, relied on the data filed electronically to maintain internal databases and generate meaningful reports for policy making. We tentatively conclude that paper versions of the ARMIS reports do not significantly contribute to the Commission efforts or future goals in administering its accounting, joint cost, jurisdictional separations, access charge rules, or in monitoring the quality of service and infrastructure development in the public network. Therefore, we tentatively conclude that we should eliminate the paper filing requirement. We anticipate that the transition to an electronic-only reporting program will represent a substantial cost savings for all carriers that file ARMIS reports.

The Commission plans to make the ARMIS data available through the Internet. This will require Commission staff to develop software that will allow interested parties to obtain ARMIS reports over the Internet, which we anticipate to be a costly process. The Commission also proposed specific modifications for certain ARMIS reports. For example, the Commission proposed to modify the ARMIS 43-04 Access Report by eliminating 114 rows and three columns in which carriers report data pertaining to equal access, inside wire, and payphone investment. The Commission also proposed to reduce reporting requirements for mid-sized incumbent LECs. For the largest incumbent LECs, we tentatively conclude that we should maintain the Class A level of detail for their ARMIS reporting requirements. See CC Docket

No. 98-117 for detailed discussion of the proposals. The proposals contained in the NPRM have been approved by OMB. The following is a listing of the reports that may be affected by the proposals contained in the NPRM and the burden estimate if the proposals are adopted.

a. ARMIS Annual Summary Report, FCC Report 43-01—The ARMIS Annual Summary Report contains financial and operating data and is used to monitor the local exchange carrier industry and to perform routine analyses of costs and revenues. (*No. of respondents:* 150; *estimated time per response:* 135 hours; *total annual burden:* 20,250 hours).

b. ARMIS USOA Report, FCC Report 43-02—The FCC Report 43-02 contains company-wide data for each account specified in the Uniform System of Accounts (USOA). It provides the annual operating results of the carriers' activities for every account in the USOA. (*No. of respondents:* 50; *estimated time per response:* 190 hours; *total annual burden:* 9500 hours).

c. ARMIS Joint Cost Report, FCC Report 43-03—FCC Report 43-03 contains financial and operating data. FCC Report 43-03 displays regulated and nonregulated data disaggregated by allocation method, at the study area level. The Commission uses it to monitor the local exchange carriers' allocation of costs to regulated and nonregulated activities and to perform routine analyses of costs and revenues. (*No. of respondents:* 150; *estimated time per response:* 110 hours; *total annual burden:* 12,450 hours).

d. ARMIS Access Report, FCC Report 43-04—FCC Report 43-04 contains financial and operating data and is used to monitor the local exchange carrier industry and to perform routine analyses of costs and revenues on behalf of the Commission. (*No. of respondents:* 150; *estimated time per response:* 621 hours; *total annual burden:* 93,150 hours).

e. ARMIS Service Quality Report, FCC Report 43-05—The FCC Report 43-05 collects data at the study area level and holding company level and is designed to capture trends in service quality under price cap regulation. It provides service quality information in the areas of interexchange access service installation and repair intervals, local service installation and repair intervals, trunk blockage and total switch downtime for price cap companies. (*No. of respondents:* 12; *estimated time per response:* 625 hours; *total annual burden:* 7500 hours).

f. ARMIS Customer Satisfaction Report, FCC Report 43-06—The FCC Report 43-06 reflects the results of customer satisfaction surveys conducted

by individual carriers from residential and business customers. (*No. of respondents: 8; estimated time per response: 675 hours; total annual burden: 5400 hours*).

g. ARMIS Infrastructure Report, FCC Report 43-07—The FCC Report 43-07 is designed to capture trends in telephone industry infrastructure development under price cap regulation. It provides switch deployment and capabilities data. (*No. of respondents: 8; estimated time per response: 412 hours; total annual burden: 3296 hours*).

h. ARMIS Operating Data Report, FCC Report 43-08—The FCC Report 43-08 consists of statistical schedules previously contained in FCC Form M which are needed by the Commission to monitor network growth, usage and reliability. (*No. of respondents: 50; estimated time per response: 120 hours; total annual burden: 6000 hours*).

i. and j. ARMIS Forecast of Investment Usage Report and Actual Usage of Investment Report, FCC Reports 495A and 495B, implement the FCC's *Joint Cost Order*, CC Docket No. 86-111 which requires that certain telephone plant investments used for both regulated and nonregulated purposes be allocated on the basis of forecasted regulated and nonregulated use. The detection and correction of forecasting errors requires reporting of both forecasted and actual investment usage data. The Forecast of Investment Usage Report is used by carriers to subject the forecasts of investments used. The Actual Usage of Investment Report is used to submit the actual investments used. (*No. of respondents: 300; estimated time per response: 21 hours; total annual burden: 6300 hours*). The proposed modifications, if adopted, would result in a burden reduction of more than 50% in our current estimate for ARMIS reports. The information contained in the ARMIS Reports provide the necessary detail to enable the Commission to fulfill its regulatory responsibilities. Automated reporting of these data greatly enhances the Commission's ability to process and analyze the extensive amounts of data that are needed to administer its rules. It facilitates the timely and efficient analyses of revenue requirements, rates of return and price caps, and provides an improved basis for auditing and other oversight functions. It also enhances the Commission's ability to quantify the effects of policy proposals. Obligation to comply: Mandatory.

