

Environmental Protection Agency on the classification process EPA ought to use to develop its list of candidate contaminants. The work group is charged with discussing, evaluating, and providing advice on methodologies, activities, and analysis needed to implement the National Research Council's recommendations on an expanded approach for the CCL listing process. This may include advice on developing and identifying: (1) Overall implementation strategy, (2) classification attributes and criteria, (3) pilot projects to validate new classification approaches, (4) risk communication issues, and (5) additional issues not addressed in the NRC Report.

The first meeting of the work group will be held on September 18–19, 2002, and is open to the public for observation purposes only. Statements from the public will be taken at the close of the meeting. EPA is not soliciting written comments and is not planning to formally respond to comments. The first meeting will focus on the: (1) Review of NRC recommendations for a risk based priority ranking process for CCL contaminants, (2) development of an overall implementation strategy, (3) identification of technical expertise needed to support the process, (4) formation of technical subgroups, if deemed necessary, and (5) identification and discussion of other relevant issues.

#### **Small Systems Affordability Work Group Meeting**

As part of the 2002 appropriations process, Congress directed EPA to "begin immediately to review the Agency's affordability criteria and how small system variance and exemption programs should be implemented for arsenic" (Conference Report 107–272, page 175). Congress further directed the Agency to prepare a report, which EPA submitted, "on its review of the affordability criteria and the administrative actions undertaken or planned to be undertaken by the Agency, as well as potential funding mechanisms for small community compliance and other legislative actions, which, if taken by the Congress, would best achieve appropriate extensions of time for small communities while also guaranteeing maximum compliance." (Conference Report 107–272, page 175).

In evaluating treatment technologies for small systems, EPA currently uses an affordability threshold of 2.5% of median household income. EPA's national-level affordability criteria consist of two major components: an expenditure baseline and an

affordability threshold. The expenditure baseline (derived from annual median household water bills) is subtracted from the affordability threshold (a share of median household income that EPA believes to be a reasonable upper limit for these water bills) to determine the expenditure margin (the maximum increase in household water bills that can be imposed by treatment and still be considered affordable). EPA compares the cost of treatment technologies against the available expenditure margin to determine if an affordable compliance technology can be identified. If EPA cannot identify an affordable compliance technology, then it attempts to identify a variance technology. Findings must be made at both the Federal and State level that compliance technologies are not affordable for small systems before a variance can be granted.

EPA is asking the NDWAC for advice on its national-level affordability criteria and the methodology used to establish these criteria. Taking into consideration the structure of the Safe Drinking Water Act and the limitations of readily available data and information sources, EPA is seeking the Council's opinion of the national level affordability criteria, methodology for deriving the criteria, and approach to applying those criteria to NPDWRs.

As part of the Council's review of EPA's national-level affordability criteria, the Agency is seeking input on (1) the Agency's overall approach, (2) alternatives, if any, to the use of median household income as a metric, (3) alternatives, if any, to 2.5% as a metric, (4) alternatives, if any, to calculating the expenditure baseline, (5) the usefulness of a separate criteria for ground and surface water systems, (6) including an evaluation of the potential availability of financial assistance, and (7) the need for making affordability determinations on a regional basis. Other issue areas may also be discussed. The meeting is open to the public; statements from the public will be taken at the close of the meeting. EPA is not soliciting written comments and is not planning to formally respond to comments.

Dated: August 14, 2002.

**William Diamond,**

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

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#### **COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

##### **National Environmental Policy Act Task Force**

**AGENCY:** Council on Environmental Quality.

**ACTION:** Notice extending comment period.

**SUMMARY:** By **Federal Register** notice of July 9, 2002 (67 FR 45510–45512), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) notified interested parties it had formed a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) task force (Task Force) and invited comment on the proposed nature and scope of NEPA Task Force activities. The Task Force seeks ways to improve and modernize NEPA analyses and documentation and foster improved coordination among all levels of government and the public, and solicits examples of effected NEPA implementation practices to develop a publication of case studies including examples of best practices.

