

Contract Person: Dr. Michael Mayhew, Program Director, Education and Human Resources Program, Division of Earth Sciences, Room 785, National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA 22230. (703) 306-1557.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

Agenda: To review and evaluate proposals submitted to the POWRE Panel, as part of the selection process for awards.

Reasons for Closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information, financial data, such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: January 24, 2000.

Karen J. York,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-1990 Filed 1-28-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Sunshine Act Meeting

TIMES AND DATES: 1:00 p.m., Monday, February 7, 2000; 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, February 8, 2000.

PLACE: Coral Gables, Florida, at the Biltmore Hotel, 1200 Anastasia Avenue, in the Country Club Ballroom.

STATUS: February 7 (Closed); February 8 (Open).

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Monday, February 7—1:00 p.m. (Closed)

1. Postal Rate Commission Opinion and Recommended Decision in Docket No. MC00-1, Experimental Ride-Along Periodicals Classification Change.
2. Annual Performance Report 1999.
3. Preliminary Annual Performance Plan Targets.
4. Financial Performance.
5. Eproof Service.
6. Personnel Matters.
7. Compensation Issues.

Tuesday, February 8—8:30 a.m. (Open)

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting, January 10-11, 2000.
2. Remarks of the Postmaster General/Chief Executive Officer.
3. Appointment of Members to Board Committees.
4. Preliminary Annual Performance Plan.
5. Fiscal Year 1999 Comprehensive Statement on Postal Operations.
6. Quarterly Report on Service Performance.
7. Quarterly Report on Financial Results.

8. Capital Investment.

a. Business Customer Support Systems (BCSS).

9. Report on the South Florida District.

10. Tentative Agenda for the March 6-7, 2000, meeting in Washington, DC.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Thomas J. Koerber, Secretary of the Board, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW, Washington, DC 20260-1000. Telephone (202) 268-4800.

Thomas J. Koerber,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-2136 Filed 1-27-00; 3:10 pm]

BILLING CODE 7710-12-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 3208]

United States International Telecommunication Advisory Committee for Radiocommunication (ITAC-R) and Joint Meeting of ITAC-R and ITAC-T Telecommunication Standardization Sector Notice of Meetings;

The Department of State announces meetings of the U.S. International Telecommunication Advisory Committee for Radiocommunication (ITAC-R) and a joint meeting of the ITAC-R and ITAC-T the International Telecommunication Advisory Committee—Telecommunication Standardization. The purpose of the committee is to advise the Department and provide strategic planning recommendations on telecommunication and information policy matters related to the United States participation in the work of International Telecommunications Treaty Organizations. The ITAC-R will meet from 9:30 to noon on February 3, 2000 in room 5951 at the Department of State to Prepare for the ITU Radiocommunication Assembly, May 1-5, 2000. A joint meeting of ITAC-R and ITAC-T will meet from 2 PM to 4:30 PM on February 3, 2000 in room 5951 to prepare for international study group meetings of the ITU-R and ITU-T that deal with related issues concerning broadcasting and telecommunications matters, and IMT-2000 coordination between ITAC-R and ITAC-T.

Members of the general public may attend these meetings and join in the discussions, subject to the Instructions of the Chair. Admission of public members will be limited to seating available. Entrance to the Department of State is controlled; people intending to attend any of these meetings should

send a fax to 202-647-7407 not later than 24 hours before the meeting. This fax should display the name of the meeting, (ITAC-R or Joint ITAC-R and ITAC-T) and date of the meeting, your name, social security number, date of birth, and organizational affiliation. One of the following valid photo identifications will be required for admittance: US driver's license, US passport, and US Government identification card. Enter From the "C" Street Main Lobby; in view of escorting requirements, non-Government attendees should plan to arrive not later than 15 minutes before the meeting begins.

Dated: January 27, 2000.

John T. Gilseman,

Deputy Director of Multilateral Affairs, U.S. Department of State.

[FR Doc. 00-2118 Filed 1-28-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-45-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

[FTA Docket No. FTA-2000-6823]

Notice of Request for the Extension of Currently Approved Information Collections

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to extend the following currently approved information collections:

- (1) Nondiscrimination as it Applies to FTA Grant Programs
- (2) Title VI as it Applies to FTA Grant Programs
- (3) Reporting of Technical Activities by FTA Grant Recipients
- (4) Bus Testing Program

DATES: Comments must be submitted before March 31, 2000.

ADDRESSES: All written comments must refer to the docket number that appears at the top of this document and be submitted to the United States Department of Transportation, Central Dockets Office, PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590. All comments received will be available for examination at the above address from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Those desiring notification of receipt of

comments must include a self-addressed, stamped postcard/envelope.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nondiscrimination as it Applies to FTA Grant Programs and Title VI as it Applies to FTA Grant Programs—Mr. Akira Sano, Office of Civil Rights, (202) 366-4018.

