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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2025–5040; Project Identifier MCAI–2022–01516–R; Amendment 39–23292; AD 2026–06–04]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The FAA is adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for all Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH Model MBB–BK 117 D–3 helicopters. This AD was prompted by a determination that certain bolts installed on the horizontal control rods of the flight controls were not dye penetrant inspected for cracks during manufacturing and thus could lead to bolt failure. This AD requires replacement of affected bolts with bolts that are eligible for installation. This AD also prohibits installing an affected bolt on any helicopter. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: This AD is effective April 30, 2026.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of a certain publication listed in this AD as of April 30, 2026.

ADDRESSES:

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2025–5040; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this final rule, the mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI), any comments received, and other information. The address for Docket Operations is U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) material identified in this AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; phone: +49 221 8999 000; email: *ADs@easa.europa.eu;* website: *easa.europa.eu.* You may find this material on the EASA website at *ad.easa.europa.eu.*
- You may view this material at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 10101 Hillwood Parkway, Room 6N–321, Fort Worth, TX 76177. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222–5110. It is also available at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2025–5040.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Aryanna Sanchez, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (817) 222–4058; email: *aryanna.t.sanchez@faa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The FAA issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend 14 CFR part 39 by adding an AD that would apply to all Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH Model MBB–BK 117 D–3 helicopters. The NPRM was published in the **Federal Register** on December 5, 2025 (90 FR 56070). The NPRM was prompted by EASA AD 2022–0228, dated November 28, 2022, (EASA AD 2022–0228) (also referred to as the MCAI), issued by EASA, which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Union. The MCAI states that a determination was made that bolts installed on the horizontal control rods of the flight controls having part number D671M7051211 and with a serial number (S/N) listed in the applicable material were not subject to a dye penetrant inspection for cracks during manufacturing and thus are subject to bolt failure.

In the NPRM, the FAA proposed to require replacement of affected bolts with bolts that are eligible for installation. The NPRM also proposed to prohibit installing an affected bolt on any helicopter. The FAA is issuing this AD to prevent bolt failure, which if not addressed, could result in loss of control of the helicopter.

You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2025–5040.

Discussion of Final Airworthiness Directive

Comments

The FAA received no comments on the NPRM or on the determination of the costs.

Conclusion

These products have been approved by the civil aviation authority of another country and are approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA's bilateral agreement with this State of Design Authority, that authority has notified the FAA of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI referenced above. The FAA reviewed the relevant data, considered any comments received, and determined that air safety requires adopting this AD as proposed. Accordingly, the FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products. Except for minor editorial changes, this AD is adopted as proposed in the NPRM. None of the changes will increase the economic burden on any operator.

Material Incorporated by Reference Under 1 CFR Part 51

The FAA reviewed EASA AD 2022–0228, which specifies procedures for checking (inspecting) the S/N of the bolt, and depending on the results of the inspection, replacing any affected bolts with serviceable bolts. EASA AD 2022–0228 also prohibits installing an affected bolt on any helicopter. This material is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in the **ADDRESSES** section.

Differences Between This AD and the MCAI

The MCAI applies to Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH Model D–3m helicopters, whereas this AD does not because that model does not have an FAA type certificate.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD affects 146 helicopters of the U.S. registry.

The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this AD.

ESTIMATED COSTS

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
Replace bolt	4 work-hours × $85 per hour = $340	$101	$441	$64,386

Authority for This Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII: Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

The FAA is issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements. Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

Regulatory Findings

This AD will not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This AD will not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that this AD:

(1) Is not a ''significant regulatory action'' under Executive Order 12866,

(2) Will not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and

(3) Will not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

The Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA amends 14 CFR part 39 as follows:

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701.

§ 39.13 [Amended]

■ 2. The FAA amends § 39.13 by adding the following new airworthiness directive:

2026–06–04 Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH: Amendment 39–23292; Docket No. FAA–2025–5040; Project Identifier MCAI–2022–01516–R.

(a) Effective Date

This airworthiness directive (AD) is effective April 30, 2026.

(b) Affected ADs

None.

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to all Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH Model MBB–BK 117 D–3 helicopters, certificated in any category.

(d) Subject

Joint Aircraft System Component (JASC) Code 6700, Rotorcraft flight control.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by a determination that certain bolts installed on the horizontal control rods of the flight controls were not dye penetrant inspected for cracks during manufacturing and thus are subject to bolt failure. The FAA is issuing this AD to prevent bolt failure, which if not addressed, could result in loss of control of the helicopter.

(f) Compliance

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

(g) Requirements

Except as specified in paragraphs (h) and (i) of this AD: Comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with European Union Aviation Safety Agency AD 2022–0228, dated November 28, 2022 (EASA AD 2022–0228).

(h) Exceptions to EASA AD 2022–0228

(1) Where EASA AD 2022–0228 refers to its effective date, this AD requires using the effective date of this AD.

(2) Where EASA AD 2022–0228 defines affected bolt as ''Bolts, having part number D671M7051211 and a s/n [serial number] as listed in the ASB'', this AD requires replacing that text with ''bolts, having part number D671M7051211 and a serial number as listed in Airbus Helicopters Alert Service Bulletin ASB MBB–BK117 D–3–67A–002, Revision 1, dated July 29, 2024''.

(3) Where EASA AD 2022–0228 refers to flight hours, this AD requires using hours time-in-service (TIS).

(4) Where the material referenced in EASA AD 2022–0228 specifies ''check'', this AD requires replacing that text with ''inspect''.

(5) Where the material referenced in EASA AD 2022–0228 specifies ''discard'', this AD requires replacing that text with ''remove from service''.

(6) Where the material referenced in EASA AD 2022–0228 specifies to make the bolt unserviceable, this AD does not require those actions.

(7) This AD does not adopt the ''Remarks'' section of EASA AD 2022–0228.

(i) No Reporting Requirement

Although the material referenced in EASA AD 2022–0228 specifies to submit certain information to the manufacturer, this AD does not require that action.

(j) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(1) The Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or local Flight Standards District Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the International Validation Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (k) of this AD and email to: *AMOC@faa.gov.*

(2) Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local flight standards district office/certificate holding district office.

(k) Additional Information

For more information about this AD, contact Aryanna Sanchez, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (817) 222–4058; email: *aryanna.t.sanchez@faa.gov.*

(l) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of the material listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this material as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.

(i) European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2022–0228, dated November 28, 2022.

(ii) [Reserved]

(3) For EASA material identified in this AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; phone: +49 221 8999 000; email: *ADs@easa.europa.eu;* website: *easa.europa.eu.* You may find this material on the EASA website at *ad.easa.europa.eu.*

(4) You may view this material at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 10101 Hillwood Parkway, Room 6N–321, Fort Worth, TX 76177. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222–5110.

(5) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit *www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations* or email *fr.inspection@nara.gov.*

Issued on March 18, 2026.

Steven W. Thompson,

Acting Deputy Director, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2026–05885 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2025–5397; Project Identifier MCAI–2025–00972–A; Amendment 39–23291; AD 2026–06–03]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Diamond Aircraft Industries Inc. Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The FAA is superseding Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2020–14–06, which applied to all Diamond Aircraft Industries Inc. (DAI) Model DA 40, DA 40 F, and DA 40 NG airplanes. AD 2020–14–06 required replacing affected parts, inspecting the fuel tank chambers, and removing rubber material that has detached from the fuel tank connection hoses. AD 2020–14–06 also prohibited installing an affected part on any airplane. Since the FAA issued AD 2020–14–06, additional affected parts installed during production on Model DA 40 NG airplanes have been reported. As a result, the manufacturer has published updated service material for the Model DA 40 NG. This AD requires the same actions as AD 2020–14–06 and requires updated service material to be used for the Model DA 40 NG airplanes. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: This AD is effective April 30, 2026.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of a certain publication listed in this AD as of April 30, 2026.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of certain other publications listed in this AD as of August 4, 2020 (85 FR 42687, July 15, 2020).

ADDRESSES:

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2025–5397; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this final rule, the mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI), any comments received, and other information. The address for Docket Operations is U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For Diamond Aircraft Industries material identified in this AD, contact DAI, 1560 Crumlin Sideroad, London, Ontario, Canada, N5V 1S2; phone: (519) 457–4041, fax: (519) 457–4045; email: *support-canada@diamondaircraft.com.*
- You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 901 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222–5110. It is also available at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2025–5397.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joseph Catanzaro, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (516) 228–7366; email: *joseph.catanzaro@faa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The FAA issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend 14 CFR part 39 to supersede AD 2020–14–06, Amendment 39–21160 (85 FR 42687, July 15, 2020), (AD 2020–14–06). AD 2020–14–06 applied to DAI Model DA 40, DA 40 F, and DA 40 NG airplanes (including Model DA 40 NG airplanes that have been converted from the Model DA 40 D). AD 2020–14–06 required replacing affected parts, inspecting the fuel tank chambers, and removing rubber material that has detached from the fuel tank connection hoses. AD 2020–14–06 also prohibited installing an affected part on any airplane. The FAA issued AD 2020–14–06 to detect and prevent fuel starvation and reduced control of the airplane. AD 2020–14–16 was prompted by Transport Canada CF–2019–39, dated October 31, 2019 (Transport Canada AD CF–2019–39) issued by Transport Canada, which is the aviation authority for Canada.

The NPRM was published in the **Federal Register** on December 23, 2025 (90 FR 60031). The NPRM was prompted by Transport Canada AD CF–2019–39R1, dated May 21, 2025 (also referred to as the MCAI), which superseded Transport Canada AD CF–2019–39 based on reports of additional affected parts installed during production on DAI Model DA 40 NG airplanes. As a result, the manufacturer published updated service material for the Model DA 40 NG. The MCAI also continues to require replacing affected fuel tank connection hoses, inspecting the fuel tank chambers, and removing rubber material that has detached from the fuel tank connection hoses.

In the NPRM, the FAA proposed to require the same actions as AD 2020–14–06 and to require updated service material to be used for the Model DA 40 NG airplanes.

You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2025–5397.

Discussion of Final Airworthiness Directive

Comments

The FAA received no comments on the NPRM or on the determination of the costs.

Conclusion

These products have been approved by the civil aviation authority of another country and are approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA's bilateral agreement with this State of Design Authority, that authority has notified the FAA of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI referenced above. The FAA reviewed the relevant data, considered any comments received, and determined that air safety requires adopting this AD as proposed. Accordingly, the FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products. Except for minor editorial changes, and any other changes described previously, this AD is adopted as proposed in the NPRM. None of the changes will increase the economic burden on any operator.

Material Incorporated by Reference Under 1 CFR Part 51

The FAA reviewed Diamond Aircraft Industries Mandatory Service Bulletin

No. MSB 40NG–064 Rev. 3, dated January 23, 2025, which specifies procedures for replacing affected parts, inspecting the fuel tank chambers, and removing rubber material that has detached from the hoses. This material also specifies the service centers from which the affected parts could have been obtained and the serial numbers for additional DAI Model DA 40 NG airplanes that are affected by the unsafe condition and were not in the previous version of the material.

This AD also requires the following Diamond Aircraft Industries Mandatory Service Bulletins, which the Director of the Federal Register approved for incorporation by reference as of August 4, 2020 (85 FR 42687, July 15, 2020):

- Diamond Aircraft Industries Mandatory Service Bulletin No. MSB 40–087, Revision 3, dated November 5, 2019.
- Diamond Aircraft Industries Mandatory Service Bulletin No. MSB F4–037, Revision 3, dated November 5, 2019.
- Diamond Aircraft Industries Work Instruction WI–MSB 40–087, Revision 0, dated July 1, 2019.
- Diamond Aircraft Industries Work Instruction WI–MSB F4–037, Revision 0, dated July 1, 2019.
- Diamond Aircraft Industries Work Instruction WI–MSB 40 NG–064, Revision 0, dated July 1, 2019.

This material is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in the **ADDRESSES** section.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD affects 987 airplanes of U.S. registry.

The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this AD:

ESTIMATED COSTS

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
Inspect the fuel tank chambers	1 work-hour × $85 per hour = $85	$0	$85	$83,895
Remove detached rubber material	5 work hours × $85 per hour = $425	0	425	419,475
Replace fuel tank connection hose	10 work hours × $85 per hour = $850	383	1,233	1,216,971

The FAA has included all known costs in its cost estimate. According to the manufacturer, however, some of the costs of this AD may be covered under warranty, thereby reducing the cost impact on affected operators.

Authority for This Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII: Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

The FAA is issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements. Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

Regulatory Findings

The FAA has determined that this AD will not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This AD will not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that this AD:

(1) Is not a ''significant regulatory action'' under Executive Order 12866,

(2) Will not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and

(3) Will not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

The Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA amends 14 CFR part 39 as follows:

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701.

§ 39.13 [Amended]

■ 2. The FAA amends § 39.13 by:

■ a. Removing Airworthiness Directive 2020–14–06, Amendment 39–21160 (85 FR 42687, July 15, 2020); and

■ b. Adding the following new airworthiness directive:

2026–06–03 Diamond Aircraft Industries Inc: Amendment 39–23291; Docket No. FAA–2025–5397; Project Identifier MCAI–2025–00972–A.

(a) Effective Date

This airworthiness directive (AD) is effective April 30, 2026.

(b) Affected ADs

This AD replaces AD 2020–14–06, Amendment 39–21160 (85 FR 42687, July 15, 2020); (AD 2020–14–06).

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to all Diamond Aircraft Industries Inc. Model DA 40, DA 40 F, and DA 40 NG airplanes (including Model DA 40 NG airplanes that have been converted from the Model DA 40 D), certificated in any category.

(d) Subject

Joint Aircraft System Component (JASC) Code 1410, Hoses and tubes.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by reports of fuel tank connection hose deterioration and reports of affected parts that were installed during production on Model DA 40 NG airplanes. The FAA is issuing this AD to detect and address such deterioration, which, if not corrected, could result in contamination of the fuel system and restriction of fuel flow and could lead to fuel starvation and reduced control of the airplane.

(f) Compliance

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

(g) Definitions

For the purpose of this AD, ''affected part'' means a fuel tank connection hose that meets the criteria in paragraph (g)(1), (2), or (3) of this AD.

(1) Part number (P/N) D4D–2817–10–70 installed during production on Model DA 40 NG airplanes with a serial number listed in

Section I.2. of Diamond Aircraft Industries Mandatory Service Bulletin MSB 40NG–064 Rev. 3, dated January 23, 2025; or

(2) P/N D4D–2817–10–70 or BENOLPRESS (no part number) purchased between July 13, 2017, and February 26, 2019, as listed in Section I.11 of Diamond Aircraft Industries Mandatory Service Bulletin No. MSB 40–087, Revision 3, dated November 5, 2019; Diamond Aircraft Industries Mandatory Service Bulletin No. MSB 40NG–064 Rev. 3, dated January 23, 2025; or Diamond Aircraft Industries Mandatory Service Bulletin No. MSB F4–037, Revision 3, dated November 5, 2019; or

(3) P/N D4D–2817–10–70 installed as a replacement part on or after July 13, 2017, if it is unknown whether the part meets the criteria in paragraph (g)(1) or (2) of this AD.

(h) Required Actions

Within 100 hours time-in-service or within 2 months, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD, replace each affected part as defined in paragraph (g) of this AD, inspect the main fuel tank chambers, and remove any detached rubber material in accordance with Sections III.1 and III.2 of the Instructions in Diamond Aircraft Industries Work Instruction WI–MSB 40–087, Revision 0, dated July 1, 2019; Diamond Aircraft Industries Work Instruction WI–MSB F4–037, Revision 0, dated July 1, 2019; or Diamond Aircraft Industries Work Instruction WI–MSB 40NG–064, Revision 0, dated July 1, 2019; as applicable to your model airplane.

(i) No Reporting Requirement

Although the service material specifies to submit information to the manufacturer, this AD does not require that action.

(j) Installation Prohibition

As of the effective date of this AD, do not install an affected part, as defined in paragraph (g) of this AD, on any airplane.

(k) Credit for Previous Actions

This paragraph provides credit for the actions required by paragraph (h) of this AD if those actions were performed before the effective date of this AD, and the affected part for the Model DA 40 NG airplane was identified using Diamond Aircraft Industries Mandatory Service Bulletin No. MSB 40NG–064, Revision 2, dated August 29, 2019.

(l) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(1) The Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or local Flight Standards District Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the International Validation Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (m)(1) of this AD and email it to: *AMOC@faa.gov.*

(2) Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local flight standards district office/certificate holding district office.

(m) Additional Information

(1) For more information about this AD, contact Joseph Catanzaro, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (516) 228–7366; email: *joseph.catanzaro@faa.gov.*

(2) Material identified in this AD that is not incorporated by reference is available at the address specified in paragraph (n)(5) of this AD.

(n) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference (IBR) of the material listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this material as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.

(3) The following material was approved for IBR on April 30, 2026.

(i) Diamond Aircraft Industries Mandatory Service Bulletin MSB 40NG–064 Rev. 3, dated January 23, 2025.

(ii) [Reserved]

(4) The following material was approved for IBR on August 4, 2020 (85 FR 42687, July 15, 2020).

(i) Diamond Aircraft Industries Mandatory Service Bulletin No. MSB 40–087, Revision 3, dated November 5, 2019.

(ii) Diamond Aircraft Industries Mandatory Service Bulletin No. MSB F4–037, Revision 3, dated November 5, 2019.

(iii) Diamond Aircraft Industries Work Instruction WI–MSB 40–087, Revision 0, dated July 1, 2019.

(iv) Diamond Aircraft Industries Work Instruction WI–MSB 40NG–064, Revision 0, dated July 1, 2019.

(v) Diamond Aircraft Industries Work Instruction WI–MSB F4–037, Revision 0, dated July 1, 2019.

(5) For Diamond Aircraft Industries material identified in this AD, contact Diamond Aircraft Industries Inc., 1560 Crumlin Sideroad, London, Ontario, Canada, N5V 1S2; phone: (519) 457–4041, fax: (519) 457–4045; email: *support-canada@diamondaircraft.com.*

(6) You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 901 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222–5110.

(7) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit *www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations* or email *fr.inspection@nara.gov.*

Issued on March 18, 2026.

Steven W. Thompson,

Acting Deputy Director, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2026–05883 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 71

[Docket No. FAA–2026–3020; Airspace Docket No. 26–AEA–7]

RIN 2120–AA66

Amendment of Class D Airspace; Morristown, NJ

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This action updates the geographic coordinates for Morristown Municipal Airport, Morristown, NJ, in the Class D airspace legal description. This action also replaces the reference to ''Airport/Facility Directory'' within the airspace legal description with ''Chart Supplement.'' This action does not change the airspace boundaries or operating requirements.

