

wish to make a brief statement not to exceed five minutes.

Document Availability: The external review draft of the perchlorate document will be available by January 9, 2002, on EPA's National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/ncea>. In addition, a compact disk (CD) containing documents cited in the "Perchlorate Environmental Contamination: Toxicological Review and Risk Characterization" report that cannot be readily obtained from the open literature will be available by request as of January 9, 2002. To obtain a copy of the CD, you may contact the EPA Superfund Records Center in San Francisco, California. A shipping and handling fee may apply. The circulation desk phone number for the Superfund Records Center is 415-536-2000. Copies of the perchlorate document and CD are not available from ERG.

Comment Submission: Written comments should be submitted to ERG, Inc., 110 Hartwell Avenue, Lexington, Massachusetts 02421. Comments under 50 pages may be sent via e-mail attachment (in Word, Word Perfect, or PDF) to www.meetings@erg.com. Written comments must be postmarked by the end of the public comment period (February 11, 2002). Please note that all technical comments received in response to this notice will be placed in a public record. For that reason, commentors should not submit personal information (such as medical data or home address), Confidential Business Information, or information protected by copyright. Due to limited resources, acknowledgments will not be sent.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions regarding registration and logistics should be directed to EPA's contractor, ERG, Inc., at 781-674-7374. For technical inquiries, please contact: Annie Jarabek, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (MD 52), USEPA Mailroom, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711; telephone 919-541-4847; facsimile 919-541-1818; e-mail jarabek.annie@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Perchlorate (ClO_4) is an anion that originates as a contaminant in groundwater and surface waters from the dissolution of ammonium, potassium, magnesium, or sodium salts. Perchlorate is exceedingly mobile in aqueous systems and can persist for many decades under typical groundwater and surface water conditions. A major source of perchlorate contamination is the manufacture of ammonium perchlorate for use as the oxidizer component and

primary ingredient in solid propellant for rockets, missiles, and fireworks.

EPA's Superfund Technical Support Center issued a provisional reference dose (RfD) for perchlorate in 1992 and a revised provisional RfD in 1995 based on the effects of potassium perchlorate in patients with Graves' disease (an autoimmune disease that results in hyperthyroidism). (An RfD is an estimate of a daily oral human exposure that is anticipated to be without adverse noncancer health effects over a lifetime.) In March 1997, the existing toxicologic database on perchlorate was determined to be inadequate for quantitative human health risk assessment by an external peer review panel. A lack of data on the ecotoxicological effects was also noted. In May 1997, a testing strategy was developed based on the known mode-of-action for perchlorate toxicity (the inhibition of iodide uptake in the thyroid and subsequent perturbations of thyroid hormone homeostasis), and an accelerated research program was initiated to gain a better understanding of the human health effects of perchlorate, examine possible ecological impacts, refine analytical methods, develop treatment technologies, and better characterize the occurrence of perchlorate in groundwater and surface waters.

In December 1998, the National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) developed an external peer review draft document that assessed the human health and ecological risk of perchlorate ("Perchlorate Environmental Contamination: Toxicology Review and Risk Characterization Based on Emerging Information," NCEA-I-0503). This document presented an updated human health risk assessment that incorporated results of the newly performed health effects studies available as of November 1998 and a screening-level ecological assessment. The human health risk assessment model utilized a mode-of-action approach that harmonized noncancer and cancer approaches to derive a single oral risk benchmark based on precursor effects for both neurodevelopmental and thyroid neoplasia. A workshop was convened in February 1999 in San Bernardino, California, to provide external peer review of that document. Peer reviewers endorsed the conceptual approach proposed by NCEA, but recommended that new analyses be conducted and that several additional studies be planned and performed. NCEA has prepared a revised perchlorate assessment that addresses comments from the 1999 external peer review workshop and incorporates data from additional

studies that were either nearing completion at the time of the 1999 review or were recommended at that time. This revised draft document is the subject of the external peer review workshop announced in today's **Federal Register** notice.

The external peer review panel will consist of a panel of independent scientists selected by EPA's contractor, ERG, from the fields of developmental toxicology, reproductive toxicology, neurotoxicology, immunotoxicology, pharmacokinetics, genetic toxicology, endocrinology, pathology, epidemiology, statistics, ecotoxicology, and environmental transport and biotransformation. Peer reviewers will review the revised human health and ecological risk assessment for perchlorate as well as new studies performed since the 1999 external peer review. Following the external peer review workshop, ERG will prepare a report summarizing the workshop. EPA will address the comments of the external peer reviewers in finalizing the perchlorate risk assessment document and in developing revised toxicity values. The human health and ecological risk assessment may be used in the future to support development of a health advisory or possible drinking water regulations and cleanup decisions at hazardous waste sites. However, any such future decisions would be subject to all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements and policy considerations for use of the assessments under those programs.