Reporting of Technical Activities by FTA Grant Recipients—Ms. Candace Noonan, Office of Planning, (202) 366-1648.

Bus Testing Program—Mr. Tim Johnson, Office of Research, Demonstration and Innovation, (202) 366-0212.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Interested parties are invited to send comments regarding any aspect of these information collections, including: (1) The necessity and utility of the information collection for the proper performance of the functions of the FTA; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways to minimize the collection burden without reducing the quality of the collected information. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB reinstatement of this information collection.

Title: Nondiscrimination as it Applies to FTA Grant Programs (OMB Number: 2132-0542).

Background: All entities receiving Federal financial assistance from FTA are prohibited from discriminating against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, age, or disability. To ensure that FTA's equal employment opportunity (EEO) procedures are followed, FTA requires grant recipients to submit written EEO plans to FTA for approval. FTA's assessment of this requirement shows that the formulating, submitting, and implementing of EEO programs should minimally increase costs for FTA applicants and recipients.

To determine a grantee's compliance with applicable laws and requirements, grantee submissions are evaluated and analyzed based on the following criteria. First, an EEO program must include an EEO policy statement issued by the chief executive officer covering all employment practices, including recruitment, selection, promotions, terminations, transfers, layoffs, compensation, training, benefits, and other terms and conditions of employment. Second, the policy must be placed conspicuously so that employees, applicants, and the general public are aware of the agency's EEO commitment.

The data derived from written EEO and affirmative action plans will be used by the Office of Civil Rights in monitoring grantees' compliance with applicable EEO laws and regulations. This monitoring and enforcement activity will ensure that minorities and women have equitable access to employment opportunities and that recipients of Federal funds do not discriminate against any employee or applicant because of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, age, or disability.

Respondents: FTA grant recipients.

Estimated Annual Burden on

Respondents: 30 hours for each the 150 EEO submissions.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 4,500 hours.

Frequency: On occasion, every 3 years, annually.

Title: Title VI as it Applies to FTA Grant Programs (OMB Number: 2132-0542).

Background: Section 601 of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 states: "No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." This information collection is required by the Department of Justice (DOJ) Title VI Regulation, 28 CFR part 42, subpart F (§ 42.406), and DOT Order 1000.12. FTA policies and requirements are designed to clarify and strengthen these regulations. This requirement is applicable to all applicants, recipients, and subrecipients receiving Federal financial assistance. Experience has demonstrated that a program requirement at the application stage is necessary to assure that benefits and services are equitably distributed by grant recipients. The requirements prescribed by the Office of Civil Rights accomplish that objective while diminishing possible vestiges of discrimination among FTA grant recipients.

FTA's assessment of this requirement indicated that the formulation and implementation of the Title VI program should occur with a decrease in costs to such applicants and recipients.

All FTA grant applicants, recipients, and subrecipients are required to submit applicable Title VI information to the FTA Office of Civil Rights for review and approval. If FTA did not conduct pre-award reviews, solutions would not be generated in advance and program improvements could not be integrated into projects. FTA's experience with pre-award reviews for all projects and grants suggests this method contributes to maximum efficiency and cost

effectiveness of FTA dollars and has kept post-award complaints to a minimum. Moreover, the objective of the Title VI statute can be more easily attained and beneficiaries of FTA funded programs have a greater likelihood of receiving transit services and related benefits on a nondiscriminatory basis.

Respondents: FTA grant recipients.

Estimated Annual Burden on

Respondents: 23.4 hours for each of the 200 Title VI programs.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 4,680 hours.

Frequency: Annual.

Title: Reporting of Technical Activities by FTA Grant Recipients (OMB Number: 2132-0549).

Background: 49 U.S.C. Sections 5303 and 5313(a) and (b) authorize the use of Federal funds to assist metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), states, and local public bodies in developing transportation plans and programs to serve future transportation needs of urbanized areas and nonurbanized areas throughout the nation. As part of this effort, MPOs are required to consider a wide range of goals and objectives and to analyze alternative transportation system management and investment strategies. These objectives are measured by definable activities such as planning certification reviews and other related activities.

The information collected by these forms is used to report annually to Congress, the Secretary, and to the Federal Transit Administrator on how grantees are responding to national emphasis areas and congressional direction, and allows FTA to track grantees' use of Federal planning and research funds.

Respondents: FTA grant recipients.

Estimated Annual Burden on

Respondents: 3 hours for each of the 50 respondents.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 150 hours.

Frequency: Annual.

Title: Bus Testing Program (OMB Number: 2132-0550).

