

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**47 CFR Part 54**

[CC Docket No. 96-45; DA 00-1536]

Comment Sought on Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service Recommendations for Phasing Down Interim Hold-Harmless Provision**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.**ACTION:** Solicitation of comments.**SUMMARY:** This document seeks comment on the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service recommended decision for phasing down the interim hold-harmless provision of the new, forward-looking high-cost universal service support mechanism for non-rural carriers.**DATES:** Submit comments on or before August 14, 2000 and reply comments on or before August 28, 2000.**ADDRESSES:** See Supplementary Information section for where and how to file comments.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bill J. Scher (202) 418-7400 TTY: (202) 418-0484.**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On June 30, 2000, the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service (Joint Board) released a Recommended Decision for phasing down the interim hold-harmless provision of the new, forward-looking high-cost universal service support mechanism for non-rural carriers. The Joint Board recommended that Long Term Support (LTS) be maintained under the Commission's current rules until the Commission considers appropriate reforms for the LTS program in connection with the pending proceedings for high-cost reform for rural carriers and/or interstate access charge reform for rate-of-return carriers. The Joint Board further recommended that the Commission phase down the balance of interim hold-harmless support, excluding LTS, through \$1.00 reductions in average monthly, per-line support beginning January 1, 2001, and every year thereafter. Finally, the Joint Board recommended against phasing down any interim hold-harmless support that is transferred to a rural carrier when it acquires exchanges from a non-rural carrier. Instead, the Joint Board recommended that such transferred interim hold-harmless support should be maintained until the Commission completes a review of the rule governing the transfer of universal service support or until rural high-cost

reform is complete. In this document, the Common Carrier Bureau seeks comment on the Joint Board's recommendations.

Filing ProceduresPursuant to §§ 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules, interested parties may file comments on the Recommended Decision on or before August 14, 2000, and reply comments on or before August 28, 2000. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies. *See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121 (1998).Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to <<http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>>. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit electronic comments by Internet e-mail. To receive filing instructions for e-mail comments, commenters should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov, and should include the following words in the body of the message, "get form <your e-mail address.>" A sample form and directions will be sent in reply.

Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing. All filings must be sent to the Commission's Secretary, Magalie Roman Salas, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554. Parties also must send three paper copies of their filing to Sheryl Todd, Accounting Policy Division, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 Twelfth Street SW., Room 5-B540, Washington, DC 20554. In addition, commenters must send diskette copies to the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Service, Inc., 1231 20th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20037.

Pursuant to § 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, this proceeding will be conducted as a permit-but-disclose proceeding in which *ex parte* communications are permitted subject to disclosure.

Dated: July 12, 2000.

Katherine L. Schroder,*Deputy Chief, Accounting Policy Division.*

[FR Doc. 00-18036 Filed 7-17-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-U**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION****47 CFR Part 73**

[DA 00-1518, MM Docket No. 00-123, RM-9903]

Radio Broadcasting Services; Rincon, PR**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.**ACTION:** Proposed rule.**SUMMARY:** The Commission requests comments on a petition filed by Ocean Communications seeking the allotment of FM Channel 300B to Rincon, PR, as the community's first local aural service. Channel 300B can be allotted to Rincon in compliance with the Commission's minimum distance separation requirements with a site restriction of 26.6 kilometers (16.5 miles) west, at coordinates 18-23-06 NL; 67-29-51 WL, to avoid short-spacings to Station WCMN-FM, Channel 297B, Arecibo, PR, and Station WVOZ-FM, Channel 299B, Carolina, PR. If the channel is ultimately allotted, it will be conditioned on formal approval by the International Telecommunication Union. In addition, the proposed allotment is within the Radio Astronomy Coordination Zone in Puerto Rico, and applicant's will be required to coordinate their applications with the Interference Office at Arecibo Observatory.**DATES:** Comments must be filed on or before August 28, 2000, and reply comments on or before September 12, 2000.**ADDRESSES:** Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-A325, Washington, DC 20554. In addition to filing comments with the FCC, interested parties should serve the petitioner, or its counsel or consultant, as follows: Jose J. Arzuaga, Jr., P.O. Box 980, Quebradillas, PR 00678 (Technical consultant to petitioner).**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Leslie K. Shapiro, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180.**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a synopsis of the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rule Making, MM Docket No. 00-123, adopted June 28, 2000, and released July 7, 2000. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC. The complete text of this decision may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor,

International Transcription Services, Inc., (202) 857-3800, 1231 20th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036.

Provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 do not apply to this proceeding.

Members of the public should note that from the time a Notice of Proposed Rule Making is issued until the matter is no longer subject to Commission consideration or court review, all *ex parte* contacts are prohibited in Commission proceedings, such as this one, which involve channel allotments. See 47 CFR 1.1204(b) for rules governing permissible *ex parte* contacts.