DATES: Effective date 0901 UTC, July 9, 2026. The Director of the Federal Register approves this incorporation by reference action under 1 CFR part 51, subject to the annual revision of FAA Order JO 7400.11 and publication of conforming amendments.

ADDRESSES: A copy of this final rule and all background material may be viewed online at *www.regulations.gov* using the FAA Docket number. Electronic retrieval help and guidelines are available on the website. It is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. An electronic copy of this document may also be downloaded from *www.federalregister.gov.*

FAA Order JO 7400.11K, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, and subsequent amendments can be viewed online at *www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/.* You may also contact the Rules and Regulations Group, Policy Directorate, Federal Aviation Administration, 600 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20597; Telephone: (202) 267–8783.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marc Ellerbee, Operations Support Group, Eastern Service Center, Federal Aviation Administration, 1701 Columbia Avenue, College Park, GA 30337; Telephone: (404) 305–5589.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority for This Rulemaking

The FAA's authority to issue rules regarding aviation safety is found in Title 49 of the United States Code. Subtitle I, Section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII, Aviation Programs,

describes in more detail the scope of the agency's authority. This rulemaking is promulgated under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart I, Section 40103. Under that section, the FAA is charged with prescribing regulations to assign the use of the airspace necessary to ensure the safety of aircraft and the efficient use of airspace. This regulation is within the scope of that authority as it amends the legal description for Class D airspace extending upward from the surface at Morristown Municipal Airport, Morristown, NJ.

Incorporation by Reference

Class D airspace designations are published in paragraph 5000 of FAA Order JO 7400.11, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, which is incorporated by reference in 14 CFR 71.1 on an annual basis. This document amends the current version of that order, FAA Order JO 7400.11K, dated August 4, 2025, and effective September 15, 2025. These amendments will be published in the next update to FAA Order JO 7400.11. FAA Order JO 7400.11K, which lists Class A, B, C, D, and E airspace areas, air traffic service routes, and reporting points, is publicly available as listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this document.

The Rule

An airspace review revealed that administrative updates were needed for the geographic coordinates and the FAA publication referenced in the Class D airspace legal description at Morristown Municipal Airport, Morristown, NJ. Accordingly, this action amends 14 CFR part 71 by updating the airport's geographic coordinates, specifically by changing the latitude from 40°47′57″ N to 40°47′58″ N, which is a one second difference. Additionally, this action amends 14 CFR part 71 by replacing ''Airport/Facility Directory'' with ''Chart Supplement'' to comply with current FAA policy.

Good Cause for Bypassing Notice and Comment

The Administrative Procedure Act (APA) authorizes agencies to dispense with ordinary notice and comment requirements for rules when the agency for ''good cause'' finds that those procedures are ''impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.'' 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B). Under this section, an agency, upon finding good cause, may issue a final rule without first publishing a proposed rule subject to public notice and comment. This rule only involves administrative changes, including the update of the airport's geographic coordinates to change the latitude by one second, and replacing the outdated ''Airport/Facility Directory'' term with ''Chart Supplement.'' This amendment will not impose any additional or amended substantive restrictions or requirements on the persons affected by these regulations as it does not affect the airspace boundaries or operating requirements. The changes are ministerial in nature only.

This action constitutes ''a routine determination, insignificant in nature and impact, and inconsequential to the industry and to the public.'' *Mack Trucks, Inc.* v. *EPA,* 682 F.3d 87, 94 (D.C. Cir. 2012) (quoting *Util. Solid Waste Activities Grp.* v. *EPA,* 236 F.3d 749, 755 (D.C. Cir. 2001)); see also Attorney General's Manual on the Administrative Procedure Act (1947), at 31; U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Order 2100.6B, paragraph 11.j(1)(b) (saying proposed rules are not required for ''[r]ules for which notice and comment is unnecessary to inform the rulemaking, such as rules correcting de minimis technical or clerical errors or rules addressing other minor and insubstantial matters, provided the reasons to forgo public comment are explained in the preamble to the final rule''). Accordingly, the FAA finds good cause that notice and public comment under 5 U.S.C. 553(b) is unnecessary.

Regulatory Notices and Analyses

The FAA has determined that this regulation only involves an established body of technical regulations for which frequent and routine amendments are necessary to keep them operationally current. It, therefore: (1) is not a ''significant regulatory action'' under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a ''significant rule'' under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034; February 26, 1979); and (3) does not warrant preparation of a regulatory evaluation as the anticipated impact is so minimal. Since this is a routine matter that only affects air traffic procedures and air navigation, it is certified that this rule, when promulgated, does not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Environmental Review

The FAA has determined that this action qualifies for categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act in accordance with FAA Order 1050.1G, ''FAA National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures'' paragraph B–2.5(a). This airspace action is not expected to cause any potentially significant environmental impacts, and no extraordinary circumstances exist that warrant the preparation of an environmental assessment.

Lists of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 71

Airspace, Incorporation by reference, Navigation (air).

The Amendment

In consideration of the foregoing, the Federal Aviation Administration amends 14 CFR part 71 as follows:

PART 71—DESIGNATION OF CLASS A, B, C, D, AND E AIRSPACE AREAS; AIR TRAFFIC SERVICE ROUTES; AND REPORTING POINTS

■ 1. The authority citation for 14 CFR part 71 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(f), 106(g), 40103, 40113, 40120; E.O. 10854, 24 FR 9565, 3 CFR, 1959–1963 Comp., p.389.

§ 71.1 [Amended]

■ 2. The incorporation by reference in 14 CFR 71.1 of Federal Aviation Administration Order JO 7400.11K, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated August 4, 2025, and effective September 15, 2025, is amended as follows:

Paragraph 5000 Class D Airspace.

* * * * *

AEA NJ D Morristown, NJ [Amended]

Morristown Municipal Airport, NJ
(Lat. 40°47′58″ N, long. 74°24′54″ W)

That airspace extending upward from the surface to and including 2,700 feet MSL within a 4.1-mile radius of Morristown Municipal Airport, excluding the portion that coincides with the New York, NY, Class B airspace area. This Class D airspace area is effective during the specific dates and times established in advance by a Notice to Airmen. The effective date and time will thereafter be continuously published in the Chart Supplement.

* * * * *

Issued in College Park, Georgia, on March 24, 2026.

Patrick Young,

Manager, Airspace & Procedures Team North, Eastern Service Center, Air Traffic Organization.

[FR Doc. 2026–05871 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 71

[Docket No. FAA–2026–2808; Airspace Docket No. 26–AEA–6]

RIN 2120–AA66

Amendment of Class D and Class E4 Airspace; Caldwell, NJ

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This action updates the geographic coordinates for Essex County Airport, Caldwell, NJ, in the Class D and Class E4 airspace legal descriptions. This action also replaces the reference to ''Airport/Facility Directory'' within the airspace legal descriptions with ''Chart Supplement.'' This action does not change the airspace boundaries or operating requirements.

DATES: Effective date 0901 UTC, July 9, 2026. The Director of the Federal Register approves this incorporation by reference action under 1 CFR part 51, subject to the annual revision of FAA Order JO 7400.11 and publication of conforming amendments.

ADDRESSES: A copy of this final rule and all background material may be viewed online at *www.regulations.gov* using the FAA Docket number. Electronic retrieval help and guidelines are available on the website. It is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. An electronic copy of this document may also be downloaded from *www.federalregister.gov*.

FAA Order JO 7400.11K, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, and subsequent amendments can be viewed online at *www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/*. You may also contact the Rules and Regulations Group, Policy Directorate, Federal Aviation Administration, 600 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20597; Telephone: (202) 267–8783.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marc Ellerbee, Operations Support Group, Eastern Service Center, Federal Aviation Administration, 1701 Columbia Avenue, College Park, GA 30337; Telephone: (404) 305–5589.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority for This Rulemaking

The FAA's authority to issue rules regarding aviation safety is found in Title 49 of the United States Code. Subtitle I, Section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII, Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the agency's authority. This rulemaking is promulgated under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart I, Section 40103. Under that section, the FAA is charged with prescribing regulations to assign the use of the airspace necessary to ensure the safety of aircraft and the efficient use of airspace. This regulation is within the scope of that authority as it amends the legal description for Class D and Class E4 airspace extending upward from the surface at Essex County Airport, Caldwell, NJ.

Incorporation by Reference

Class D and Class E4 airspace designations are published in paragraphs 5000 and 6004 of FAA Order JO 7400.11, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, which is incorporated by reference in 14 CFR 71.1 on an annual basis. This document amends the current version of that order, FAA Order JO 7400.11K, dated August 4, 2025, and effective September 15, 2025. These amendments will be published in the next update to FAA Order JO 7400.11. FAA Order JO 7400.11K, which lists Class A, B, C, D, and E airspace areas, air traffic service routes, and reporting points, is publicly available as listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this document.

The Rule

An airspace review revealed that administrative updates were needed for both the geographic coordinates and the FAA publication referenced in both the Class D and Class E4 airspace legal descriptions at Essex County Airport, Caldwell, NJ. Accordingly, this action amends 14 CFR part 71 by updating the airport's geographic coordinates, specifically by changing the latitude from 40°52′30″ N to 40°52′31″ N, which is a one second difference. Additionally, this action amends 14 CFR part 71 by replacing ''Airport/Facility Directory'' with ''Chart Supplement'' to comply with current FAA policy.

Good Cause for Bypassing Notice and Comment

The Administrative Procedure Act (APA) authorizes agencies to dispense with ordinary notice and comment requirements for rules when the agency for ''good cause'' finds that those procedures are ''impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.'' 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B). Under this section, an agency, upon finding good cause, may issue a final rule without first publishing a proposed rule subject to public notice and comment. This rule only involves administrative changes, including the update of the airport's geographic coordinates to change the latitude by one second, and replacing the outdated ''Airport/Facility Directory'' term with ''Chart Supplement.'' This amendment will not impose any additional or amended substantive restrictions or requirements on the persons affected by these regulations as it does not affect the airspace boundaries or operating requirements. The changes are ministerial in nature only.

This action constitutes ''a routine determination, insignificant in nature and impact, and inconsequential to the industry and to the public.'' *Mack Trucks, Inc.* v. *EPA,* 682 F.3d 87, 94 (D.C. Cir. 2012) (quoting *Util. Solid Waste Activities Grp.* v. *EPA,* 236 F.3d 749, 755 (D.C. Cir. 2001)); see also Attorney General's Manual on the Administrative Procedure Act (1947), at 31; U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Order 2100.6B, paragraph 11.j(1)(b) (saying proposed rules are not required for ''[r]ules for which notice and comment is unnecessary to inform the rulemaking, such as rules correcting de minimis technical or clerical errors or rules addressing other minor and insubstantial matters, provided the reasons to forgo public comment are explained in the preamble to the final rule''.). Accordingly, the FAA finds good cause that notice and public comment under 5 U.S.C. 553(b) is unnecessary.

Regulatory Notices and Analyses

The FAA has determined that this regulation only involves an established body of technical regulations for which frequent and routine amendments are necessary to keep them operationally current. It, therefore: (1) is not a ''significant regulatory action'' under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a ''significant rule'' under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034; February 26, 1979); and (3) does not warrant preparation of a regulatory evaluation as the anticipated impact is so minimal. Since this is a routine matter that only affects air traffic procedures and air navigation, it is certified that this rule, when promulgated, does not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Environmental Review

The FAA has determined that this action qualifies for categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act in accordance with FAA Order 1050.1G, ''FAA National Environmental Policy Act Implementing

Procedures'' paragraph B–2.5(a). This airspace action is not expected to cause any potentially significant environmental impacts, and no extraordinary circumstances exist that warrant the preparation of an environmental assessment.

Lists of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 71

Airspace, Incorporation by reference, Navigation (air).

The Amendment

In consideration of the foregoing, the Federal Aviation Administration amends 14 CFR part 71 as follows:

PART 71—DESIGNATION OF CLASS A, B, C, D, AND E AIRSPACE AREAS; AIR TRAFFIC SERVICE ROUTES; AND REPORTING POINTS

■ 1. The authority citation for 14 CFR part 71 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(f), 106(g), 40103, 40113, 40120; E.O. 10854, 24 FR 9565, 3 CFR, 1959–1963 Comp., p.389.

§ 71.1 [Amended]

■ 2. The incorporation by reference in 14 CFR 71.1 of Federal Aviation Administration Order JO 7400.11K, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated August 4, 2025, and effective September 15, 2025, is amended as follows:

Paragraph 5000 Class D Airspace.

* * * * *

AEA NJ D Caldwell, NJ [Amended]

Essex County Airport, NJ
(Lat. 40°52′31″ N, long. 74°16′53″ W)

That airspace extending upward from the surface up to and including 2,700 feet MSL within a 4.1-mile radius of Essex County Airport, excluding the portion that coincides with Morristown, NJ Class D airspace area. This Class D airspace area is effective during specific dates and times established in advance by a Notice to Airmen. The effective date and time will thereafter be continuously published in the Chart Supplement.

* * * * *

Paragraph 6004 Class E Airspace Areas Designated as an Extension to a Class D or Class E Surface Area.

* * * * *

AEA NJ E4 Caldwell, NJ [Amended]

Essex County Airport, NJ
(Lat. 40°52′31″ N, long. 74°16′53″ W)

That airspace extending upward from the surface within 2 miles each side of a 030° bearing from the Essex County Airport, extending from the 4.1-mile radius of the airport to 7 miles northeast of the airport. This Class E airspace area is effective during the specific dates and times established in advance by a Notice to Airmen. The effective date and time will thereafter be continuously published in the Chart Supplement.

* * * * *

Issued in College Park, Georgia, on March 24, 2026.

Patrick Young,

Manager, Airspace & Procedures Team North, Eastern Service Center, Air Traffic Organization.

[FR Doc. 2026–05859 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 271

[EPA–R04–RCRA–2025–1577; FRL–13183–02–R4]

Florida: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final action.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is taking direct final action on the authorization of changes to Florida's hazardous waste program under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), as amended. These changes were outlined in a September 1, 2023, application to the EPA. We have determined that these changes satisfy all requirements needed for final authorization.

DATES: This authorization is effective on May 26, 2026 without further notice unless the EPA receives adverse comment by April 27, 2026. If the EPA receives adverse comment, we will either publish a timely withdrawal of this direct final action in the **Federal Register** informing the public the authorization will not take effect, or we will publish a notification containing a response to comments that either reverses the decision or affirms the final action will take effect. In the event the final action is withdrawn, we will address all public comments and make a final decision on authorization in a subsequent final action.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–R04–RCRA–2025–1577, at *https://www.regulations.gov*. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from *www.regulations.gov*. The EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, *etc.*) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.,* on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). For additional submission methods, the full EPA public comment policy, information about CBI or multimedia submissions, and general guidance on making effective comments, please visit *https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets*.

The EPA encourages electronic submittals and lists all publicly available docket materials electronically at *www.regulations.gov*. If you are unable to make electronic submittals or require alternative access to docket materials, please notify Leah Davis through the provided contacts in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. Please also contact Leah Davis if you need assistance in a language other than English or if you are a person with disabilities who needs a reasonable accommodation at no cost to you.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leah Davis; RCRA Programs and Cleanup Branch; Land, Chemicals and Redevelopment Division; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Atlanta Federal Center, 61 Forsyth Street SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303–8960; telephone number: (404) 562–8562; fax number: (404) 562–9964; email address: *davis.leah@epa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Why is the EPA using a direct final action?

The EPA is publishing this action without a prior proposed rule because we view this as a noncontroversial action and anticipate no adverse comment. This action is a routine program change. However, in the ''Proposed Rules'' section of this issue of the **Federal Register**, we are publishing a separate document that will serve as the proposed rule allowing the public an opportunity to comment. We will not institute a second comment period on this action. Any parties interested in commenting must do so at this time. For further information about commenting on this action, see the **ADDRESSES** section of this document.

If the EPA receives adverse comments, we will either withdraw this action by publishing a document in the **Federal Register** before the action

becomes effective, or we will publish a notice containing a response to comments that either reverses the decision or affirms the final action will take effect. In the event the final action is withdrawn, the EPA would base any further decision on the authorization of the State's program changes on the proposal mentioned in the previous paragraph and after consideration of all comments received during the comment period. We would then address all public comments and make a final decision on authorization in a subsequent final action.

II. Why are revisions to State programs necessary?

States that have received final authorization from the EPA under RCRA section 3006(b), 42 U.S.C. 6926(b), must maintain a hazardous waste program that is equivalent to, consistent with, and no less stringent than the Federal program. As the Federal program changes, States must change their programs and ask the EPA to authorize the changes. Changes to State programs may be necessary when Federal or State statutory or regulatory authority is modified or when certain other changes occur. Most commonly, States must change their programs because of changes to the EPA's regulations in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), parts 124, 260 through 268, 270, 273, and 279.

New Federal requirements and prohibitions imposed by Federal regulations that the EPA promulgates pursuant to the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 (HSWA) take effect in authorized States at the same time they take effect in unauthorized States. Thus, the EPA shall have the authority to implement those requirements and prohibitions in Florida, including the issuance of new permits implementing those requirements, until the State is granted authorization to do so.

III. What decisions has the EPA made in this action?

Florida submitted a complete program revision application (PRA), dated September 1, 2023, seeking authorization of changes to its hazardous waste program corresponding to certain Federal rules promulgated between July 1, 1999 and June 30, 2022 (including RCRA Cluster [1] X (Checklist [2] 181), and RCRA Cluster XXX (Checklist 244)). In Florida's PRA, the State notified the EPA that Section 403.73, Florida Statutes, had expired. Florida stated that Section 119.0715, Florida Statutes, now demonstrates the State's required authority to share information with the EPA pursuant to 40 CFR 271.17. The EPA concludes that Florida's application to revise its authorized program meets all the statutory and regulatory requirements established under RCRA, as set forth in RCRA section 3006(b), 42 U.S.C. 6926(b), and 40 CFR part 271. Therefore, the EPA grants Florida final authorization to operate its hazardous waste program with the changes described in the PRA, and as outlined below in section VI of this document.

Florida has responsibility for permitting treatment, storage, and disposal facilities within its borders (except in Indian country, as defined at 18 U.S.C. 1151) and for carrying out the aspects of the RCRA program described in its PRA, subject to the limitations of HSWA, as discussed above.