OMB Control No.: 3060-0847.

Expiration Date: 10/31/2001.

Title: 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review, Review of Accounting and Cost

Allocation Requirements—CC Docket No. 98-81.

Respondents: Business or other for profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 276 respondents; 1092 hours per response (avg.); 2,415,568 total annual burden hours.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden: \$1200.

Frequency of Response: On occasion, Annual.

Description: Section 220 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 220, allows the Commission, in its discretion, to prescribe the forms of any and all accounts, records, and memoranda to be kept by carriers subject to this Act, including the accounts, records and memoranda of the movement of traffic, as well as of the receipts and expenditures of moneys. Section 11 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 161, requires the Commission, in every even-numbered year beginning in 1998, to review its regulations applicable to providers of telecommunications services to determine whether the regulations are no longer in the public interest due to meaningful economic competition between providers of such service and whether such regulations should be repealed or modified. Section 11 further instructs the Commission to repeal or modify any regulation it determines to be no longer necessary in the public interest. On June 17, 1998, the Commission released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 98-81, proposing to modify its accounting and cost allocation rules as part of the biennial review process. Specifically, the Commission proposed (1) to raise the threshold significantly for required Class A accounting, thus allowing mid-sized carriers currently required to use Class A accounts to use the more streamlined Class B accounts; (2) to establish less burdensome cost allocation manual ("CAM") procedures for the mid-sized incumbent local exchange carriers ("LECs") and to reduce the frequency with which independent audits of the cost allocations based upon the CAMs are required; and (3) to make certain changes to our Uniform System of Accounts ("USOA") to reduce accounting requirements and to eliminate or consolidate accounts. The proposals contained in the NPRM have been approved by OMB. Following is a listing of the collections that will be affected by the proposals contained in the NPRM along with the estimated burden hours.

a. *Part 32—Uniform Systems of Accounts (recordkeeping and reporting requirements)*—The Uniform System of Accounts is a historical financial accounting system which reports the results of operational and financial events in a manner which enables both management and regulators to assess these results within a specified accounting period. Subject respondents are telecommunications companies. The Commission for accounting purposes has classified companies into two classes in Part 32, namely Class A and Class B companies. Class A carriers are those entities having annual revenues from regulatory telecommunications operations of \$100,000,000 or more. Class B carriers are those entities having annual revenues from regulated telecommunications operations of less than \$100,000,000. (*No. of respondents: 239; estimated time per response: 10,034.5 hours; total annual burden: 2,398,268 hours*).

b. *Computer III Remand Proceeding: BOC Safeguards and Tier 1 LEC Safeguards and Implementation of Further Cost Allocation Uniformity.* Pursuant to Section 64.901, carriers are required to separate their regulated costs from nonregulated costs using the attributable cost method of accounting. Carriers must follow the principles described in Section 64.901. Carriers subject to 47 CFR 64.901 are also subject to the provisions of 47 CFR 32.23 and 32.27. Section 64.903(a), as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, requires local exchange carriers with annual operating revenues equal to or above the indexed revenue threshold as defined in 47 CFR Section 32.9000 to file a cost allocation manual, containing the information specified in Section 64.903(a)(1)–(6). Section 64-903(b) requires that carriers update their cost allocation manuals annually, except that changes to the cost apportionment table and the description of time reporting procedures must be filed at least 15 days before the carrier plans to implement the changes. Proposed changes in the description of time reporting procedures, the statement concerning affiliate transactions, and the cost apportionment table must be accompanied by a statement quantifying the impact of each change on regulated operations. Changes in the description of time reporting procedures and the statement concerning affiliate transactions must be quantified in \$100,000 increments at the account level. Changes in the cost apportionment table must be quantified in \$100,000 increments at the cost pool level. Moreover, filing of cost allocation

manuals and occasional updates are subject to the uniform format and standard procedures specified in RAO letter 19. The Commission proposes to, among other things, eliminate or modify some of the information required in the CAMs for mid-sized incumbent LECs. (*No. of respondents*: 18; *estimated time per response*: 300 hours (about two filings per respondent); *total annual burden*: 10,800 hours).