For information regarding proper filing procedures for comments, see 47 CFR 1.415 and 1.420.

Federal Communications Commission.

John A. Karousos,

Chief, Allocations Branch, Policy and Rules Division, Mass Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 00-18080 Filed 7-17-00; 8:45 am]

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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

48 CFR Parts 538 and 552

RIN 3090-AH25

Identification of Energy-Efficient Office Equipment and Supplies Containing Recovered Materials or Other Environmental Attributes

AGENCY: Office of Acquisition Policy, GSA.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes to amend the GSA Acquisition Regulation (GSAR) for consistency with the proposed Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) revision of energy conservation regulations and President Clinton's issuance of Executive Order 13123 on efficient energy management.

DATES: Comments should be submitted on or before September 18, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Mail comments to General Services Administration, Office of Acquisition Policy, Division (MVP), 1800 F Street, NW., Room 4015, Washington, DC 20405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Cromer, GSA Acquisition Policy Division, (202) 208-6750.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

GSAR 538.273(a)(3) is revised to reflect the new clause title. Clause 552.238-72, Identification of Products

that Contain Recovered Materials, are Energy-Efficient, or Have Other Environmental Attributes (*e.g.*, Reduced Pollutants), is revised to update the definition of energy-efficient products and to reflect language that is consistent with Executive Order 13123 (64 FR 30851) and proposed FAR Part 23.2 (FAR Case 99-011, 65 FR 30311, May 10, 2000).

B. Executive Order 12866

This regulatory action is not subject to Office of Management and Budget review under Section 6(b) of Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, dated September 30, 1993. This rule is not a major rule under 5 U.S.C. 804.

C. Regulatory Flexibility Act

GSA certifies that this proposed rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601, *et seq.*

D. Paperwork Reduction Act

The revised clause at 552.238-72, Identification of Products that Contain Recovered Materials, are Energy-Efficient, or Have Other Environmental Attributes (*e.g.*, Reduced Pollutants), contains an information collection requirement subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*). However, the revisions to the clause made by this rule do not affect the information collection requirement which was approved previously by OMB and assigned control number 3090-0262.

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Parts 538 and 552

Government procurement.

Accordingly, 48 CFR parts 538 and 552 are proposed to be amended as follows:

1. The authority citation for 48 CFR Parts 538 and 552 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

PART 538—FEDERAL SUPPLY SCHEDULE CONTRACTING

2. Revise section 538.273(a)(3) to read as follows:

538.273 Contract clauses.

* * * * *

(a) * * *

(3) 552.238-72, Identification of Products that Contain Recovered Materials, are Energy-Efficient, or Have

Other Environmental Attributes (*e.g.*, Reduced Pollutants).

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PART 552—SOLICITATION PROVISIONS AND CONTRACT CLAUSES

3. Amend section 552.212-72 by revising the date of the clause and by revising the title of the clause in paragraph 552.238-72(b) to read as follows:

552.212-72 Contract Terms and Conditions Required to Implement Statutes or Executive Orders Applicable to GSA Acquisition of Commercial Items.

CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT STATUTES OR EXECUTIVE ORDERS APPLICABLE TO GSA ACQUISITION OF COMMERCIAL ITEMS (DATE)

* * * * *

_____ 552.238-72 Identification of Products that Contain Recovered Materials, are Energy-Efficient, or Have Other Environmental Attributes (*e.g.*, Reduced Pollutants)

* * * * *

4. Revise section 552.238-72 to read as follows:

552.238-72 Identification of Products that Contain Recovered Materials, are Energy-Efficient, or Have Other Environmental Attributes (*e.g.*, Reduced Pollutants).

As prescribed in 538.273(a)(3), insert the following clause:

IDENTIFICATION OF PRODUCTS THAT CONTAIN RECOVERED MATERIALS, ARE ENERGY-EFFICIENT, OR HAVE OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ATTRIBUTES (*e.g.*, REDUCED POLLUTANTS) (DATE)

Several laws, Executive orders, and Agency directives require Federal buyers to purchase products and services that are less harmful to the environment, when they are life cycle cost-effective (see FAR Subpart 23.7). The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) requires contractors to highlight environmental products and services under Federal Supply Service Schedule contracts in various communications media; *e.g.*, publications and electronic formats.

(a) *Definitions.* "Recovered Materials," as used in this clause, means waste material and by-products which have been recovered or diverted from solid waste. This term does not include those materials and by-products generated from, and commonly reused, within an original manufacturing process (42 U.S.C. 6903(19)). For paper, it also includes postconsumer materials, and manufacturing certain other wastes. (42 U.S.C. 6962(h)). Note that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has developed a list of Comprehensive Procurement Guideline Items (CPG Items) that directs Federal agencies to purchase products that meet recommended