Dated: December 20, 2001.

George W. Alapas,

Acting Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.

[FR Doc. 01-32088 Filed 12-31-01; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Notice of Public Information Collection(s) being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission

December 19, 2001.

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 February 1, 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, Federal Communications Commission, Room 1-C804, 445 12th Street, SW, DC 20554 or via the Internet to jboley@fcc.gov.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB Control No.: 3060-0519.

Title: Rules and Regulations

Implementing the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991 (CC Docket No. 92-06).

Form No.: N/A.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Businesses or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 30,000.

Estimated Time Per Response: 31.2 hours per response (avg.).

Frequency of Response:

Recordkeeping requirement, third party disclosure requirement, on occasion reporting requirement.

Total Annual Burden: 936,000 hours.

Total Annual Cost: N/A.

Needs and Uses: Parts 64 and 68 of the Commission's rules contain procedures for avoiding unwanted telephone solicitations to residences, and to regulate the use of automatic telephone dialing systems, artificial or pre-recorded voice messages, and telephone facsimile machines. The Commission believes that the recordkeeping requirement is the best

means of preventing unwanted telephone solicitations.

OMB Control No.: 3060-0837.

Title: Application for DTV Broadcast Station License.

Form No.: FCC Form 302-DTV.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Businesses or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions.

Number of Respondents: 600.

Estimated Time Per Response: 1.5-6 hours per response (avg.).

Frequency of Response: On occasion reporting requirement.

Total Annual Burden: 950 hours.

Total Annual Cost: \$245,000.

Needs and Uses: FCC Form 302-DTV is used by licensees and permittees of DTV broadcast stations to obtain a new or modified station license, and/or to notify the Commission of certain changes in the licensed facilities. The data is used by FCC staff to confirm that the station has been built to terms specified in the outstanding construction permit and to ensure that any changes to the station's authorized facilities, made without prior Commission approval, will not have any impact on other stations and the public. Data is extracted from FCC 302-DTV for inclusion in the license to operate the station.

Federal Communications Commission.

Magalie Roman Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-32249 Filed 12-31-01; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Policy Statement Regarding Minority-Owned Depository Institutions

AGENCY: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

ACTION: Policy statement.

SUMMARY: The FDIC is proposing to revise its Policy Statement Regarding Minority-Owned Depository Institutions. Section 308 of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery and Enforcement Act of 1989 ("FIRREA") requires the Secretary of the Treasury to consult with the Director of the Office of Thrift Supervision and the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the FDIC to determine the best methods for preserving and encouraging minority ownership of depository institutions. The FDIC has long recognized the unique role and importance of minority-owned depository institutions and has historically taken steps to preserve and

encourage minority ownership of financial institutions. The revised Policy Statement updates, expands, and clarifies the agency's policies and procedures related to minority-owned institutions.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before March 4, 2002.

ADDRESSES: All comments should be addressed to Robert E. Feldman, Executive Secretary, Attention: Comments/OES, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20429. Comments may be hand delivered to the guard station at the rear of the 550 17th Street Building (located on F Street) on business days between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. (fax number (202) 898-3838; Internet address: comments@fdic.gov). Comments may be posted on the FDIC Internet site at <http://www.fdic.gov/regulations/laws/federal/propose.html> and may be inspected and photocopied in the FDIC Public Information Center, Room 100, 801 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20429, between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on business days.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brett A. McCallister, Risk Management and Applications Section, Division of Supervision (202) 898-3803 or Grovett N. Gardineer, Counsel, Legal Division, (202) 898-3728, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20429.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 3, 1990, the Board of Directors of the FDIC adopted a Policy Statement on Encouragement and Preservation of Minority Ownership of Financial Institutions. The framework for the original Policy Statement resulted from several key provisions contained in Section 308 of FIRREA, which enumerated several goals as follows: (1) Preserving the number of minority depository institutions; (2) preserving the minority character in cases of merger or acquisition; (3) providing technical assistance to prevent insolvency of institutions not now insolvent; (4) promoting and encouraging creation of new minority depository institutions; and (5) providing for training, technical assistance, and education programs.

The original Policy Statement provided guidance to the industry regarding the agency's efforts in achieving the goals of Section 308. The revised Policy Statement attempts to provide a more structured framework that sets forth initiatives of the FDIC to promote the preservation of, as well as to provide technical assistance, training and educational programs to, minority-owned institutions by working with