IV. What is the effect of this authorization decision?

The effect of this decision is that changes described in Florida's PRA as outlined below and in section VI of this document will become part of the authorized State hazardous waste program and will therefore be federally enforceable. Florida will continue to have primary enforcement authority and responsibility for its State hazardous waste program. The EPA will maintain its authorities under RCRA sections 3007, 3008, 3013, and 7003, including its authority to:

- Conduct inspections, and require monitoring, tests, analyses, and reports;
- Enforce RCRA requirements, including authorized State program requirements, and suspend or revoke permits; and
- Take enforcement actions regardless of whether the State has taken its own actions.

This action does not impose additional requirements on the regulated community because the regulations for which the EPA is authorizing Florida are already effective under State law and are not changed by this action.

V. What has Florida previously been authorized for?

Florida initially received final authorization on January 29, 1985, effective February 12, 1985 (50 FR 3908), to implement the RCRA hazardous waste management program. The EPA granted authorization for changes to Florida's program on the following dates: December 1, 1987, effective March 3, 1988 (52 FR 45634); December 16, 1988, effective January 3, 1989 (53 FR 50529); December 14, 1990, effective February 12, 1991 (55 FR 51416); February 5, 1992, effective April 6, 1992 (57 FR 4371); February 7, 1992, effective April 7, 1992 (57 FR 4738); May 20, 1992, effective July 20, 1992 (57 FR 21351); November 9, 1993, effective January 10, 1994 (58 FR 59367); July 11, 1994, effective September 9, 1994 (59 FR 35266); April 16, 1994, effective October 17, 1994 (59 FR 41979); October 26, 1994, effective December 27, 1994 (59 FR 53753); April 1, 1997, effective June 2, 1997 (62 FR 15407); January 20, 1998, effective March 23, 1998 (63 FR 2896); September 18, 2000, effective November 18, 2000 (65 FR 56256); August 23, 2001, effective October 22, 2001 (66 FR 44307); August 20, 2002, effective October 21, 2002 (67 FR 53886 and 67 FR 53889); October 14, 2004, effective December 13, 2004 (69 FR 60964); August 10, 2007, effective October 9, 2007 (72 FR 44973); February 7, 2011, effective April 8, 2011 (76 FR 6564); October 8, 2014, effective December 8, 2014 (79 FR 60756); February 22, 2019, effective May 10, 2019 (84 FR 5650 and 84 FR 20549); February 25, 2020, effective June 1, 2020 (85 FR 33026); and September 6, 2022, effective November 7, 2022 (87 FR 54398). The authorized Florida program, through RCRA Cluster IV, was incorporated by reference into the CFR on January 20, 1988, effective March 23, 1998 (63 FR 2896).

VI. What changes is the EPA authorizing with this action?

Florida submitted a complete PRA, dated September 1, 2023, seeking authorization of changes to its hazardous waste management program in accordance with 40 CFR 271.21. This application included changes associated with Checklist 181 from RCRA Cluster X and Checklist 244 from RCRA Cluster XXX. The EPA has determined, subject to receipt of written comments that oppose this action, that Florida's hazardous waste program revisions are equivalent to, consistent with, and no less stringent than the Federal program, and therefore satisfy all the requirements necessary to qualify for final authorization. Therefore, the EPA grants final authorization to Florida for the following program changes:

[1] A ''cluster'' is a grouping of hazardous waste rules that the EPA promulgates from July 1st of one year to June 30th of the following year.

[2] A ''checklist'' is developed by the EPA for each Federal rule amending the RCRA regulations. The checklists document the changes made by each Federal rule and are presented and numbered in chronological order by date of promulgation.

TABLE 1

Description of Federal requirement	**Federal Register** date and page	Analogous state authority [1]
Checklist 181, Universal Waste Rule: Specific Provisions for Hazardous Waste Lamps [2].	64 FR 36466, 7/6/1999	62–730.020(1)–(2); 62–730.030(1); 62–730.180(1)–(2); 62–730.183; 62–730.220(1); 62–730.185(1); F.S. 403.7186.
Checklist 244, Canada Import Export Recovery and Disposal Code Changes.	86 FR 54381, 10/1/2021	62–730.160(1); 62–730.180(1)–(2).

Notes:

[1] The Florida regulatory provisions are from the Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) 62–730, effective April 21, 2023. The Florida statutory provisions are from the Florida Statutes Chapter 403, effective July 1, 2020.

[2] In 1995, Florida added hazardous waste lamps as a category of universal waste in F.A.C. 62–737. In 1999, the EPA added hazardous waste lamps as a category of universal waste at the Federal level in 40 CFR part 273 (64 FR 36466). Florida incorporates by reference all of 40 CFR part 273. Therefore, for completeness, the EPA is authorizing Florida for Checklist 181.

VII. Where are the revised State rules different than the Federal rules?

When revised State rules differ from the Federal rules in the RCRA state authorization process, the EPA determines whether the State rules are equivalent to, more stringent than, or broader in scope than the Federal program. Pursuant to RCRA section 3009, 42 U.S.C. 6929, State programs may contain requirements that are more stringent than the Federal regulations. Such more stringent requirements can be federally authorized and, once authorized, become federally enforceable. Although the statute does not prevent States from adopting regulations that are broader in scope than the Federal program, States cannot receive Federal authorization for such regulations, and they are not federally enforceable.

The EPA has determined that there are no regulations included in Florida's program revisions listed in Table 1 above that are more stringent or broader in scope than the Federal program.

Because of the Federal Government's special role in matters of foreign policy, the EPA does not authorize States to administer the Federal import/export functions associated with the Canada Import Export Recovery and Disposal Code Changes Rule (Checklist 244). Although Florida has adopted these regulations to maintain its equivalency with the Federal program, it has appropriately maintained the Federal references in order to reserve the EPA's authority to implement these non-delegable provisions (see F.A.C. 62–730.020(3)(b)).

VIII. Who handles permits after the authorization takes effect?

When final authorization takes effect, Florida will issue permits for all the provisions for which it is authorized and will administer the permits it issues. The EPA will continue to administer any RCRA hazardous waste permits or portions of permits that the EPA issued prior to the effective date of authorization until they expire or are terminated. The EPA will not issue any new permits or new portions of permits for the provisions listed in the table above after the effective date of the final authorization. The EPA will continue to implement and issue permits for HSWA requirements for which Florida is not yet authorized. The EPA has the authority to enforce State-issued permits after the State is authorized.

IX. How does today's action affect Indian country in Florida?

Florida is not authorized to carry out its hazardous waste program in Indian country within the State, which includes the lands associated with the Seminole and Miccosukee tribes. Therefore, this action has no effect on Indian Country. The EPA retains jurisdiction over Indian country and will continue to implement and administer the RCRA program on these lands.

X. What is codification and is the EPA codifying Florida's hazardous waste program as authorized in this action?

Codification is the process of placing citations and references to the State's statutes and regulations that comprise the State's authorized hazardous waste program into the Code of Federal Regulations. The EPA does this by adding those citations and references to the authorized State rules in 40 CFR part 272. The EPA is not codifying the authorization of Florida's revisions at this time. However, the EPA reserves the ability to amend 40 CFR part 272, subpart K, for the authorization of Florida's program changes at a later date.

XI. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

This action is not a significant regulatory action subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under Executive Orders 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993) and 13563 (76 FR 3821, January 21, 2011). This action authorizes State requirements for the purpose of RCRA section 3006 and imposes no additional requirements beyond those imposed by State law. Therefore, this action is not subject to review by OMB. This action is not subject to Executive Order 14192 (90 FR 9065, February 6, 2025) because actions such as the authorization of Florida's revised hazardous waste program under RCRA are exempt from review under Executive Order 12866. Accordingly, I certify that this action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*). Because this action authorizes pre-existing requirements under State law and does not impose any additional enforceable duty beyond that required by State law, it does not contain any unfunded mandate or significantly or uniquely affect small governments, as described in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1531–1538). For the same reason, this action also does not significantly or uniquely affect the communities of Tribal governments, as specified by Executive Order 13175 (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000). This action will not have substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the National Government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government, as specified in Executive Order 13132 (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999), because it merely authorizes State requirements as part of the State RCRA hazardous waste program without altering the relationship or the distribution of power and responsibilities established by RCRA. This action also is not subject to Executive Order 13045 (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997), because it is not economically significant and it does not make decisions based on environmental health or safety risks. This action is not

subject to Executive Order 13211, ''Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use'' (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001), because it is not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866.

Under RCRA section 3006(b), the EPA grants a state's application for authorization as long as the state meets the criteria required by RCRA. It would thus be inconsistent with applicable law for the EPA, when it reviews a state authorization application, to require the use of any particular voluntary consensus standard in place of another standard that otherwise satisfies the requirements of RCRA. Thus, the requirements of section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. 272 note) do not apply. As required by section 3 of Executive Order 12988 (61 FR 4729, February 7, 1996), in issuing this rule, the EPA has taken the necessary steps to eliminate drafting errors and ambiguity, minimize potential litigation, and provide a clear legal standard for affected conduct. The EPA has complied with Executive Order 12630 (53 FR 8859, March 15, 1988), by examining the takings implications of this action in accordance with the ''Attorney General's Supplemental Guidelines for the Evaluation of Risk and Avoidance of Unanticipated Takings'' issued under the executive order. This action does not impose an information collection burden under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*). ''Burden'' is defined at 5 CFR 1320.3(b).

The Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.,* as added by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, generally provides that before a rule may take effect, the agency promulgating the rule must submit a rule report, which includes a copy of the rule, to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. The EPA will submit a report containing this document and other required information to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Comptroller General of the United States prior to publication in the **Federal Register**. A major rule cannot take effect until 60 days after it is published in the **Federal Register**. This action is not a ''major rule'' as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2). This final action will be effective May 26, 2026.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 271

Environmental protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Confidential business information, Hazardous waste, Hazardous waste transportation, Incorporation by reference, Indian lands, Intergovernmental relations, Penalties, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Authority: This action is issued under the authority of sections 2002(a), 3006, and 7004(b) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act as amended, 42 U.S.C. 6912(a), 6926, and 6974(b).

Dated: March 9, 2026.

Kevin J. McOmber,

Regional Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2026–05862 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 622

[Docket No. 231101–0256]

RTID 0648–XF558

Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic; 2026 Recreational Season Announcement and Closure Date for Golden Tilefish in the South Atlantic

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Temporary rule; closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the closure date of the 2026 recreational fishing season for golden tilefish in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of the South Atlantic. The 2026 recreational fishing season for golden tilefish in the South Atlantic EEZ is closed starting on March 27, 2026. This closure is necessary to prevent recreational landings of golden tilefish in the South Atlantic EEZ from exceeding the recreational annual catch limit (ACL) and to protect the golden tilefish resource from overfishing.

DATES: This closure is effective from March 27 through December 31, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karla Gore, NMFS Southeast Regional Office, telephone: 727–824–5305, email: *karla.gore@noaa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The snapper-grouper fishery of the South Atlantic includes golden tilefish and is managed under the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region (FMP). The FMP was prepared by NMFS and the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, and is implemented by NMFS under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) by regulations at 50 CFR part 622.

Regulations at 50 CFR 622.193(a)(2) specify the 2026 recreational ACL for golden tilefish at 2,741 fish and the recreational AMs. The recreational AMs state, in part, that NMFS will project the length of the recreational fishing season for golden tilefish based on catch rates from the previous fishing year and annually announce the end date of the recreational season [50 CFR 622.193(a)(2)]. The fishing year and season for recreational harvest of golden tilefish started on January 1, 2026. Data from the NMFS Southeast Fisheries Science Center informed NMFS' projection that recreational landings will reach the recreational ACL for 2026 by March 27. Therefore, NMFS announces that the last day of the recreational season for golden tilefish is March 26, 2026. The 2026 recreational fishing season for golden tilefish in the South Atlantic EEZ is closed starting on March 27, 2026, and continues to be closed through the end of the calendar year. During the recreational closure, the bag and possession limits for golden tilefish in or from the South Atlantic EEZ are zero. The next recreational fishing season for golden tilefish begins on January 1, 2027.

Classification

NMFS issues this action pursuant to section 305(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. This action is required by 50 CFR 622.193(a)(2), which was issued pursuant to section 304(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), there is good cause to waive prior notice and an opportunity for public comment on this action, as notice and comment are unnecessary and contrary to the public interest. Such procedures are unnecessary because the rule that established the recreational ACL and AMs for golden tilefish has already been subject to notice and comment, and all that remains is to notify the public of the end date of the recreational season. Such procedures are contrary to the public interest because of the need to immediately implement this action to prevent overfishing of the golden tilefish stock. The recreational ACL will soon be reached and prior notice and opportunity for public comment would require additional time, potentially resulting in a harvest well in excess of the established ACL.

For the reasons just stated, there is also good cause to waive the 30-day delay in the effectiveness of this action under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3).

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: March 23, 2026.

David R. Blankinship,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2026–05873 Filed 3–24–26; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 260305–0066 and 260305–0067]

RTID 0648–XF542

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Sablefish Managed Under the Individual Fishing Quota Program

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Temporary rule; opening.

SUMMARY: NMFS is opening directed fishing for sablefish with fixed gear managed under the Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Program and the Community Development Quota (CDQ) Program. The season will open at 1200 hours, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), March 26, 2026, and will close at 1200 hours, A.l.t., December 7, 2026. These dates are the same as the 2026 commercial halibut fishery dates adopted by the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC), except the hours are not the same. The IFQ and CDQ halibut season dates are specified by a separate publication in the **Federal Register** of annual management measures, which should be referenced for the halibut-specific opening and closure times.

DATES: Effective 1200 hours, A.l.t., March 26, 2026, until 1200 hours, A.l.t., December 7, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew Olson, 907–586–7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Beginning in 1995, fishing for Pacific halibut and sablefish with fixed gear in the IFQ regulatory areas defined in 50 CFR 679.2 has been managed under the IFQ Program. The IFQ Program is a regulatory regime designed to promote the conservation and management of these fisheries and to further the objectives of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) and the Northern Pacific Halibut Act. Persons holding quota share receive an annual allocation of IFQ. Persons receiving an annual allocation of IFQ are authorized to harvest IFQ species within specified limitations. Further information on the implementation of the IFQ Program, and the rationale supporting it, are contained in the preamble to the final rule implementing the IFQ Program published in the **Federal Register**, November 9, 1993 (58 FR 59375) and subsequent amendments.

Directed fishing for sablefish using fixed gear in any IFQ regulatory area is authorized only during the period specified by the Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Administrator), who must take into account the opening date of the halibut season when determining the opening date for sablefish for the purposes of reducing bycatch and regulatory discards between the two fisheries (50 CFR 679.23(g)(1)). This announcement is consistent with and required by § 679.23(g)(1), which requires that the directed fishing season for sablefish managed under the IFQ Program be specified by the Regional Administrator and announced by publication in the **Federal Register**. Fishing for CDQ sablefish with fixed gear under an approved CDQ allocation may occur only during the IFQ fishing season specified pursuant to § 679.23(e)(4)(ii) and (g)(1).

These season dates for sablefish IFQ and CDQ fishing facilitate coordination between the sablefish season, chosen by the Regional Administrator, and the halibut season, adopted by the IPHC. The directed fishing season for sablefish with fixed gear managed under the IFQ Program will open 1200 hours, A.l.t., March 26, 2026, and will close 1200 hours, A.l.t., December 7, 2026. This period runs concurrently with the IFQ season for Pacific halibut announced by the IPHC, except the hours are not the same. The IFQ and CDQ halibut season will be specified by a separate publication in the **Federal Register** of annual management measures pursuant to 50 CFR 300.62.

There is a difference in the time of day for opening and closing the halibut IFQ and CDQ commercial fishery and the Alaska sablefish IFQ and CDQ commercial fishery. IPHC regulations open the halibut IFQ and CDQ fishery at 0600 hours, A.l.t., on March 26, 2026, and NMFS will open the Alaska sablefish IFQ and CDQ fishery at 1200 hours, A.l.t., on March 26, 2026, pursuant to regulations that require that the time of all openings and closures of fishing seasons, other than the beginning and end of the calendar fishing year, is 1200 hours, A.l.t. (§ 679.23(b)). Therefore, if gear is deployed to fish for halibut in the commercial fishery off Alaska before 1200 hours, A.l.t., on March 26, 2026, then IFQ or CDQ sablefish caught from that deployment may not be retained. If a vessel operator holds both halibut IFQ or CDQ and sablefish IFQ or CDQ, and the operator intends to retain sablefish on March 26, then the vessel should deploy its commercial fishing gear after 1200 hours, A.l.t.

IPHC regulations close the halibut IFQ and CDQ fishery at 2359 hours, A.l.t., on December 7, 2026, and NMFS will close the Alaska sablefish IFQ and CDQ fishery at 1200 hours, A.l.t., on December 7, 2026 (§ 679.23(b)). Therefore, if gear is deployed to fish for halibut in the commercial fishery off Alaska after 1200 hours, A.l.t., on December 7, 2026, then IFQ and CDQ sablefish caught from that deployment may only be retained up to the Maximum Retainable Amount (MRA), except for catch of sablefish with longline pot gear in the Gulf of Alaska (§ 679.23(g)(2)) which must be treated as a prohibited species. If an individual aboard a vessel holds both unused halibut IFQ or CDQ and sablefish IFQ or CDQ, and the operator intends to retain sablefish on December 7, 2026, after 1200 hours, A.l.t., then the vessel may only retain IFQ or CDQ sablefish in accordance with the MRA regulations at 50 CFR 679.20(e).

Classification

NMFS issues this action pursuant to section 305(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. This action is required by 50 CFR part 679, which was issued pursuant to section 304(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), there is good cause to waive prior notice and an opportunity for public comment on this action, as notice and comment would be impracticable and contrary to the public interest, as it would delay the opening of the sablefish fishery thereby preventing holders of sablefish IFQ and CDQ from participating in the Alaska sablefish IFQ and CDQ fishery, increasing bycatch and regulatory discards between the sablefish fishery and the halibut fishery, and preventing the accomplishment of the management objective for simultaneous opening of these two fisheries that are managed under the same IFQ Program. NMFS was unable to publish a notice providing time for public comment

because the relevant information for opening the Alaska sablefish IFQ and CDQ fishery only became available as of March 23, 2026. In addition, NMFS developed this action to open the Alaska sablefish IFQ and CDQ fishery concurrently with the halibut IFQ and CDQ fishery as quickly as possible given the other rulemakings necessary to provide notice of the harvest limits, allocations, and halibut season dates for the fisheries.