Interested parties have requested that CEQ extend the public comment. The deadline for comments was August 23, 2002. By this notice, CEQ is extending the public comment period to September 23, 2002. Although the time for comments has been extended, CEQ requests that interested parties provide information about examples of effective NEPA implementation practices and examples of best practices as soon as possible.

**DATES:** Written comments should be submitted on or before September 23, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Electronic or facsimile comments are preferred because federal offices experience intermittent mail delays from security screening. Electronic written comments can be sent to the NEPA Task Force through the Web site at <http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/ntf/> which provides a form for responding to questions posed in the July 9, 2002, notice as well as a direct electronic mail link to [ceq\\_nepa@fs.fed.us](mailto:ceq_nepa@fs.fed.us). Written comments may be faxed to the NEPA Task Force at (801) 517–1021. Written comments may also be submitted to the NEPA Task Force, P.O. Box 221150, Salt Lake City, UT 84122.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Rhey Solomon by phone at (202) 456–5432.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On July 9, 2002, CEQ published notice in the **Federal Register** requesting public comment on current NEPA implementing practices and procedures in the following areas: technology,

information management, and information security; federal and intergovernmental collaboration; programmatic and tiered analyses; and adaptive management and monitoring and evaluation plans. In addition, it was announced that the NEPA Task Force would look at other NEPA implementation issues such as the level of detail included in agencies' procedures and documentation for promulgating categorical exclusions, the utility and structure of format for environmental assessment documents, and implementation practices that would benefit other agencies.

A number of interest groups and individuals have requested that CEQ extend the public comment period. The Council believes that by extending the comment period a better collection of best practices can be assembled and greater in-depth responses will result to the questions posed in the **Federal Register** notice of July 9, 2002 (67 FR 45510-45512). Therefore, the comment period is being extended by 30 days.

Public comments are requested by September 23, 2002.

Dated: August 14, 2002.

**James L. Connaughton,**

*Chairman, Council on Environmental Quality.*

[FR Doc. 02-21038 Filed 8-19-02; 8:45 am]

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## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### Notice of Public Information Collection(s) Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission, Comments Requested

August 14, 2002.

**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 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 comments should be submitted on or before October 21, 2002. If you anticipate that you will be submitting 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 comments to Judith Boley Herman or Leslie Smith, Federal Communications Commission, Room 1-C804 or Room 1-A804, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554 or via the Internet to [jboley@fcc.gov](mailto:jboley@fcc.gov) or [lesmith@fcc.gov](mailto:lesmith@fcc.gov).

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

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*OMB Control No.:* 3060-0962.

*Title:* Redesignation of the 18 GHz Frequency Band, Blanket Licensing of Satellite Earth Stations in the Ka-band, and the Allocation of Additional Spectrum for Broadcast Satellite-Service Use.

*Form No.:* N/A.

*Type of Review:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

*Respondents:* Business or other for-profit.

*Number of Respondents:* 500 respondents; 538 responses.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 1-4 hours.

*Frequency of Response:* Recordkeeping requirement, third party disclosure requirement, on occasion reporting requirement.

*Total Annual Burden:* 553 hours.

*Total Annual Cost:* N/A.

*Needs and Uses:* The Commission has adopted rules that redesignate portions of the 17.7-20.2 GHz band, among the various currently allocated services in order to make more efficient use of the spectrum and to better accommodate the operational needs of licensees. The Commission proposed licensing of Fixed-Satellite Service (FSS) systems that require an amendment to the reporting requirements to include milestone certifications.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Marlene H. Dortch,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 02-21036 Filed 8-19-02; 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, Comments Requested

August 9, 2002.

**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 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:** Persons wishing to comment on this information collection should submit comments October 21, 2002. If you anticipate that you will be submitting 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 comments to Judy Boley Herman, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, SW., Room 1-C804, Washington, DC 20554 or via the Internet to [jboley@fcc.gov](mailto:jboley@fcc.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For additional information or copies of the information collections contact Judy Boley Herman at 202-418-0214 or via the Internet at [jboley@fcc.gov](mailto:jboley@fcc.gov).