Background: 49 U.S.C. 5323(c) provides that no Federal funds appropriated or made available after September 30, 1989, may be obligated or expended for the acquisition of a new bus model (including any model using alternative fuels) unless the bus has been tested at the Bus Testing Center (Center) in Altoona, Pennsylvania. 49 U.S.C. 5318(a) further specifies that each new bus model is to be tested for maintainability, reliability, safety, performance (including braking performance), structural integrity, fuel economy, emissions, and noise.

The operator of the Bus Testing Center, the Pennsylvania Transportation Institute (PTI), has entered into a cooperative agreement with FTA. PTI operates and maintains the Center, and establishes and collects fees for the testing of the vehicles at the facility. Upon completion of the testing of the vehicle at the Center, a test report is provided to the manufacturer of the new bus model. The bus manufacturer certifies to an FTA grantee that the bus the grantee is purchasing has been tested at the Center. Also, grantees about to purchase a bus use this report to assist them in making their purchasing decisions. PTI maintains a reference file for all the test reports which are made available to the public.

Respondents: Bus manufacturers.

Estimated Annual Burden on

Respondents: 3 hours for each of the 20 bus manufacturers.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 60 hours.

Frequency: Annual.

Issued: January 24, 2000.

Dorrie Y. Aldrich,

Associate Administrator for Administration.

[FR Doc. 00-2013 Filed 1-28-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-57-U

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

January 10, 2000.

The Department of Treasury has submitted the following public information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling the Treasury Bureau Clearance Officer listed. Comments regarding this information collection should be addressed to the OMB reviewer listed and to the Treasury Department Clearance Officer, Department of the Treasury, Room 2110, 1425 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before March 1, 2000 to be assured of consideration.

Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

OMB Number: 1545-0666.

Form Number: IRS Form 673.

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: Statement For Claiming Benefits Provided by Section 911 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Description: Form 673 is completed by a citizen of the United States and is furnished to his or her employer in

order to exclude from income tax withholding all or part of the wages paid the citizen for services performed outside the United States.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit, Individuals or households, Farms, Federal Government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 50,000.

Estimated Burden Hours Per

Respondent: 30 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Total Reporting Burden: 25,000 hours.

Clearance Officer: Garrick Shear, Internal Revenue Service, Room 5244, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20224.

OMB Reviewer: Alexander T. Hunt, (202) 395-7860, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Lois K. Holland,

Departmental Reports, Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-2028 Filed 1-28-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

January 21, 2000.

The Department of Treasury has submitted the following public information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling the Treasury Bureau Clearance Officer listed. Comments regarding this information collection should be addressed to the OMB reviewer listed and to the Treasury Department Clearance Officer, Department of the Treasury, Room 2110, 1425 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before March 1, 2000 to be assured of consideration.

Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

OMB Number: New.

Form Number: IRS Form A.

Type of Review: New collection.

Title: Qualifications Availability Form.

Description: Form A is used by external applicants applying for clerical and technical positions with the Internal Revenue Service. Applicants will complete information relating to their address, job preference, veteran's preference and a series of occupational questions, knowledge and skills along with background information.

Respondents: Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 90,000.

Estimated Burden Hours Per

Respondent: 30 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Total Reporting Burden: 45,000 hours.

OMB Number: 1545-0143.

Form Number: IRS Form 2290.

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: Heavy Highway Vehicle Use Tax Return.

Description: Form 2290 is used to compute and report the tax imposed by section 4481 on the highway use of certain motor vehicles. The information is used to determine whether the taxpayer has paid the correct amount of tax.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents/Recordkeepers: 500,625.

Estimated Burden Hours Per Respondent/Recordkeeper:

Recordkeeping 39 hr., 28 min.

Learning about the law or the form. 18 min.

Preparing, copying, and sending the form to the IRS. 57 min.

Frequency of Response: Annually.

Estimated Total Reporting/

Recordkeeping Burden: 19,223,213 hours.

OMB Number: 1545-1221.

Regulation Project Number: EE-147-87 Final.

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: Qualified Separate Lines of Business.

Description: The affected public includes employers who maintain qualified employee retirement plans. Where applicable, the employer must furnish notice to the IRS that the employer treats itself as operating qualified separate lines of business and some may request an IRS determination that such lines satisfy administrative scrutiny.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents/Recordkeepers: 253.

Estimated Burden Hours Per

Respondent/Recordkeeper: 3 hrs., 27 min.

Frequency of Response: Annually.

Estimated Total Reporting/

Recordkeeping Burden: 899 hours.

OMB Number: 1545-1530.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: Tip Rate Determination Agreement (Gaming Industry).

Description: Information is required by the Internal Revenue Service in its