There is good cause under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3) to establish an effective date less than 30 days after date of publication. This finding is based upon the reasons provided above for waiver of prior notice and opportunity for public comment.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: March 23, 2026.

David R. Blankinship,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2026–05858 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

Proposed Rules

Federal Register
Vol. 91, No. 58
Thursday, March 26, 2026

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

5 CFR Part 430

[Docket ID OPM–2025–0273]

RIN 3206–AP06

Performance Appraisal for General Schedule, Prevailing Rate, and Certain Other Employees; Correction

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Proposed rule; correction.

SUMMARY: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is correcting a proposed rule that published in the February 24, 2026, issue of the **Federal Register**. The proposed rule contained missing FR citation information, and this corrects that error.

DATES: This correction is effective on March 26, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Noah Peters, Senior Advisor to the Director, by email at *employeeaccountability@opm.gov* or by phone at (202) 606–2930.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the proposed rule ''Performance Appraisal for General Schedule, Prevailing Rate, and Certain Other Employees'' (Document Number 2026–03619), published at 91 FR 8780 on February 24, 2026, within the ''Conforming Amendments'' paragraph on page 8787, in the third column, the FR citation ''90 FR xxxxx (MM, DD, YYYY)'' is corrected to read ''91 FR 10904 (March 5, 2026)''.

This correction of the proposed rule provides readers with complete information that was missing from the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** of the proposed rule. Therefore, OPM has determined, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(3)(B), that prior notice and opportunity for public comment is unnecessary. Public comment could not inform this process in any meaningful way. We have further determined that, under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the agency has good cause to make this correction effective upon publication.

Regulatory Review

OPM has examined the impact of this rule as required by Executive Orders 12866 and 13563, which direct agencies to assess all costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public, health, and safety effects, distributive impacts, and equity). A regulatory impact analysis must be prepared for rules that have an annual effect on the economy of $100 million or more or adversely affect in a material way the economy, a sector of the economy, productivity, competition, jobs, the environment, public health or safety, or State, local, or tribal governments or communities. This final rule is not a ''significant regulatory action'' under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, as supplemented by Executive Order 13563. Therefore, this rule is not subject to Executive Order 14192.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Director of the Office of Personnel Management certifies that this regulation will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities because it applies only to Federal agencies and employees.

Federalism

This rule will not have substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the National Government and the States, or on distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. Therefore, in accordance with Executive Order 13132, it is determined that this rule does not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

Civil Justice Reform

This rule meets the applicable standard set forth in section 3(a) and (b)(2) of Executive Order 12988.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995

Section 202 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA) requires that agencies assess anticipated costs and benefits before issuing any rule that would impose spending costs on State, local, or tribal governments in the aggregate, or on the private sector, in any 1 year of $100 million in 1995 dollars, updated annually for inflation. That threshold is currently approximately $206 million. This rulemaking will not result in the expenditure by State, local, or tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, in excess of the threshold. Thus, no written assessment of unfunded mandates is required.

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3521)

The Paperwork Reduction Act, Public Law 96–511, does not apply to this rule.

Signing Statement

The Director of OPM, Scott Kupor, reviewed and approved this document and has authorized the undersigned to electronically sign and submit this document to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Office of Personnel Management.

Jerson Matias,

Federal Register Liaison.

[FR Doc. 2026–05857 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325–39–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2026–2725; Project Identifier AD–2025–00999–T]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: The FAA proposes to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) certain The Boeing Company Model 737–700, –700C, –800, and –900ER series airplanes. This proposed AD was prompted by a leak through the form-in-place (FiP) gasket at the engine fuel shutoff valve access panel found during a leak check. This proposed AD would require a detailed inspection of the left and right side FiP gasket at the engine

fuel shutoff valve access panel, for correct sealant installation, a fluid leak test of the engine fuel shutoff valve access panels for any leak, and applicable on-condition actions. The FAA is proposing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: The FAA must receive comments on this proposed AD by May 11, 2026.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, using the procedures found in 14 CFR 11.43 and 11.45, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to *regulations.gov*. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202–493–2251.
- *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2026–2725; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this NPRM, any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations is listed above.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For Boeing material identified in this proposed AD, contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Attention: Contractual & Data Services (C&DS), 2600 Westminster Blvd., MC 110–SK57, Seal Beach, CA 90740–5600; telephone 562–797–1717; website *myboeingfleet.com*.
- You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195. It is also available at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2026–2725.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Erica Bayles, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA 98198; phone: 907–271–5844; email: *erica.e.bayles@faa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

The FAA invites you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposal. Send your comments using a method listed under the **ADDRESSES** section. Include ''Docket No. FAA–2026–2725; Project Identifier AD–2025–00999–T'' at the beginning of your comments. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the proposal, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. The FAA will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this proposal because of those comments.

Except for Confidential Business Information (CBI) as described in the following paragraph, and other information as described in 14 CFR 11.35, the FAA will post all comments received, without change, to *regulations.gov*, including any personal information you provide. The agency will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact received about this NPRM.

Confidential Business Information

CBI is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this NPRM contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this NPRM, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as ''PROPIN.'' The FAA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA, and they will not be placed in the public docket of this NPRM. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Erica Bayles, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA 98198; phone: 907–271–5844; email: *erica.e.bayles@faa.gov.* Any commentary that the FAA receives that is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

Background

The FAA has received a report indicating a leak through the FiP gasket at the engine fuel shutoff valve access panel was found during a leak check, completed as part of a non-conformance disposition for the Boeing Company Model 737–8, 737–9, and 737–8200 airplanes. An investigation found that the fairing requirements of the engine fuel shutoff valve access panel caused thin regions of the FiP gasket. This caused the manufacturer to apply non-permitted sealant after the initial FiP gasket had cured, which resulted in an uneven sealing surface on the engine fuel shutoff valve access panel and leak. Non-conforming FiP gasket installations may compromise the designated drainage provision in the wing leading edge area. This condition, if not addressed, could result in fuel leaking onto the engine exhaust nozzle and a consequent fire on the ground.

Boeing determined that Model 737–700, –700C, –800, and –900ER series airplanes are also subject to the identified unsafe condition due to design similarity of the FiP gasket. The FAA is considering separate rulemaking for the affected Boeing Company Model 737–8, 737–9, and 737–8200 airplanes.

FAA's Determination

The FAA is issuing this NPRM after determining that the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop on other products of the same type design.

Material Incorporated by Reference Under 1 CFR Part 51

The FAA reviewed Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 737–57A1359 RB, dated October 3, 2025. This material specifies procedures for a detailed inspection of the FiP gasket at the engine fuel shutoff valve access panel of the left and right side wing for correct sealant installation, a fluid leak test of the engine fuel shutoff valve access panels for any leak, and applicable on-condition actions. On-condition actions include replacing the FiP gasket, repairing any leaks, and repeating the leak test until no leak is found.

This material is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in the **ADDRESSES** section.

Proposed AD Requirements in This NPRM

This proposed AD would require accomplishing the actions specified in the material already described, except as discussed under ''Differences Between this Proposed AD and the Referenced Material,'' and except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this proposed AD. For information on the procedures and compliance times, see this material at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA–2026–2725.

Differences Between This Proposed AD and the Referenced Material

Since Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 737–57A1359 RB, dated October 3, 2025, was issued, the FAA has determined more airplanes are affected by the unsafe condition. The line numbers affected are 2438 through 2598 inclusive, 2600 through 2721 inclusive, 2723 through 2813 inclusive, 2815 through 2930 inclusive, 2932

through 3068 inclusive, 3070 through 3323 inclusive, 3325 through 3425 inclusive, 3427 through 3521 inclusive, 3523 through 3611 inclusive, 3613 through 3701 inclusive, 3703 through 3791 inclusive, and 3793 through 3833 inclusive. The FAA has added these lines numbers to the applicability in paragraph (c) of this proposed AD.

Where Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 737–57A1359 RB, dated October 3, 2025, specifies to do applicable on-condition corrective actions if any leak is found, for this proposed AD, if any leak is found the FiP gasket must be replaced. The FAA has added exceptions in paragraphs (h)(2) through (4) of this proposed AD accordingly.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD, if adopted as proposed, would affect 1,030 airplanes of U.S. registry. The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this proposed AD:

ESTIMATED COSTS

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
Inspection	1 work-hour × $85 per hour = $85	$0	$85	$87,550
Leak test	1 work-hour × $85 per hour = $85	0	85	87,550

The FAA estimates the following costs to do any necessary replacements that would be required based on the results of the proposed inspection. The agency has no way of determining the number of aircraft that might need these replacements:

ON-CONDITION COSTS

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product
Replacement	2 work-hours × $85 per hour = $170	Negligible	$170

The FAA has received no definitive data on which to base the cost estimates for the on-condition repairs specified in this proposed AD.

The FAA has included all known costs in its cost estimate. According to the manufacturer, however, some or all of the costs of this proposed AD may be covered under warranty, thereby reducing the cost impact on affected operators.

Authority for This Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII: Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

The FAA is issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements. Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

Regulatory Findings

The FAA determined that this proposed AD would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This proposed AD would not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify this proposed regulation:

(1) Is not a ''significant regulatory action'' under Executive Order 12866,

(2) Would not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and

(3) Would not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

The Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA proposes to amend 14 CFR part 39 as follows:

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701.

§ 39.13 [Amended]

■ 2. The FAA amends § 39.13 by adding the following new airworthiness directive:

The Boeing Company: Docket No. FAA–2026–2725; Project Identifier AD–2025–00999–T.

(a) Comments Due Date

The FAA must receive comments on this airworthiness directive (AD) by May 11, 2026.

(b) Affected ADs

None.

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to The Boeing Company Model 737–700, –700C, –800, and –900ER series airplanes, certificated in any category, as identified in Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 737–57A1359 RB, dated October 3, 2025; and airplanes having line numbers 2438 through 2598 inclusive, 2600 through 2721 inclusive, 2723 through 2813 inclusive, 2815 through 2930 inclusive, 2932 through 3068 inclusive, 3070 through 3323 inclusive, 3325 through 3425 inclusive, 3427 through 3521 inclusive, 3523 through 3611 inclusive, 3613 through 3701 inclusive, 3703 through 3791 inclusive, and 3793 through 3833 inclusive.

(d) Subject

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 57, Wings.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by a leak through the form-in-place (FiP) gasket at the engine fuel shutoff valve access panel found during

a leak check. An investigation found that the fairing requirements of the engine fuel shutoff valve access panel caused thin regions of the FiP gasket, which caused non-permitted sealant to be applied after the initial FiP gasket had cured, resulting in an uneven sealing surface on the engine fuel shutoff valve access panel and leak. The FAA is issuing this AD to address incorrect or missing sealant installation. The unsafe condition, if not addressed, could result in fuel leaking onto the engine exhaust nozzle and a possible fire on the ground.

(f) Compliance

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

(g) Required Actions

Except as specified by paragraph (h) of this AD: At the applicable times specified in the ''Compliance'' paragraph of Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 737–57A1359 RB, dated October 3, 2025, do all applicable actions identified in, and in accordance with, the Accomplishment Instructions of Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 737–57A1359 RB, dated October 3, 2025.

Note 1 to paragraph (g): Guidance for accomplishing the actions required by this AD can be found in Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 737–57A1359, dated October 3, 2025, which is referred to in Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 737–57A1359 RB, dated October 3, 2025.

(h) Exceptions to Requirements Bulletin Specifications

(1) Where the Compliance Time columns of the tables in the ''Compliance'' paragraph of Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 737–57A1359 RB, dated October 3, 2025, refer to the original issue date of Requirements Bulletin 737–57A1359 RB, this AD requires using the effective date of this AD.

(2) Where Table 1 and Table 2 in the Compliance and Accomplishment Instructions paragraphs of Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 737–57A1359 RB, dated October 3, 2025, specifies ''Do a fluid leak test of the engine fuel shutoff valve access panel for any leak. If any leak is found, do all applicable on-condition corrective action(s) and repeat the leak test until no leak is found'', this AD requires replacing that text with ''Do a fluid leak test of the engine fuel shutoff valve access panel for any leak. If any leak is found, replace the FiP gasket and repeat the leak test until no leak is found''.

(3) Where step 4. b. of Appendix A in Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 737–57A1359 RB, dated October 3, 2025, specifies ''If any water leaks from the engine fuel shutoff valve access panel in less than two minutes, the fluid leak test has failed'', this AD requires replacing that text with ''If any water leaks from the engine fuel shutoff valve access panel in less than two minutes, the fluid leak test has failed. Replace the FiP gasket in accordance with Figure 3 and repeat the leak test until no leak is found''.

(4) Where step 4. b. of Appendix B in Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 737–57A1359 RB, dated October 3, 2025, specifies ''If any water leaks from the engine fuel shutoff valve access panel in less than two minutes, the fluid leak test has failed'', this AD requires replacing that text with ''If any water leaks from the engine fuel shutoff valve access panel in less than two minutes, the fluid leak test has failed. Replace the FiP gasket in accordance with Figure 4 and repeat the leak test until no leak is found''.

(i) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(1) The Manager, AIR–520, Continued Operational Safety Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or responsible Flight Standards Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the Continued Operational Safety Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (j) of this AD. Information may be emailed to: *AMOC@faa.gov.* Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the responsible Flight Standards Office.

(2) An AMOC that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used for any repair, modification, or alteration required by this AD if it is approved by The Boeing Company Organization Designation Authorization (ODA) that has been authorized by the Manager, AIR–520, Continued Operational Safety Branch, FAA, to make those findings. To be approved, the repair method, modification deviation, or alteration deviation must meet the certification basis of the airplane, and the approval must specifically refer to this AD.

(j) Additional Information

For more information about this AD, contact Erica Bayles, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA 98198; phone: 907–271–5844; email: *erica.e.bayles@faa.gov.*

(k) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of the material listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this material as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.

(i) Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 737–57A1359 RB, dated October 3, 2025.

(ii) [Reserved]

(3) For Boeing material identified in this AD, contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Attention: Contractual & Data Services (C&DS), 2600 Westminster Blvd., MC 110–SK57, Seal Beach, CA 90740–5600; telephone 562–797–1717; website *myboeingfleet.com.*

(4) You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195.

(5) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit *www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations* or email *fr.inspection@nara.gov.*

Issued on March 23, 2026.

Peter A. White,

Deputy Director, Integrated Certificate Management Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2026–05843 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

26 CFR Part 300

[REG–108673–25]

RIN 1545–BR56

Preparer Tax Identification Number (PTIN) User Fee Update; Hearing

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking; notice of hearing.

SUMMARY: This document provides a notice of public hearing on the notice of proposed rulemaking (REG–108673–25) published in the **Federal Register** on Tuesday, September 30, 2025. The notice of proposed rulemaking by cross-reference to the interim final regulations published in the **Federal Register** on Tuesday, September 30, 2025, proposed to amend the current regulations to reduce from $11 to $10 the amount of the user fee imposed on tax return preparers to apply for or renew a preparer tax identification number (PTIN) plus an amount payable directly to the third party contractor.

DATES: The hearing is scheduled to be held on April 24, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. ET. The IRS must receive speakers' outlines of the topics to be discussed by April 2, 2026. If no outlines are received by April 2, 2026, the hearing will be cancelled.

ADDRESSES: The hearing is being held in the Auditorium, at the Internal Revenue Service Building, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. Due to security procedures, visitors must enter at the Constitution Avenue entrance. In addition, all visitors must present a valid photo identification to enter the building. Because of access restrictions, visitors will not be admitted beyond the immediate entrance area more than 30 minutes before the hearing starts. Participants may alternatively testify or attend the hearing by telephone.

Send an outline of topic submission electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at *www.regulations.gov* (indicate IRS and REG–108673–25). Send paper

submissions to CC:PA:01:PR, (REG–108673–25), Room 5503, Internal Revenue Service, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Concerning the proposed regulations, Jamie Song, (202) 317–6845 (not a toll-free number); concerning submissions of requests to testify, attend, or to be placed on the building access list to attend the public hearing, the Publications and Regulations Section at (202) 317–6901 (not toll-free number) or by email at *publichearings@irs.gov* (preferred).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject of the hearing is the notice of proposed rulemaking (REG–108673–25) published in the **Federal Register** on Tuesday, September 30, 2025 (90 FR 46777).

The rules of 26 CFR 601.601(a)(3) apply to the hearing. Individuals who wish to testify at the hearing must submit an outline of the topics to be discussed and the time to be devoted to each topic by April 2, 2026. A period of 10 minutes will be allotted to each testimony.

An agenda showing the scheduling of the speakers will be prepared after the deadline for receiving outlines has passed. Copies of the agenda will be available at the hearing and via *www.regulations.gov* under the title of Supporting & Related Material. If no outline of the topics to be discussed is received by April 2, 2026, the hearing will be cancelled and a notice of cancellation of the public hearing will be published in the **Federal Register**.

Individuals who want to testify in person must send an email to *publichearings@irs.gov* to have their name added to the building access list. The subject line of the email must contain the regulation number (REG–108673–25) and the language ''TESTIFY In Person.'' For example, the subject line may say: Request to TESTIFY In Person at Hearing for REG–108673–25.

Individuals who want to testify by telephone must send an email to *publichearings@irs.gov* to receive the telephone number and access code for the hearing. The subject line of the email must contain the regulation number (REG–108673–25) and the language ''TESTIFY Telephonically.'' For example, the subject line may say: Request to TESTIFY Telephonically at Hearing for REG–108673–25.

Individuals who want to attend the public hearing in person without testifying must also send an email to *publichearings@irs.gov* to have their name added to the building access list. The subject line of the email must contain the regulation number (REG–108673–25) and the language ''ATTEND In Person.'' For example, the subject line may say: Request to ATTEND Hearing In Person for REG–108673–25. Requests to attend the public hearing must be received by 5:00 p.m. ET by April 22, 2026.

Individuals who want to attend the public hearing by telephone without testifying must also send an email to *publichearings@irs.gov* to receive the telephone number and access code for the hearing. The subject line of the email must contain the regulation number (REG–108673–25) and the language ''ATTEND Hearing Telephonically.'' For example, the subject line may say: Request to ATTEND Hearing Telephonically for REG–108673–25. Requests to attend the hearing must be received by 5:00 p.m. ET by April 22, 2026.