c. *Annual Auditor's Certification—Section 64.904*—Independent auditors must evaluate the results of the carrier's cost allocation manuals in light of the requirements of the manuals as well as the Commission's joint cost rules and rules and regulations including 47 CFR 32.23, 32.27, 64.901 and 64.903 in force as of the date of the auditor's report. Independent auditors must follow all of the ten standards of generally accepted auditing standards (GAAS) in preparing the required reports. The Commission proposes to, among other things, to relax the audit requirement for mid-sized incumbent LECs. (*No. of respondents*: 19; *estimated time per response*: 500; *total annual burden*: 6500 hours). The proposed information collection requirements will provide the necessary information to enable this Commission to fulfill its regulatory responsibilities. These proposed accounts and recordkeeping requirements are intended to achieve the following goals: (1) to facilitate uniform reporting among ILECs; and (2) to ensure that regulated ratepayers do not bear the costs of ILECs' competitive activities. If the proposals are adopted, the Commission will realize a burden reduction of 633,500 hours. Obligation to comply: Mandatory.

Public reporting burden for the collections of information is as noted above. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of the collections of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden to Performance Evaluation and Records Management, Washington, D.C. 20554.

Federal Communications Commission.

Magalie Roman Salas,

Secretary.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Public Information Collection Approved by Office of Management and Budget

October 22, 1998.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has received Office

of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the following public information collection pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 96-511. An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, 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. Questions concerning the OMB control numbers and expiration dates should be directed to Judy Boley, Federal Communications Commission, (202) 418-0214.

Federal Communications Commission

OMB Control No.: 3060-0262.

Expiration Date: 10/31/2001.

Title: Section 90.179 Shared Use of Radio Stations

Form No. N/A.

Estimated Annual Burden: 1,238 annual hours; .75 hours per response; 1,650 responses.

Description: This rule section is necessary to identify users of a shared land mobile radio station. The information is used by the Commission personnel to investigate interference complaints.

Federal Communications Commission.

Magalie Roman Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-28823 Filed 10-27-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSIONS

[Report No. 2302]

Petitions for Reconsideration and Clarification of Action in Rulemaking Proceedings

October 21, 1998.

Petitions for reconsideration and clarification have been filed in the Commission's rulemaking proceedings listed in this Public Notice and published pursuant to 47 CFR Section 1.429(e). The full text of these documents are available for viewing and copying in Room 239, 1919 M Street, NW, Washington, DC or may be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, ITS, Inc. (202) 857-3800. Oppositions to these petitions must be filed November 12, 1998. See Section 1.4(b)(1) of the Commission's rules (47 CFR 1.4(b)(1)). Replies to an opposition must be filed within 10 days after the time for filing oppositions has expired.

Subject: Implementation of Section 309(j) of the Communications Act—

Competitive Bidding for Commercial Broadcast and Instructional Television Fixed Service Licenses (MM Docket No. 97-237).

Reexamination of the Policy Statement on Comparative Broadcast Hearings (GC Docket No. 92-52).

Proposals to Reform the Commission's Comparative Hearing Process to Expedite the Resolution of Cases (GEN Docket No. 90-264).

Number of Petitions Filed: 31.

Federal Communications Commission.

Magalie Roman Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-28771 Filed 10-27-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-M

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Notice of Agreement(s) Filed

The Commission hereby gives notice of the filing of the following agreement(s) under the Shipping Act of 1984. Interested parties can review or obtain copies of agreements at the Washington, DC offices of the Commission, 800 North Capitol Street, N.W., Room 962. Interested parties may submit comments on an agreement to the Secretary, Federal Maritime Commission, Washington, DC 20573, within 10 days of the date this notice appears in the **Federal Register**.

Agreement No.: 203-011636

Title: The Ancillary Agreement

Parties:

Canadian Pacific Management (Bermuda) ("CPML")
Bollere Technologies S.A.
SCAC Delmas Vieljeux—SDV
Brierley Investments Limited
Union Shipping Group Limited

Synopsis: The proposed agreement authorizes the parties to not compete with the Australia-New Zealand Direct Line ("ANZDL") in the trade between the United States and Australia, New Zealand, and adjacent islands in the Pacific Ocean for a period of three years in connection with the acquisition of ANZDL by CPML. The parties have requested expedited review.

Agreement No.: 224-201062

Title: Philadelphia-Penn City Lease and Operating Agreement

Parties:

Philadelphia Regional Port Authority
Penn City Investments, Inc.

Synopsis: The agreement provides for a lease of certain piers as a warehouse and as a marine terminal as well as for the lessee being the exclusive operator of those piers. The agreement runs through June 20, 2003.