Hearings will be made accessible to people with disabilities. To request special assistance during a hearing please contact the Publications and Regulations Section by sending an email to *publichearings@irs.gov* (preferred) or by telephone at (202) 317–6901 (not a toll-free number) by April 16, 2026.

Any additional questions regarding speaking at or attending the hearing may also be emailed to *publichearings@irs.gov*.

Oluwafunmilayo A. Taylor,

Section Chief, Publications and Regulations Section, Associate Chief Counsel, (Procedure and Administration).

[FR Doc. 2026–05896 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4831–GV–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Parts 52 and 70

[EPA–R07–OAR–2026–1156; FRL–13242–01–R7]

Air Plan Approval; Iowa; Revisions to Iowa Air Quality Regulations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to approve revisions to the Iowa State Implementation Plan (SIP) and the Operating Permit Program to incorporate recent changes to the Iowa Administrative Code (IAC). The revisions include removal of the Voluntary Operating Permit Program language; removal of the Emission Reduction Program language; new and renumbered rules; replacement of duplicative language with references to state statute and federal regulations; updated definitions; consolidation of 14 chapters into 8 chapters; and minor clarifications to language and grammar. The EPA is also proposing to correct the erroneous incorporation of several rules into the Iowa SIP pursuant to section 110(k)(6) of the Clean Air Act (CAA). These revisions do not decrease the stringency of the SIP or have an adverse effect on air quality. The EPA's proposed approval of this rule revision is in accordance with the requirements of the CAA.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 27, 2026.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–R07–OAR–2026–1156 to *https://www.regulations.gov*. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Docket ID No. for this rulemaking. Comments received will be posted without change to *https://www.regulations.gov,* including any personal information provided. For detailed instructions on sending comments and additional information on the rulemaking process, see the ''Written Comments'' heading of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Allyson Prue, Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7 Office, Air Quality Planning Branch, 11201 Renner Boulevard, Lenexa, Kansas 66219; telephone number: (913) 551–7277; email address: *prue.allyson@epa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Throughout this document ''we,'' ''us,'' and ''our'' refer to the EPA.

Table of Contents

I. Written Comments

Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–R07–OAR–2026–1156, at *https://www.regulations.gov*. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from *Regulations.gov*. The EPA may publish any comment

received to its public docket. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.,* on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). For additional submission methods, the full EPA public comment policy, information about CBI or multimedia submissions, and general guidance on making effective comments, please visit *https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets*.

II. What is being addressed in this document?

The EPA is proposing to approve revisions to the Iowa SIP and Title V Operating Permit Program received on July 26, 2024. All revisions were completed due to a new administrative process required by Executive Order 10 (E.O.–10), issued by the Iowa Governor in January 2023. The revisions are to section 567—Iowa Air Quality Regulations. The revisions to the Iowa SIP and Title V Operating Permit Program are specified in sections III.–IV. below. Additionally, the EPA is proposing multiple CAA 110(k)(6) error corrections in this rulemaking. The full text of the rule revision as well as the EPA's analysis of the revisions can be found in the technical support documents (TSD) included in the docket for this action.

CAA sections 111 and 112 allow the EPA to delegate authority to states for New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPs). The EPA has delegated authority to Iowa for approved portions of these sections of the CAA. Changes made to Iowa's Chapter 23 pertaining to new and revised NSPS and NESHAPs are not directly approved into the SIP, but rather, are adopted by reference. Thus, EPA is not proposing to approve the changes to Chapter 23 of the Iowa Administrative Code into the state's SIP.

III. What SIP revisions are being proposed by the EPA?

A. Revisions to the Iowa SIP

Iowa requested the following revisions to SIP-approved chapters:

Chapter 20—SCOPE OF TITLE—DEFINITIONS is rescinded. Most definitions previously located in this chapter have been moved to the revised Chapters 21, 22, or 23. Numerous definitions from this chapter were no longer relevant because the terms no longer appear in section 567 of the Iowa Code and were therefore deleted.

Chapter 21—COMPLIANCE is retitled COMPLIANCE, EXCESS EMISSIONS, AND MEASUREMENT OF EMISSIONS. Revisions to this chapter include the removal of the Emission Reduction Program language; adoption by reference of federal language; incorporation of rules from the now-removed Chapters 24, 25, 26, and 29; removal of numerous definitions; updated citations; and minor revisions to grammar and wording.

Chapter 22—CONTROLLING POLLUTION—PERMITS is retitled CONTROLLING AIR POLLUTION—CONSTRUCTION PERMITTING. Revisions to SIP-approved text at IAC 567–22.1 through IAC 567–22.10 and IAC 567–22.200 through IAC 567–22.209 include the removal of the Voluntary Operating Permit Program; incorporation of rules from the now-removed Chapters 20 and 28; language relocation; updated citations; and minor revisions to grammar and wording. Additionally, SIP-approved text at IAC 567–22.105(2)''i''(5) and IAC 567–22.300 were relocated to Chapter 24.

Chapter 23—EMISSION STANDARDS is retitled AIR EMISSION STANDARDS. Revisions to this chapter include removal of redundant language; updated citations; and minor revisions to grammar and wording.

Chapter 24—EXCESS EMISSIONS is retitled OPERATING PERMITS. This chapter incorporates two SIP-approved sections from the former Chapter 22. The SIP-approved sections are located in IAC 567–24.105(2)''i''(5) and IAC 567–24.300 in the submitted revisions. Revisions to SIP-approved sections are administrative in nature and include updated citations and minor revisions to grammar and wording.

Chapter 25—MEASUREMENT OF EMISSIONS is rescinded. IAC 567–25.1 was previously SIP approved and is relocated to the new Chapter 21, with the exception of IAC 567–25.1(12), which retains its SIP approval.

Chapter 26—PREVENTION OF AIR POLLUTION EMERGENCY EPISODES is rescinded. All sections were previously SIP approved and are relocated to the new Chapter 21, where they retain SIP approval.

Chapter 28—AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS is rescinded. IAC 567–28.1 of this chapter was previously SIP approved and is relocated to the revised Chapter 21, where it retains its SIP approval.

Chapter 29—QUALIFICATIONS IN VISUAL DETERMINATION OF THE OPACITY OF EMISSIONS is rescinded. IAC 567–29.1 of this chapter was previously SIP approved and is relocated to the revised Chapter 21, where it retains its SIP approval.

Chapter 31—NONATTAINMENT AREAS is retitled NONATTAINMENT NEW SOURCE REVIEW. Revisions to this chapter include the removal of language referencing nonattainment areas, because Iowa no longer has any areas designated nonattainment prior to May 18, 1998; updated citations; and minor revisions to grammar and wording.

Chapter 33—SPECIAL REGULATIONS AND CONSTRUCTION PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR MAJOR STATIONARY SOURCES—PREVENTION OF SIGNIFICANT DETERIORATION (PSD) OF AIR QUALITY is retitled CONSTRUCTION PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR MAJOR STATIONARY SOURCES—PREVENTION OF SIGNIFICANT DETERIORIATION (PSD). Revisions to this chapter include numerous adoptions by reference of federal language, removal of redundant language, updated citations, and minor revisions to grammar and wording.

B. EPA Analysis of SIP Revisions

The EPA reviewed the submitted SIP revisions in accordance with the anti-backsliding provisions of CAA section 110(l). While most revisions were administrative in nature, Iowa also requested removal of the Emission Reduction Program (IAC 567–21.3) and the Voluntary Operating Permits Program (IAC 567–22.200 through IAC 567–22.209).

The EPA approved the Emission Reduction Program as part of the SIP on May 31, 1972 (37 FR 10842). The program provided a mechanism for sources to reduce emissions in exchange for a variance or for an extension of a variance granted by IDNR. The EPA finds that while IDNR removed the Emission Reduction Program from its regulations, it also strengthened its existing variance language by requiring the State to weigh the impact on public health that the variance would create versus the potential hazard to health or property that alternative methods of compliance may impact. If IDNR concludes that emissions caused by the variance would harm public health, IDNR would not grant the variance, and the removal of the Emission Reduction Program from the SIP does not impact

this analysis. In addition, the EPA notes that IDNR retains discretion to use existing enforcement authorities to obtain emission reductions in exchange for granting a variance. Therefore, the EPA concludes that removing the Emission Reduction Program from the SIP does not interfere with any applicable requirement concerning attainment and reasonable further progress under CAA section 110(l).

The EPA approved IDNR's voluntary operating permit (VOP) program as part of the SIP on April 30, 1996 (61 FR 18958). This program primarily served as a CAA section 112(l) mechanism to establish federally enforceable operational limits to restrict potential to emit (PTE) to avoid Title V and other major source requirements. The program also provided a mechanism to limit emissions of criteria pollutants, and the EPA approved it as part of the SIP under CAA section 110.

In 2015, IDNR removed the VOP program rules from the Iowa Administrative Code because it determined that the construction permit program could provide a mechanism to issue synthetic minor permits. Prior to removing VOP program rules, IDNR either modified construction permits or issued new construction permits for VOP facilities, as necessary, as described in the ''Voluntary Operating Permit Background and Summary'' document in the docket for this rulemaking.

The VOP program is not a required program under CAA section 110. The EPA finds that Iowa's Chapter 22 construction permit rules provide adequate authority for limiting a source's PTE of criteria pollutants to below major source thresholds. As such, Iowa's removal of the VOP regulations from the SIP does not interfere with any applicable requirement concerning attainment and reasonable further progress under CAA section 110(l).

IV. What Operating Permit Program plan revisions are being proposed by the EPA?

The EPA is proposing the following revisions to the Operating Permit Program:

Chapter 22—CONTROLLING POLLUTION—PERMITS is retitled CONTROLLING AIR POLLUTION—CONSTRUCTION PERMITTING. Revisions to IAC 567–22.2 and IAC 567–22.3(6) include language relocation, updated citations, and minor revisions to grammar and wording. IAC 567–22.100 through IAC 567–22.300 were relocated to Chapter 24. Finally, numerous definitions from IAC 567–22.1 and IAC 567–22.10(1) are retained in the Title V Operating Permit Program.

Chapter 23—EMISSION STANDARDS is retitled AIR EMISSION STANDARDS. Iowa has requested the EPA approve the definitions at IAC 567–23.1(4) into the Title V Operating Permit Program. The terms were previously approved into the Title V Operating Permit Program but were relocated to IAC 567–23.1(4).

Chapter 24—EXCESS EMISSIONS is retitled OPERATING PERMITS. This chapter incorporates the operating permit rules from the former Chapter 22. Revisions to this chapter include removal of the Voluntary Operating Permit Program language; numerous adoptions by reference of federal language; removal of redundant language and of provisions requiring that copies of Title V operating permit applications be submitted to EPA Region 7; updated citations; and minor revisions to grammar and wording. As discussed in section III. of this proposed rule, the VOP Program is not a required program of the Title V Operating Permit Program.

Chapter 30—FEES is retained. Revisions to this chapter include addition of clarifying language, removal of redundant language, and updated citations.

V. Have the requirements for approval of a SIP and the Operating Permit Program plan revisions been met?

The State submission has met the public notice requirements for SIP submissions in accordance with 40 CFR 51.102. The submission also satisfied the completeness criteria of 40 CFR part 51, appendix V. The State provided public notice on this SIP revision from December 27, 2023, to January 30, 2024, and received no comments. In addition, as explained above and in more detail in the technical support documents which is part of this document, the revision meets the substantive SIP requirements of the CAA, including section 110 and implementing regulations.

VI. CAA 110(k)(6) Error Correction

A. Background

A SIP is a federally enforceable collection of regulations and documents used by a state, territory, or local air district to implement, maintain, and enforce the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and to fulfill other requirements of the CAA that require SIP measures (*e.g.,* measures addressing regional haze under CAA section 169A). The NAAQS addresses six criteria pollutants: carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, lead, particulate matter, and sulfur dioxide. Each federally approved SIP protects air quality primarily by addressing air pollution at its point of origin through air pollution regulations and control strategies.

CAA section 110(k)(6), authorizes the EPA, when it ''determines that [its] action approving, disapproving, or promulgating any plan or plan revision (or part thereof) . . . was in error,'' to ''revise such action as appropriate.'' CAA section 110(k)(6) provides the EPA with the authority to make corrections to prior SIP actions that are subsequently found to be in error in the same manner as the prior action and do so without requiring any further submission from the state. While section 110(k)(6) provides the EPA with the authority to correct its own ''error,'' nowhere does this provision or any other provision in the CAA define what qualifies as ''error.'' Thus, the term should be given its ordinary meaning. *See Johnson* v. *United States,* 559 U.S. 133, 138 (2010). The plain language, every day meaning of ''error'' encompasses all unintentional, incorrect or wrong actions or mistakes; *see Error,* MERRIAM-WEBSTER'S COLLEGIATE DICTIONARY (11th ed. 2004) (''an act that through ignorance, deficiency, or accident departs from or fails to achieve what should be done'').

In this rulemaking, the EPA proposes to remove IAC 567—Chapter 27, IAC 567—Subrule 23.1(1), IAC 567—Subrule 22.1(3)''b''(8), and IAC 567-Subrule 22.7(2)''f'' from the Iowa SIP under CAA section 110(k)(6). On November 19, 2025, Iowa concurred with removal of these provisions. Because Iowa agrees with the EPA that these chapters were approved into the SIP in error, the EPA interprets the state's concurrence as a withdrawal of Iowa's request that the EPA approve revisions to these chapters into the SIP.

The EPA determined during its review of this rulemaking that these four rules were inappropriate for inclusion into the SIP because they are not related to implementation, maintenance, or enforcement of the NAAQS or otherwise required by the CAA to be included in the SIP. The analysis of each provision proposed for removal from Iowa's SIP is discussed below and in the TSDs for this action.

B. Analysis of IAC 567—Chapter 27—Certificate of Acceptance

Congress enacted the CAA in 1970. CAA section 110(a)(1) requires each state to submit a SIP to the EPA that provides for the implementation, maintenance and enforcement of the NAAQS. In the 1970s and early 1980s,

state and local agencies submitted thousands of regulations to the EPA for inclusion in SIPs to meet new federal requirements. In many cases, states submitted entire air pollution program regulations, including many elements not required by the CAA. Due to time and resource constraints, the EPA's review of these submittals focused primarily on the rules addressing the new substantive requirements of the CAA, and we approved many other elements into the SIP with minimal review. We now recognize that some of these elements are appropriate for state and local agencies to adopt and implement, but not as federally enforceable SIP requirements.

Chapter 27—Certificate of Acceptance [1] was first approved into the Iowa SIP on May 31, 1972 (37 FR 10842). The EPA approved subsequent administrative revisions on September 12, 1985 (50 FR 37176) and June 29, 1990 (55 FR 26690). Chapter 27 provides political subdivisions, such as municipalities and counties, with the conditions necessary to obtain and maintain a certificate of acceptance issued by the state for a local air pollution control program. This chapter is administrative in nature, and includes requirements related to the local agency's legal authority, enforcement program, staffing requirements, office space, staff transportation, and control program activities.

The Linn County and Polk County local air programs are currently the only two local air programs in Iowa with certificates of acceptance issued under the authority of IAC 567—Chapter 27. Each county implements its own air pollution control ordinances, and is responsible for inspections of facilities, tracking emissions data, air quality monitoring, and compliance at major and minor facilities within its area of jurisdiction. The state retains concurrent enforcement authority. Iowa submits each county's air pollution control ordinances to the EPA for approval into the SIP. The EPA first approved Linn County's air pollution control ordinances into the Iowa SIP on August 15, 1989 (54 FR 33526) and has approved subsequent revisions, with the most recent revision approved on July 1, 2023 (89 FR 54362). The EPA first approved a portion of Polk County's air pollution ordinances into the Iowa SIP on August 15, 1989 (54 FR 33528), subsequently approving most of the remaining ordinances on November 29, 1989 (56 FR 60924). The most recent revision to Polk County's air pollution ordinances was approved on September 21, 2021 (86 FR 52413).

Pursuant to 40 CFR 51.232, a state may assign legal authority to carry out the state implementation plan within a local agency's jurisdiction if the plan demonstrates that the local agency has the necessary legal authority to carry out the plan. The state provides this demonstration in an infrastructure SIP submission which provides the necessary structural requirements for each new or revised NAAQS. The EPA's most recent approval of Iowa's demonstration that its local agencies have the legal authority to carry out the SIP appears in EPA's August 23, 2021, approval of Iowa's infrastructure SIP for the 2015 ozone NAAQS. *See* 86 FR 46984.

EPA's approval of county air quality ordinances into the SIP does not depend on whether a county has a certificate of acceptance from the state. Furthermore, EPA's approval of the state's infrastructure SIP submission does not depend on whether a local agency has obtained a certificate of acceptance issued under Chapter 27. Therefore, the EPA proposes to remove Chapter 27 from the Iowa SIP because the EPA approved Chapter 27 in error and it is not required by the CAA for implementation, maintenance, or enforcement of the NAAQS.

C. Analysis of IAC 567—Subrule 22.1(3)''b''(8)—Application for a Case-by-Case MACT Determination

During the review of this rulemaking, the EPA determined that IAC 567–22.1(3)''b''(8)—*Application for a case-by-case MACT determination*-be removed from the Iowa SIP. This subrule was approved into the Iowa SIP on December 3, 1999 (64 FR 67784). IAC 567–22.1(3)''b''(8) provides the requirements for sources to apply for a case-by-case maximum achievable control technology (MACT) determination in a construction permit application for the construction or reconstruction of a major source of hazardous air pollutants. Case-by-case MACT determinations are required by CAA section 112(j) and 40 CFR part 63, subpart B if EPA misses the deadline for promulgating a section 112(d) standard by more than 18 months. Accordingly, the EPA is proposing to remove IAC 567–22.1(3)''b''(8) from the Iowa SIP because it relates to section 112 requirements and the control of air toxics rather than criteria pollutants and is therefore not required by the CAA for implementation, maintenance, or enforcement of the NAAQS.

D. Analysis of IAC 567—Subrule 25.1(12)—Alternative Emission Control Program Trade Off Sulfur Dioxide CEMS Requirements

During its review of this rulemaking, the EPA determined that IAC 567–25.1(12) was approved into the Iowa SIP in error on September 12, 1985 (50 FR 37176). IAC 567–25.1(12) requires sources with an approved alternative emission control program under IAC 567–22.7(1) that involves the trade-off of sulfur dioxide emissions to install, calibrate, maintain and operate a continuous emissions monitoring system (CEMS) for sulfur dioxide. At the time that the EPA approved IAC 567–25.1(12) into the SIP, IAC 567–22.7(1) was not part of the SIP, and has not been subsequently approved. Therefore the requirement for a source with an approved alternative emission control program to operate a sulfur dioxide CEMs was not an enforceable requirement of the SIP.

Iowa moved the requirements of IAC 567–25.1(12) to IAC 567–22.7(2)''f''. Accordingly, EPA is proposing to remove IAC 567–25.1(12) from the SIP because it was not an enforceable requirement of the SIP and is therefore not required by the CAA for implementation, maintenance, or enforcement of the NAAQS.

E. Analysis of IAC 567—Subrule 23.1(1)—In General

In its July 16, 2024, submittal, Iowa excluded its revision to IAC 567–23.1(1) from the SIP. IAC 567–23.1(1) states that the NSPS shall apply as specified in IAC 567–23.1(2), which is not approved into the SIP. In addition, the rule states that the NESHAPs shall apply as specified in IAC 567–23.1(3), which is not approved into the SIP. Finally, the rule requires compliance with all other emission standards to be in accordance with Chapter 21—Compliance, a chapter which is approved into the SIP, and does not rely on IAC 567–23.1(1) in order to be enforceable.

During its review of this rulemaking, the EPA determined that IAC 567–23.1(1) was approved into the Iowa SIP in error on May 31, 1972 (37 FR 10842). This subrule is a general provision that pertains to federal standards, such as the NSPS and NESHAPs, and requires compliance with regulations that are not approved into the SIP. Iowa requests delegation of certain NSPS and NESHAPs under a delegation agreement with the EPA.[2] For these reasons, the

[1] Iowa's Certificate of Acceptance regulations were initially codified in Chapter 3 of the Iowa Administrative Code air regulations.

[2] See *https://www.epa.gov/ia/delegation-authority-iowa-new-source-performance-standards-and-national-emission-standards.*

EPA is proposing to remove IAC 567–23.1(1) from the Iowa SIP because it is not required by the CAA for implementation, maintenance, or enforcement of the NAAQS.

F. Section 193 ''Anti-Backsliding'' Analysis

CAA section 193 provides that, for SIP control requirements in effect before November 15, 1990, any ''modification'' thereof must ''insure[ ] equivalent or greater emissions reductions'' of the air pollutant for which the area is in nonattainment. 42 U.S.C. 7515. Congress added this provision in the 1990 Amendments as part of an effort to ensure adequate support for NAAQS attainment and maintenance. Consistent with the provision's plain text, Congress' intent in adopting this provision was to provide a 'back-up' anti-backsliding provision for nonattainment areas beyond what was provided by 110(l).[3] As a general matter, this ''anti-backsliding'' analysis is required when modifying SIP control requirements, whether through section 110(k)(6) or otherwise, if the modification impacts pre-1990 control requirements in a nonattainment area.

All areas of Iowa are designated in attainment or maintenance of each NAAQS. See 40 CFR 81.316. As a result, the EPA's proposed removal of the above rules from the Iowa SIP is not subject to the general savings clause in CAA section 193.

VII. What action is the EPA taking?

The EPA is proposing to amend the Iowa SIP and Title V Operating Permit Program by approving the State's request to revise section 567, Title II—Iowa Air Quality Regulations. In addition, the EPA is proposing to remove IAC 567—Chapter 27, IAC 567–22.1(3)''b''(8), IAC 567–23.1(1), and IAC 567–25.1(12) from the Iowa SIP under the authority of CAA section 110(k)(6) because EPA's previous approval of these rules into the Iowa SIP was in error. We are processing this as a proposed action because we are soliciting comments on this proposed action. The EPA is soliciting comment on the substantive and administrative revisions detailed in this proposal and the TSD. The EPA is not soliciting comment on existing rule text that has been previously approved by the EPA into the SIP. Final rulemaking will occur after consideration of any comments.

[3] *See, e.g.,* Senate Debate on the 1990 Amendments to the CAA Conference Report (Oct. 26, 1990), 1990 CAA Legis. Hist. 1097, 1126–1127 (Comments of Senator Chafee, R–RI, primary drafter of CAA Amendments of 1990).

VIII. Incorporation by Reference

In this document, the EPA is proposing to include regulatory text in an EPA final rule that includes incorporation by reference. In accordance with requirements of 1 CFR 51.5, and as discussed in section III. of this preamble, the EPA is proposing the incorporation by reference of section 567, Title II of the Iowa Air Quality Administrative Regulations, which regulates air quality in the state of Iowa:

- Chapter 21—Compliance, Excess Emissions, and Measurement of Emissions, which provides provisions for air quality compliance, excess emissions, and measurement of emissions;
- Chapter 22—Controlling Air Pollution, which provides provisions for air quality construction permitting as well as applicable air quality definitions;
- Chapter 23—Air Emission Standards, which provides provisions for air emission standards as well as applicable air quality definitions;
- Chapter 24—Operating Permits, which includes provisions for Title V Operating Permits, Acid Rain Permits, and Small Source Operating Permits;
- Chapter 30—Fees, which defines specific air quality fees owed by air contaminant sources;
- Chapter 31—Nonattainment New Source Review, which provisions for the preconstruction review and permitting program applicable to new or modified major sources of air pollutants in areas that do not meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS); and
- Chapter 33—Construction Permit Requirements for Major Stationary Sources—Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD), which provides provisions for the preconstruction permitting program applicable to new or modified major stationary sources of air pollutants.

The EPA is also proposing to remove rules that were previously incorporated by reference from the Iowa SIP. In accordance with the requirements of 1 CFR 51.5, the EPA is proposing to remove IAC 567—Chapter 27, IAC 567–22.1(3)''b''(8), IAC 567–23.1(1), and IAC 567–25.1(12) discussed in section VI. of this preamble and as set forth below in the proposed revision to 40 CFR part 52.

The EPA has made, and will continue to make, these materials generally available through *https://www.regulations.gov* and at the EPA Region 7 Office (please contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this preamble for more information).

IX. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

Under the CAA, the Administrator is required to approve a SIP submission that complies with the provisions of the CAA and applicable Federal regulations. 42 U.S.C. 7410(k); 40 CFR 52.02(a). Thus, in reviewing SIP submissions, EPA's role is to approve state choices, provided that they meet the criteria of the CAA. Accordingly, this action merely approves state law as meeting Federal requirements and does not impose additional requirements beyond those imposed by state law. For that reason, this action:

- Is not a significant regulatory action subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Orders 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993);
- Is not subject to Executive Order 14192 (90 FR 9065, February 6, 2025) because SIP actions are exempt from review under Executive Order 12866;
- Does not impose an information collection burden under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*);
- Is certified as not having a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*);
- Does not contain any unfunded mandate or significantly or uniquely affect small governments, as described in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–4);
- Does not have federalism implications as specified in Executive Order 13132 (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999);
- Is not subject to Executive Order 13045 (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997) because it approves a state program;
- Is not a significant regulatory action subject to Executive Order 13211 (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001); and
- Is not subject to requirements of section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. 272 note) because application of those requirements would be inconsistent with the CAA.

In addition, the SIP is not approved to apply on any Indian reservation land or in any other area where EPA or an Indian Tribe has demonstrated that a Tribe has jurisdiction. In those areas of Indian country, the rule does not have Tribal implications and will not impose substantial direct costs on Tribal governments or preempt Tribal law as specified by Executive Order 13175 (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000).

List of Subjects

40 CFR Part 52

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Incorporation by reference, Intergovernmental relations, Particulate matter, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Volatile organic compounds.

40 CFR Part 70

Environmental protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Air pollution control, Intergovernmental relations, Operating permits, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: March 13, 2026.

James Macy,

Regional Administrator, Region 7.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the EPA proposes to amend 40 CFR parts 52 and 70 as set forth below:

PART 52—APPROVAL AND PROMULGATION OF IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 52 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

Subpart Q—Iowa

■ 2. In § 52.820, in the table in paragraph (c):

■ a. Remove the center heading ''Chapter 20—Scope of Title—Definitions'' and the entries ''567–20.1'', ''567–20.2'', and ''567–20.3''.

■ b. Revise the center heading ''Chapter 21—Compliance'' to read ''Chapter 21—Compliance, Excess Emissions, and Measurement of Emissions'' and the entries ''567–21.1'', ''567–21.2'', ''567–21.3'', ''567–21.4'', ''567–21.5'', and ''567–21.6'' and add the entries ''567–21.7'', ''567–21.8'', ''567–21.10'', ''567–21.13'', ''567–21.14'', ''567–21.15'', ''567–21.16'', and ''567–21.17''.

■ c. Revise the center heading ''Chapter 22—Controlling Pollution'' to read ''Chapter 22—Controlling Air Pollution'' and the entries ''567–22.1'', 567–22.2'', ''567–22.3'', 567–22.4'', ''567–22.5'', ''567–22.8'', ''567–22.9'', and ''567–22.10''; add the entry ''567–22.11''; and remove the entries ''567–22.105'', ''567–22.200'', ''567–22.201'', ''567–22.202'', ''567–22.203'', ''567–22.204'', ''567–22.205'', ''567–22.206'', ''567–22.207'', ''567–22.208'', ''567–22.209'', and ''567–22.300''.

■ d. Revise the center heading ''Chapter 23—Emission Standards for Contaminants'' to read ''Chapter 23–Air Emission Standards'' and the entries ''567–23.1'', ''567–23.2'', ''567–23.3'', and ''567–23.4''.

■ e. Revise the center heading ''Chapter 24—Excess Emissions'' to read ''Chapter 24–Operating Permits''; remove the entries ''567–24.1'' and 567–24.2''; and add the entries ''567–24.105'' and ''567–24.300''.

■ f. Remove the center heading ''Chapter 25—Measurement of Emissions'' and the entry ''567–25.1''.

■ g. Remove the center heading ''Chapter 26—Prevention of Air Pollution Emergency Episodes'' and the entries ''567–26.1'', ''567–26.2'', ''567–26.3'', and ''567–26.4''.

■ h. Remove the center heading ''Chapter 27—Certificate of Acceptance'' and the entries ''567–27.1'', ''567–27.2'', ''567–27.3'', ''567–27.4'', and ''567–27.5''.

■ i. Remove the center heading ''Chapter 28—Ambient Air Quality Standards'' and the entry ''567–28.1''.

■ j. Remove the center heading ''Chapter 29—Qualification in Visual Determination of the Opacity of Emissions'' and the entry ''567–29.1''.

■ k. Revise the center heading ''Chapter 31—Nonattainment Areas'' to read ''Chapter 31—Nonattainment New Source Review'' and the entries ''567–31.1'', ''567–31.3'', ''567–31.4'', ''567–31.9'', and ''567–31.10'' and remove entries ''567–31.2 and 567–31.20''.

■ l. Revise the center heading ''Chapter 33—Special Regulations and Construction Permit Requirements for Major Stationary Sources—Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) of Air Quality'' to read ''Chapter 33–Construction Permit Requirements for Major Stationary Sources—Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD)'' and the entries ''567–33.1'', ''567–33.3'', ''567–33.9'', and 567–33.10''.

The revisions and additions read as follows:

§ 52.820 Identification of plan.

* * * * *

(c) * * *

EPA-APPROVED IOWA REGULATIONS

Iowa citation	Title	State effective date	EPA approval date	Explanation
Iowa Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Commission [567]				
*	*	*	* * *	*
Chapter 21—Compliance, Excess Emissions, and Measurement of Emissions				
567–21.1	Definitions and compliance requirements.	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–21.2	Variances	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–21.4	Circumvention of rules	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–21.5	Evidence used in establishing that a violation has occurred or is occurring.	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	

EPA-APPROVED IOWA REGULATIONS—Continued

Iowa citation	Title	State effective date	EPA approval date	Explanation
567–21.6	Temporary electricity generation for disaster situations.	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–21.7	Excess emission reporting	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–21.8	Maintenance and repair requirements.	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–21.10	Testing and sampling of new and existing equipment.	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–21.13	Methodology and qualified observer.	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–21.14	Prevention of air pollution emergency episodes—general.	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–21.15	Episode criteria	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–21.16	Preplanned abatement strategies.	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–21.17	Actions taken during episodes	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
	Chapter 22—Controlling Air Pollution			
567–22.1	Definitions and permit requirements for new or existing stationary sources.	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	The definitions for ''anaerobic lagoon,'' ''odor,'' ''odorous substance,'' ''odorous substance source'' are not SIP approved.
567–22.2	Processing permit applications	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–22.3	Issuing permits	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	Subrule 22.3(6) is not SIP approved.
567–22.4	Major stationary sources located in areas designated attainment or unclassified (PSD).	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–22.5	Major stationary sources located in areas designated nonattainment.	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–22.8	Permit by rule	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–22.9	Special requirements for visibility protection.	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	

EPA-APPROVED IOWA REGULATIONS—Continued

Iowa citation	Title	State effective date	EPA approval date	Explanation
567–22.10	Permitting requirements for country grain elevators, country grain terminal elevators, grain terminal elevators and feed mill equipment.	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–22.11	Ambient air quality standards	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
	Chapter 23—Air Emission Standards			
567–23.1	Emission standards	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	Subrules 23.1(1)–(5) are not SIP approved.
567–23.2	Open burning	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	Subrule 23.2(3)j is not SIP approved. Variances from opening burning rule 23.2(2) are subject to EPA approval.
567–23.3	Specific contaminants	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	Subrule 23.3(3)''(d)'' is not SIP approved.
567–23.4	Specific processes	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	Subrule 23.4(10) is not SIP approved.
	Chapter 24—Operating Permits			
567–24.105	Title V permit applications	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	Only subparagraph 24.105(2)i(5) is SIP approved.
567–24.300	Operating permit by rule for small sources.	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
	Chapter 31—Nonattainment New Source Review			
567–31.1	Permit requirements relating to nonattainment area.	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–31.3	Nonattainment new source review (NNSR) requirements for areas designated nonattainment.	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–31.4	Preconstruction review permit program.	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–31.9	Actuals PALs	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–31.10	Validity of rules	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
	Chapter 33—Construction Permit Requirements for Major Stationary Sources—Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD)			
567–33.1	Purpose	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	

EPA-APPROVED IOWA REGULATIONS—Continued

Iowa citation	Title	State effective date	EPA approval date	Explanation
567–33.3	PSD construction permit requirements for major stationary sources.	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	Provisions of the 2010 $PM_{2.5}$ PSD-Increments, SILs, and SMCs rule are excluded from 33.3(20) and are not SIP approved.
567–33.9	Plantwide applicability limitations.	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
567–33.10	Exceptions to adoption by reference.	6/19/2024	[Date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**], 91 FR [**Federal Register** page where the document begins of the final rule].	
*	*	*	*	*	*	*

* * * * *

PART 70—STATE OPERATING PERMIT PROGRAMS

■ 3. The authority citation for part 70 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401, *et seq.*

■ 4. Appendix A to part 70 is amended by adding paragraph (aa) under ''Iowa'' to read as follows:

Appendix A to Part 70—Approval Status of State and Local Operating Permits Programs

* * * * *

Iowa

* * * * *

(aa) The Iowa Department of Natural Resources submitted for program approval revisions to rules 567—Chapter 22 and 567–30.4 on July 26, 2024. Rules 567–22.100 through 567–22.300(12) are now located in Chapter 24 and are referred to as 567–24.100 through 567–24.300(12). Rules 567–22.117 through 567–22.119 (now 567–24.117 through 567–24.119) as well as rules 567–22.210 through 567–22.299 (now 567–24.210 through 567–24.299) remain reserved and are not part 70 approved. Previously part 70 approved rules 567–22.200 through 567–22.209 (now 567–24.200 through 567–24.209) have been reserved as a part of this approval and are no longer part 70 approved. Revisions were also made to rule 567–30.4. Numerous definitions located in 576–22.1, 567–22.10(1), and 567–23.1(4) retain part 70 approval. The state effective date is June 19, 2024. The proposed revision effective date is [date 30 days after date of publication of the final rule in the **Federal Register**].

* * * * *

[FR Doc. 2026–05875 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 261

[EPA–R06–RCRA–2025–13174; FRL–13174–01–R6]

Hazardous Waste Management System; Identification and Listing of Hazardous Waste

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to grant an exclusion from the list of hazardous waste to WRB Refining LP (Petitioner) located in Borger, Texas. This action responds to a petition to exclude (or delist) up to 700 cubic yards per year of F037 (petroleum refinery sludge) solids to be removed from stormwater storage tanks for a continuous delisting. If EPA approves the petition for delisting, the waste will be disposed of in a Subtitle D landfill. EPA is proposing to grant the petition based on an evaluation of waste-specific information provided by the Petitioner.

DATES: Comments on this proposed exclusion must be received by April 27, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments by one of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: https://www.regulations.gov. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.

Email: dixon.eshala@epa.gov.

Instructions: The EPA must receive your comments by April 27, 2026. Direct your comments to Docket ID No. EPA–R06–RCRA–2025–13174. The EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change and may be made available online at *https://www.regulations.gov,* including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI), or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Do not submit information that you consider to be CBI or otherwise protected through *https://www.regulations.gov,* or email. The Federal *regulations.gov* website is an ''anonymous access'' system, which means the EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send an email comment directly to the EPA without going through *https://regulations.gov,* your email address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the internet. If you submit an electronic comment, the EPA recommends that you include your name and other contact information in the body of your comment with any CBI you submit. If the EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment. Electronic files should avoid the use of special characters, any form of encryption and be free of any defects or viruses.

Docket: The index to the docket for this action is available electronically at *https://www.regulations.gov.* Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, *e.g.,* CBI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, will be publicly available only in hard copy.

You can view and copy the delisting petition and associated publicly available docket materials through *https://www.regulations.gov* at: EPA, Region 6, 1201 Elm Street, Suite 500, Dallas, Texas 75270. The EPA facility is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays. We recommend that you telephone Harry Shah, at (214) 665–6457, before visiting the Region 6 office. Interested persons wanting to examine these documents should make an appointment with the office.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: E'shala Dixon, RCRA Permits & Solid Waste Section (LCR–RP), Land, Chemicals and Redevelopment Division, EPA Region 6, 1201 Elm Street, Suite 500, Dallas, TX 75270, telephone number: (214) 665–6592; email address: *dixon.eshala@epa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Table of Contents

I. Overview Information

The EPA is proposing to grant a May 2020 petition submitted by WRB Refining LP to exclude (or delist) up to 700 cubic yards annually of F037 solids from stormwater tanks at their facility in Borger, Texas.

The Petitioner requested a one-time delisting of 7,000 cubic yards of stormwater tank solids on the basis that the solids would not meet the original criteria for F037, which would be classified as hazardous waste due to ''carry over'' of waste codes resulting from RCRA's ''mixture and derived from rules.'' EPA granted that one-time delisting request in 2025. In the Petition, Petitioners also requested a continuous delisting for ongoing stormwater tank solids cleanout. This proposal responds to that portion of the Petition and proposes to grant a continuous delisting to clean out stormwater tanks annually.

II. Background

A. What is the history of the delisting program?

The EPA published an amended list of hazardous wastes from non-specific and specific sources on January 16, 1981, as part of its final and interim final regulations implementing section 3001 of RCRA. The EPA has amended this list several times and codifies the list in 40 CFR 261.31 and 40 CFR 261.32.

The EPA lists these wastes as hazardous because (1) the wastes typically and frequently exhibits one or more of the characteristics of hazardous wastes identified in subpart C of 40 CFR part 261 (that is, ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, and toxicity), (2) the wastes met the criteria for listing contained in 40 CFR 261.11(a)(2) or (a)(3), or (3) the wastes are mixed with or derived from the treatment, storage or disposal of such characteristic and listed waste and which therefore become hazardous under 40 CFR 261.3(a)(2)(iv) or (c)(2)(i), known as the mixture or derived-from rules, respectively.

Individual waste streams may vary, depending on raw materials, industrial processes, and other factors. Thus, while a waste described in part 261 regulations or resulting from the operation of the mixture or derived-from rules generally is hazardous, a specific waste from an individual facility may not be hazardous.

For this reason, 40 CFR 260.20 and 40 CFR 260.22 provide an exclusion procedure, called delisting, which allows the petitioner to prove that the EPA should not regulate a specific waste from a particular generating facility as a hazardous waste.

B. What is a delisting petition, and what does it require of a Petitioner?

A delisting petition is a request from a generator to the EPA or an authorized state to exclude wastes from the list of hazardous wastes. The generator petitions the EPA because it does not consider the waste as hazardous under RCRA regulations.

For a delisting petition, the petitioner must demonstrate that the wastes generated at a particular facility does not meet any of the criteria for which the waste was listed. The criteria for which the EPA lists a waste are in 40 CFR part 261.

In addition, under 40 CFR 260.22, a petitioner must prove that the waste does not exhibit any of the hazardous waste characteristics (that is, ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, and toxicity) and must present sufficient information for EPA to decide whether factors other than those for which the wastes was listed warrant retaining it as a hazardous waste.

Generators remain obligated under RCRA to confirm whether their waste remains non-hazardous based on the hazardous waste characteristics even if EPA has ''delisted'' the waste.

C. What factors must the EPA consider in deciding whether to grant a delisting petition?

Besides considering the criteria in 40 CFR 260.22(a) and 3001(f) of RCRA 42 U.S.C. 6921(f), EPA must consider any factors (including additional constituents) aside from those for which EPA listed the waste, if a reasonable basis exists that these additional factors could cause the waste to be hazardous.

The EPA must also consider hazardous waste mixtures containing listed hazardous waste and wastes derived from treating, storing, or disposing of listed hazardous waste. See 40 CFR part 261.3 (a)(2)(iii) and (iv) and (c)(2)(i), called the ''mixture'' and ''derived-from'' rules, respectively. These wastes are also eligible for

exclusion and remain hazardous wastes until they are excluded.

III. EPA's Evaluation of the Waste Information and Data

A. What waste did the Petitioner petition the EPA to delist?

In May 2020, WRB Refining LP petitioned the EPA to exclude from the list of hazardous wastes contained in 40 CFR 261.31, 7,000 cubic yards of stormwater tank solids (F037) generated from its facility in Borger, Texas. EPA granted the Facility a one-time delisting approval in June 2025 to remove 7,000 cubic yards of waste for disposal in a subtitle D landfill. In anticipation of more frequent cleanout of the stormwater tanks, Petitioner also requested a continuous delisting of up to 700 cubic yards of stormwater tank solids annually.

B. How did the Petitioner generate the waste?

The Facility has been in operation for approximately 25 years. Gasoline, diesel, aviation fuel, natural gas liquids, petroleum coke and solvents are the principal products produced. The subject of this delisting petition is solids to be removed from four wastewater tanks (North Stormwater Tank, West Stormwater Tank, North Drop Out Basin, and West Grit Trap) at the Facility.

The stormwater tank solids originate from operation of the wastewater treatment system at the Facility. Petitioners explain that to the extent possible, hydrocarbons present in refinery wastewaters from various sources (*e.g.,* crude oil, API separator sludge, DAF float, etc.) are recovered through a ''slop system,'' which has the purpose of oil recovery.

Oily waste streams are routed to the storage tanks from collection system piping and/or smaller tanks for recovery. The recovered oil is further processed within the refinery, and the separated wastewaters are routed to downstream treatment units and ultimately discharged through an NPDES/TPDES permitted outfall. In addition, refinery stormwater flows to those same four stormwater tanks that are the subject of this proposal. In general, stormwater from the northern portion of the Natural Gas Liquids Plant flows to the North Drop Out Basin for primary solids removal and then to the North Stormwater Tank for secondary removal. Stormwater from the southern portion of the Refinery flows to the West Grit Trap for primary solids removal and then to the West Stormwater Tank for secondary removal. The Petition explains that because these four tanks receive dry weather flows that could be considered ''oily,'' the Petitioner has elected to classify them as F037.

The solids within the four tanks are believed to be classified as F037 when generated, WRB Refining LP assumes that solids removed from the stormwater tanks bear the F037 (primary oil/water/solids separation sludge) listing when generated.

In an effort to restore capacity of four stormwater tanks, Petitioner will remove accumulated solids from the stormwater tanks annually. This process will typically occur within a calendar year. Stormwater solids will be removed using a variety of mechanical means, which generally consists of dredging, excavating, and/or dewatering. Mechanical equipment will be utilized to extract solids from the tanks.

C. How did the Petitioner sample and analyze the petitioned waste?

A total of eight acceptable sample results were provided by the Petitioner. The EPA considered all eight samples of the stormwater tank solids, and the landfill disposal scenario was modeled using the Delisting Risk Assessment Software (DRAS). The worst-case scenario of the constituents' concentrations for the F037 solids were used as input in the model to determine if it would meet the hazardous waste criteria for which it was listed. The maximum total and leachate concentrations for the inorganic and organic constituents which were found in the analytical data provided by the petitioner are presented in table 2.

TABLE 2—ANALYTICAL RESULTS/MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE DELISTING CONCENTRATION SOLIDS FROM STORMWATER TANKS WRB REFINING LP BORGER, TEXAS

Chemical name	Maximum total concentration (mg/kg)	Maximum TCLP concentration (mg/L)	Maximum TCLP delisting level (mg/L)
Antimony	3.46	0.0146	1.28E+6
Arsenic	5.25	0.0138	1.870E+4
Barium	366	1.55	3.380E+7
Beryllium	0.0455	0.001	5.500E+5
Cadmium	0.0515	0.00345	7.070E+4
Chromium	40.40	0.002480	1.620E+4
Cobalt	6.650	0.0177	1.470E+5
Lead	150.0	0.0487	1.300E+7
Nickel	220.0	0.071	9.460E+5
Selenium	1.000E–10	1.000E–10	4.970E+6
Silver	0.04	0.001	7.310E+6
Vanadium	25.20	0.003	6.760E+6
Zinc	465.0	1.380	1.870E+7
Mercury	0.079	0.000015	1.080E+7
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	0.0495	0.0002	4.850E+7
1,3-Dichlorobenzene	0.0495	0.00025	.....
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	0.085	0.0002	2.450E+6
2,4-Dimethylphenol	0.027	0.0002	7.780E+7
2,4-Dinitrophenol	0.037	0.0002	2.34E+7
4-Nitrophenol	155.0	0.003	.....
Acenaphthene	0.09	0.00015	1.380E+7
Anthracene	0.16	0.00015	1.560E+7
Benz(a)anthracene	0.13	0.00015	7.510E+3
Benzo(a)pyrene	0.095	0.0002	557
Benzo(b)fluoranthene	0.085	0.0002	4390
Benzo(k)fluoranthene	0.08	0.00035	52000

TABLE 2—ANALYTICAL RESULTS/MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE DELISTING CONCENTRATION SOLIDS FROM STORMWATER TANKS WRB REFINING LP BORGER, TEXAS—Continued

Chemical name	Maximum total concentration (mg/kg)	Maximum TCLP concentration (mg/L)	Maximum TCLP delisting level (mg/L)
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	0.6	0.0004	1.840E+8
Chrysene	0.17	0.0004	737000
Di-n-butyl-phthalate	0.002850	0.0004	468000
Dibenz(a,h)anthracene	0.03050	0.0003	587
Diethyl Phthalate	0.0085	0.00035	2.52E+9
Dimethyl Phthalate	0.017	0.00025	.....
Fluoranthene	0.42	0.0002	4230000
Fluorene	0.085	0.0002	4230000
Indeno(1,2,3,-cd)pyrene	0.06	0.0003	9540
Naphthalene	0.09	0.00235	141000
Phenanthrene	0.6	0.0002	.....
Phenol	0.009	0.0002	5.070E+9
Pyrene	0.46	0.00015	463000
Pyridine	0.0075	0.00015	3.600E+7
1,1,1,-Trichloroethane	0.00041	0.005	7.700E+8
1,1,-Dichloroethane	0.00041	0.004	5.910E+7
1,2-Dichloroethane	0.00049	0.005	257000
1,4-Dioxane	0.0165	0.41	2510000
Acetone	0.00165	0.02	4.490E+9
Benzene	0.095	0.006	759000
Carbon disulfide	0.013	0.009	5.150E+7
Chlorobenzene	0.00049	0.004	3.020E+7
Chloroform	0.00041	0.05	134000
Ethylbenzene	0.00315	0.005	2000000
Styrene	0.00055	0.005	2.490E+8
Toluene	0.018	0.005	1.470E+8
Trichloroethene	1.000E+10	0.005	262000
Xylenes, Total	0.0049	0.05	3.140E+8

Notes: These levels represent the highest constituent concentration found in any one sample and does not necessarily represent the specific level found in one sample.

D. What factors did the EPA consider in deciding whether to grant the delisting petition?

In reviewing this petition, we considered the original listing criteria and the additional factors required by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 (HSWA). See 222 of HSWA, 42 U.S.C. 6921(f), and 40 CFR 260.22(d)(2) through (4). We evaluated the petitioned waste against the listing criteria and factors cited in 40 CFR 261.22(a)(2) and (3).

In addition to the criteria in 40 CFR 260.22(a), 261.11(a)(2) and (3), 42 U.S.C. 6921(f), and in the background documents for the listed wastes, the EPA also considered factors (including additional constituents) other than those for which EPA listed the waste of these additional factors could cause the waste to be hazardous.

Our proposed decision to grant the Facility's petition is based on our evaluation of the wastes for factors or criteria which could cause the waste to be hazardous. These factors included: (1) whether the waste is considered acutely toxic; (2) the toxicity of the constituents; (3) the concentrations of the constituents in the waste; (4) the tendency of the constituents to migrate and to bioaccumulate; (5) the persistence in the environment of any constituents once released from the waste; (6) plausible and specific types of management of the petitioned waste; (7) the quantity of waste produced; and (8) waste variability.

The EPA must also consider hazardous wastes mixture containing listed hazardous wastes and wastes derived from treating, storing, or disposing of listed hazardous waste. See 40 CFR 261.3(a)(2)(iv) and (c)(2)(i) called the ''mixture'' and ''derived-from'' rules, respectively. Mixture and derived-from wastes are also eligible for exclusion but remain hazardous until excluded.

E. How did the EPA evaluate the risk of delisting this waste?

For this proposed delisting determination, we evaluated the risk that the waste would be disposed of as a non-hazardous waste in a landfill. We considered transport of waste constituents through groundwater, surface water, and air. We evaluated the Petitioner's analysis of the petitioned waste using the Delisting Risk Assessment Software (DRAS) to predict the concentration of hazardous constituents that might be released from the petitioned waste and to determine if the waste would pose a threat to human health and the environment. The DRAS software and associated documentation can be found at *https://www.epa.gov/hw/hazardous-waste-delisting-risk-assessment-software-dras.*

To predict the potential for release to groundwater from landfilled wastes and subsequent routes of exposure to a receptor, the DRAS uses dilution attenuation factors derived from the EPA's Composite Model for leachate migration with transformation products. From a release to groundwater, the DRAS considers routes of exposure to a human receptor through ingestion of contaminated groundwater, inhalation from groundwater while showering, and dermal contact from groundwater while bathing. From a release to surface water by erosion of waste from an open landfill into stormwater runoff, DRAS evaluates the exposure to a human receptor by fish ingestion and ingestion of drinking water. From the release of waste particles and volatile emissions to air from the surface of an open landfill, DRAS considers routes of exposure of inhalation of volatile constituents, inhalation of particles, and air deposition of particles on residential

soil and subsequent ingestion of the contaminated soil by a child.

F. What did EPA conclude?

The EPA's review of this petition included consideration of the original listing criteria, and the additional factors required by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 (HSWA). In making the initial delisting determination, the EPA evaluated the petitioned waste against the listing criteria and factors cited in 40 CFR 261.11(a)(2) and (a)(3). Based on this review, the EPA agrees with the Petitioner that the petitioned waste is nonhazardous with respect to the original listing criteria. (If the EPA had found, based on this review, that the waste remained hazardous based on the factors for which the waste was originally listed, the EPA would propose to deny the petition.) The EPA evaluated the waste with respect to other factors or criteria to assess whether there is a reasonable basis to believe that such additional factors could cause the waste to be hazardous. The EPA considered whether the waste is acutely toxic, the concentration of the constituents in the waste, their tendency to migrate and to bioaccumulate, their persistence in the environment once released from the waste plausible and specific types of management of the petitioned waste, the quantities of waste generated, and waste variability. The EPA believes that the petitioned waste does not meet the listing criteria and thus, should not be a listed waste. The EPA's proposed decision to delist the waste from the Petitioner's facility is based on the information submitted in support of this rule, including description of the wastes and analytical data from the Facility, and that is contained in the Petition and attachments, all of which are included in the docket of this action.

IV. Conditions of Exclusion

A. How will the Petitioner manage the waste if it is delisted?

If the petitioned waste is delisted as proposed, the Petitioner must dispose of the waste in a Subtitle D landfill which is permitted, licensed, or registered by a state to manage industrial waste. The Petitioners stated that, if the delisting is approved, the landfill will likely be an onsite landfill (Notice of Registration Unit No. 045) authorized under Title 30 of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter 335.

B. What is the maximum allowable concentrations of hazardous constituents in the waste?

The EPA notes that in some instances the maximum allowable total constituents' concentrations provided by the DRAS model exceed 100% of the waste-these DRAS results are an artifact of the risk calculations that do not have physical meaning. In instances where DRAS predicts a maximum constituent greater than 100% of the waste (that is, greater than 1,000,000 mg/kg or mg/L, respectively, for total and TCLP concentrations), the EPA is not proposing to require the Petitioner to perform sampling and analysis for that constituent and sampling type (total or TCLP).

C. How frequently must the Petitioner test the waste?

The testing approach for this waste stream will be conducted as generated. Prior to disposal of any future tank cleanouts, the Petitioner must conduct sampling and analysis as described in the delisting sampling and analysis plan and ensure that the waste does not exceed the delisting parameters. If compliance with the delisting parameters is demonstrated with analytical testing (TCLP analysis), the Petitioner may dispose of the stormwater tank cleanouts in a Subtitle D landfill. The annual volume of solids generated from the tank clean outs may not exceed 700 cubic yards. The annual sampling report shall include the volume of solids disposed of in the landfill, as well as annual testing event data. The Petitioner should monitor and report increasing trends of constituents which will affect the overall compliance with the stormwater discharge permit.

D. What data must the Petitioner submit?

The Petitioner must submit the data obtained through verification testing to the U.S. EPA Region 6, Office of Land, Chemicals and Redevelopment Division, 1201 Elm Street, Suite 500, LCRRP, Dallas, Texas 75270–2102, within 30 days after receiving the results from the laboratory. These results may be submitted electronically to Harry Shah, *shah.harry@epa.gov.* The Petitioner must make those records available for inspection. All data must be accompanied by a signed copy of the certification statement in 40 CFR 260.22(i)(12).

E. What happens if the Petitioner fails to meet the conditions of the exclusion?

If this Petitioner violates the terms and conditions established in the exclusion, the Agency may start procedures to withdraw the exclusion. Additionally, the terms of the exclusion provide that ''any waste volume for which representative composite sampling does not reflect full compliance with the exclusion criteria must continue to be managed as hazardous.''

If the testing of the waste does not demonstrate compliance with the delisting concentrations described in section IV.C. above, or other data (including but not limited to leachate data or groundwater monitoring data from the final land disposal facility) relevant to the delisted waste indicates that any constituent is at a concentration in the waste above the specified delisting verification concentrations in table 1, the Petitioner must notify the Agency within 10 days, or a later date as the EPA may agree to in writing, after receiving the final verification testing results from the laboratory or of first possessing or being made aware of other relevant data. The EPA may require the Petitioner to conduct additional verification sampling to better define the volume of waste for which the corresponding representative sample(s) do not reflect full compliance with delisting exclusion levels, the exclusion by its terms does not apply, and the waste must be managed as hazardous.

The EPA has the authority under RCRA and the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 551 to reopen a delisting decision if we receive new information indicating that the condition of this exclusion have been violated or are otherwise not being met.

F. What must the Petitioner do if the process changes?

Any process changes or addition implemented at the Petitioner's facility which would significantly impact the constituent concentration of the waste must be reported to the EPA in accordance with Condition VI. of the exclusion language.

V. When would the EPA finalize the proposed delisting exclusion?

HSWA specifically requires the EPA to provide notice and an opportunity for public comments before granting or denying a final exclusion. Thus, the EPA will not make a final decision or grant an exclusion until it has addressed all timely public comments, including any at public hearings. Upon receipt and consideration of all comments, the EPA will publish its final determination as a final rule. Since this rule would reduce the existing requirements for persons generating hazardous wastes, the regulated community does not need

the six-month period to come into compliance in accordance with 3010 of RCRA, as amended by HSWA.

VI. How would this action affect States?

Because EPA is proposing to issue this exclusion under the federal RCRA delisting regulations, only states subject to federal RCRA delisting provisions will be affected. This exclusion may not be effective in states which have received authorization from the EPA to make their own delisting decisions.

RCRA allows states to impose more stringent regulatory requirements from RCRA's under 3009 of RCRA. These more stringent requirements may include a provision that prohibits a federally issued exclusion from taking effect in the state. We urge Petitioners to contact the state regulatory authority to establish the status of its wastes under the state law.

The EPA has also authorized some states to administer a delisting program in place of the federal program, that is, to make state delisting decisions. Therefore, this exclusion does not apply in those states. If the Petitioner manages wastes in any state with delisting authorization, the Petitioner must obtain delisting authorization or other determination from the receiving state before it can manage the wastes as nonhazardous in that state.

VII. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

Additional Information about these statutes and Executive Orders can be found at *https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations/laws-and-executive-orders.*

A. Executive Order 12866: Regulatory Planning and Review and Executive Order 13563: Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review

This action is exempt from review by the Office of Management and Budget because it is a rule of particular applicability, not general applicability. The action approves a modification of an existing delisting petition under RCRA for the petitioned waste at a particular facility.

B. Executive Order 14192: Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation

This action is not subject to Executive Order 14192 because it is a rule of particular applicability and exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

C. Paperwork Reduction Act

This action does not impose an information collection burden under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501) because it only applies to a particular facility.

D. Regulatory Flexibility Act

Because this rule is of particular applicability relating to a particular facility, it is not subject to the Regulatory flexibility provision of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601).

E. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

This action does not contain any unfunded mandate as described in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (U.S.C. 1531–1538) and does not significantly or uniquely affect small governments. The action imposes no new enforceable duty on any state, local, or Tribe governments or the private sector.

F. Executive Order 13132: Federalism

This action does not have federalism implications. It will not have substantial direct effects on the states, on the relationship between the national government and the states or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

G. Executive Order 13175: Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments

This action does not have Tribal implications as specified in Executive Order 13175. This action applies only to a particular facility on non-Tribal land. Thus, Executive Order 13175 does not apply to this action.

H. Executive Order 13045: Protection of Children From Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks

This action is not subject to Executive Order 13045 because it is not economically significant as defined in Executive Order 12866, and because the EPA does not believe the environmental health or safety risks addressed by this action present a disproportionate risk to children.

I. Executive Order 13211: Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution or Use

This action is not subject to Executive Order 13211, because it is not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866.

J. National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act

This action does not involve technical standards as described by the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. 272).

Lists of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 261

Environmental protection, Hazardous waste, Recycling, and Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Eunice Varughese,

Director, Land, Chemicals and Redevelopment Division.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, the EPA proposes to amend 40 CFR part 261 as follows:

PART 261—IDENTIFICATION AND LISTING OF HAZARDOUS WASTE

■ 1. The authority citation for part 261 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 6905, 6912(a), 6921, 6922, 6924(y) and 6938.

■ 2. Amend table 1 of appendix IX to part 261 by revising the entry ''WRB Refining LP'' in alphabetical order to read as follows:

Appendix IX to Part 261—Wastes Excluded Under §§ 260.20 and 260.22

TABLE 1—WASTES EXCLUDED FROM NON-SPECIFIC SOURCES

*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Facility	Address	Waste description
WRB Refining LP.	Borger, TX	Stormwater Solids (F037) generated at a maximum generation of 700 cubic yards annually.

TABLE 1—WASTES EXCLUDED FROM NON-SPECIFIC SOURCES—Continued

*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Facility	Address	Waste description
		(1) *Delisting Levels:* All leachable constituent concentrations must not exceed the following levels. The petitioner must use the method specified in 40 CFR 261.24 to measure constituents in the waste leachate (mg/L). Stormwater Solids Leachate: Antimony-1280000; Arsenic-.18700; Barium-33800000; Benz(a) anthracene-7510; Benzo(a)pyrene-557 Benzene-759000; Cadmium-70700; Carbon disulfide-51500000; Chromium-.162000; Chrysene-737000; Cobalt-147000; Di-n-butyl-phthalate-4680000; Ethylbenzene-2000000; Fluoranthrene-258000; Fluorene-4230000; Indeno (1,2,3-cd)pyrene-9540 Lead-13000000; Mercury-.13000000; Naphthalene-141000; Nickel-946000; Pyrene-463000; Selenium-4970000; Silver-7310000; Toluene-147000000; Vanadium-6760000; Xylenes, Total- 314000000; Zinc-18700000. (2) *Waste Holding and Handling:* (A) All stormwater solids from tank clean outs must be tested to assure they have met the concentrations described in Paragraph (1). Solids that do not meet the concentrations must be disposed of as hazardous waste. (B) Levels of constituents measured in the samples of the solids that do not exceed the levels set forth in Paragraph (1) are non-hazardous. WRB Refining LP can manage and dispose the non-hazardous stormwater solids according to all applicable solid waste regulations. (C) WRB Refining LP must maintain a record of the actual volume of the stormwater solids to be disposed in the Subtitle D or on-site landfill according to the requirements in Paragraph (4). (3) *Changes in Operating Conditions:* If WRB Refining LP significantly changes the process described in its petition or starts any processes that may or could affect the composition or type of waste generated as established under Paragraph (1) (by illustration, but not limitation, changes in equipment or operating conditions of the treatment process), they must notify the EPA in writing; they may no longer handle the wastes generated from the new process as nonhazardous until the test results of the wastes meet the delisting levels set in Paragraph (1) and they have received written approval to do so from the EPA. (4) *Data Submittals:* WRB Refining LP must submit the information described below. If WRB Refining LP fails to submit the required data within the specified time or maintain the required records on-site for the specified time, the EPA, at its discretion, will consider this sufficient basis to reopen the exclusion as described in Paragraph (5). WRB Refining LP must: (A) Submit the data obtained through Paragraph (3) to the Chief, RCRA Permits & Solid Waste Section, Mail Code, (6LCR–RP) US EPA Region 6, 1201 Elm Street, Suite 500, Dallas, TX 75270 within the time specified. Data may be submitted via email to the technical contact for the delisting program. (B) Compile records of operating conditions and analytical data from Paragraph (3), summarized, and maintained on-site for a minimum of five years. (C) Furnish these records and data when the EPA or the State of Texas request them for inspection. (D) Send, along with all data, a signed copy of the following certification statement, to attest to the truth and accuracy of the data submitted: ''Under civil and criminal penalty of law for the making or submission of false or fraudulent statements or representations (pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Federal Code, which include, but may not be limited to, 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 42 U.S.C. 6928), I certify that the information contained in or accompanying this document is true, accurate and complete. As to the (those) identified section(s) of this document for which I cannot personally verify its (their) truth and accuracy, I certify as the company official having supervisory responsibility for the persons who, acting under my direct instructions, made the verification that this information is true, accurate and complete. If any of this information is determined by the EPA in its sole discretion to be false, inaccurate or incomplete, and upon conveyance of this fact to the company, I recognize and agree that this exclusion of waste will be void as if it never had effect or to the extent directed by the EPA and that the company will be liable for any actions taken in contravention of the company's RCRA and CERCLA obligations premised upon the company's reliance on the void exclusion.'' (5) *Reopener:* (A) If, any time after disposal of the delisted waste, WRB Refining LP possesses or is otherwise made aware of any environmental data (including but not limited to leachate data or ground water monitoring data) or any other data relevant to the delisted waste indicating that any constituent identified for the delisting verification testing is at a level higher than the delisting level allowed by the Division Director in granting the petition, then the facility must report the data, in writing, to the Division Director within 10 days of first possessing or being made aware of that data. (B) If the verification testing of the waste does not meet the delisting requirements in Paragraph 1, WRB Refining LP must report the data, in writing, to the Division Director within 10 days of first possessing or being made aware of that data. (C) If WRB Refining LP fails to submit the information described in paragraphs (4), (5)(A) or (5)(B) or if any other information is received from any source, the Division Director will make a preliminary determination as to whether the reported information requires Agency action to protect human health or the environment. Further action may include suspending, or revoking the exclusion, or other appropriate response necessary to protect human health and the environment. (D) If the Division Director determines that the reported information does require Agency action, the Division Director will notify the facility, in writing, of the actions the Division Director believes are necessary to protect human health and the environment. The notice shall include a statement of the proposed action and a statement providing the facility with an opportunity to present information as to why the proposed Agency action is not necessary. The facility shall have 10 days from the date of the Division Director's notice to present such information.

TABLE 1—WASTES EXCLUDED FROM NON-SPECIFIC SOURCES—Continued

*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Facility	Address	Waste description
		(E) Following the receipt of information from the facility described in paragraph (5)(D) or (if no information is presented under paragraph (5)(D)) the initial receipt of information described in paragraphs (4), (5)(A) or (5)(B), the Division Director will issue a final written determination describing the Agency actions that are necessary to protect human health or the environment. Any required action described in the Division Director's determination shall become effective immediately, unless the Division Director provides otherwise. (6) *Notification Requirements:* WRB Refining LP must do the following before transporting the delisted waste: Failure to provide this notification will result in a violation of the delisting petition and a possible revocation of the decision. (A) Provide a written notification to any State Regulatory Agency to which, or through which they will transport the delisted waste described above for disposal, 60 days before beginning such activities. If WRB Refining LP transports the excluded waste to or manages the waste in any state with delisting authorization, WRB Refining LP must obtain delisting authorization from that state before it can manage the waste as nonhazardous in that state. (B) Update the one-time written notification if they ship the delisted waste to a different disposal facility. (C) Failure to provide the notification will result in a violation of the delisting variance and a possible revocation of the exclusion.

* * * * *

[FR Doc. 2026–05876 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 271

[EPA–R04–RCRA–2025–1577; FRL–13183–01–R4]

Florida: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: Florida has applied to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for final authorization of changes to its hazardous waste program under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), as amended. The EPA has reviewed Florida's application and has determined, subject to public comment, that these changes satisfy all requirements needed to qualify for final authorization. Therefore, in the ''Rules and Regulations'' section of this **Federal Register**, we are authorizing Florida for these changes as a final action without a prior proposed rule. If we receive no adverse comment, we will not take further action on this proposed rule.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 27, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–R04–RCRA–2025–1577, at *https://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from *www.regulations.gov.* The EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.,* on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). For additional submission methods, the full EPA public comment policy, information about CBI or multimedia submissions, and general guidance on making effective comments, please visit *http://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets.*

The EPA encourages electronic submittals, but if you are unable to submit electronically or need other assistance, please contact Leah Davis, the contact listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. Please also contact Leah Davis if you need assistance in a language other than English or if you are a person with disabilities who needs a reasonable accommodation at no cost to you.

All documents in the docket are listed in the *www.regulations.gov* index. Publicly available docket materials are available electronically in *www.regulations.gov.* For alternative access to docket materials, please contact Leah Davis, the contact listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leah Davis; RCRA Programs and Cleanup Branch; Land, Chemicals and Redevelopment Division; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Atlanta Federal Center, 61 Forsyth Street SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303–8960; telephone number: (404) 562–8562; fax number: (404) 562–9964; email address: *davis.leah@epa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document proposes to take action on Florida's changes to its hazardous waste management program under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), as amended. We have published a final action authorizing these changes in the ''Rules and Regulations'' section of this **Federal Register** because we view this as a noncontroversial action and anticipate no adverse comment. We have explained our reasons for this action in the preamble to the final action.

If we receive no adverse comment, we will not take further action on this proposed rule. If we receive adverse comment, we will either publish a withdrawal notification promptly in the **Federal Register** informing the public that the final action will not take effect, or we will publish a notification containing a response to comments that either reverses the decision or affirms that the final action will take effect. In the event that the final action is withdrawn, we would address all public comments and make a final decision on authorization in a subsequent final action.

We do not intend to institute a second comment period on this action. Any

parties interested in commenting must do so at this time. For further information, please see the information provided in the **ADDRESSES** section of this document.

Dated: March 9, 2026.

Kevin J. McOmber,

Regional Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2026–05863 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 648

[Docket No. 260323–0088]

RIN 0648–BO35

Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Skate Complex; 2026–2028 Specifications

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Proposed rule; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS proposes 2026 through 2028 specifications for the Northeast skate fishery. This action would set skate catch limits for fishing year 2026, project catch limits for fishing years 2027 through 2028, and increase per trip possession limits for the wing and bait fisheries. This proposed action is necessary to establish skate specifications consistent with the most recent scientific information. The intent of this action is to establish appropriate catch limits for the skate fishery while providing additional operational flexibility to fishery participants.

DATES: Comments must be received by April 10, 2026. As explained further below, NMFS finds that a 15-day comment period for this action provides a reasonable opportunity for public participation in this action pursuant to Administrative Procedure Act section 553(c) (5 U.S.C. 553(c)), while also ensuring that the final specifications and possession limits are in place as close as possible to the start of the 2026 skate fishing season on May 1.

ADDRESSES: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) has prepared a supplemental information report (SIR) that describes the proposed action and compares it to the alternatives and analyses presented in the environmental assessment (EA) that was prepared for Framework Adjustment 12 to the Northeast Skate Complex Fishery Management Plan (FMP). The SIR considers whether there are any substantial changes or significant new circumstances or information that are relevant to environmental concerns and could affect the proposed action or its impacts. Based on the analysis presented in the SIR, NMFS has determined that the Framework Adjustment 12 EA does not require supplementation. The SIR also includes a Regulatory Impact Review (RIR) and economic analysis. Copies of the proposed skate fishery specifications for fishing years 2026–2028, SIR, and other supporting documents are available on the Council website at *https://www.nefmc.org/library/2026-2027-skate-specifications* and upon request from Dr. Cate O'Keefe, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Newburyport, MA 01950.

A plain language summary of this proposed rule is available at *https://www.regulations.gov/docket/NOAA-NMFS-2025-1593.* You may submit comments on this document, identified by NOAA–NMFS–2025–1593, by the following method:

- *Electronic Submission:* Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Visit *https://www.regulations.gov* and type NOAA–NMFS–2025–1593 in the Search box. Click on the ''Comment'' icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

Instructions: Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered by NMFS. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on *https://www.regulations.gov* without change. All personal identifying information (*e.g.,* name, address), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter ''N/A'' in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Caroline Potter, Fishery Resource Management Specialist, (978) 281–9325.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The FMP sets management parameters for a complex of seven skate species (barndoor, clearnose, little, rosette, smooth, thorny, and winter) off the New England and mid-Atlantic coasts. Skates support two different targeted fisheries, one for food (the wing fishery) and one for bait in other fisheries (the bait fishery). The FMP requires that annual catch and possession limits for the skate fishery be reviewed and established through the specifications process. Framework Adjustment 12 to the Northeast Skate Complex FMP (Framework 12) (89 FR 58076, July 17, 2024) set management measures and specifications for the skate fishery for fishing year 2024 and projected specifications for fishing year 2025. A subsequent final rule (90 FR 16467, April 18, 2025) finalized the projected specifications for fishing year 2025.

Proposed Measures

Consistent with the Council's recommendations, this action proposes increasing the 2026 and 2027 acceptable biological catch (ABC) and annual catch limit (ACL) to 41,282 metric tons (mt) (compared to 32,155 mt in 2025). The total allowable landings (TAL) would be 20,966 mt (compared to 15,718 mt in 2025); based on the proportional allocations prescribed in the FMP, the wing TAL would be 13,943 mt (compared to 10,453 mt in 2025), and the bait TAL would be 7,024 mt (compared to 5,266 mt in 2025). For fishing years 2026 and 2027, the ABC would be a 28-percent increase over the ABC for years 2024 and 2025. This action would decrease the ABC for fishing year 2028 by 10 percent from fishing years 2026 and 2027 in order to account for uncertainty in the future biomass trend. Thus, for 2028, this action proposes an ABC and an ACL of 37,154 mt. The 2028 TAL would be 18,800 mt; the wing TAL would be 12,502 mt; and the bait TAL would be 6,298 mt. A comparison of the current 2024–2025 and the proposed 2026–2028 specifications is provided below in table 1.

The Council will review the projected 2027 and 2028 specifications to determine if any changes need to be recommended prior to fishing years 2027 and 2028, respectively. NMFS will publish a notice prior to each fishing year to confirm these limits as projected or, if changes are necessary, NMFS may publish a proposed rule.

Skate regulations (50 CFR 648.320(a)(4)) indicate that specifications can be set for a period of up to two fishing years. However, in November 2025, the Council submitted a concurrent omnibus management flexibility amendment that, in part, would allow extending the time period for setting skate specifications for up to five years. Thus, setting projected specifications through 2028 as provided in this proposed rule is contingent on

the implementation of the management flexibility amendment. If at the time NMFS prepares the final rule, the amendment is not yet approved and effective, the final rule for this action would not set projected 2028 specifications.

TABLE 1—COMPARISON OF CURRENT 2024–2025 AND PROPOSED 2026–2028 SKATE FISHERY SPECIFICATIONS, IN METRIC TONS AND WHOLE WEIGHT

	2024–2025 (current)	2026–2027 (proposed)	2028 (proposed)
ABC/ACL	32,155	41,282	37,154
ACT (90% of ACL)	28,940	37,154	33,439
Overall Fishery TAL	15,718	20,966	18,800
Wing TAL (66.5% of Overall TAL)	10,453	13,943	12,502
Wing Season 1 TAL (57% of Wing TAL)	5,958	7,948	7,126
Wing Season 2 TAL	4,495	5,995	5,376
Bait TAL (33.5% of Overall TAL)	5,266	7,024	6,298
Bait Season 1 TAL (30.8% of Bait TAL)	1,622	2,163	1,940
Bait Season 2 TAL (37.1% of Bait TAL)	1,954	2,606	2,337
Bait Season 3 TAL	1,690	2,255	2,021

In addition, this action proposes changes to the skate per trip possession limits. It would increase the skate wing possession limits (in wing weight) for trips fishing on a Monkfish, Scallop, or Northeast Multispecies Day-At-Sea (DAS) by 500 pounds (lb; 226.8 kg) for each season, which would result in a trip limit of 4,500 lb (2,041.2 kg) for Season 1 (May 1–August 31) and a trip limit of 6,500 lb (2,948,4 kg) for Season 2 (September 1–April 30). This proposed action would also increase the skate bait whole weight possession limit from 25,000 lb (11,339.8 kg) to 30,000 lb (13,607.8 kg) for trips fishing on a Bait Letter of Authorization (LOA) for all three bait seasons.

The proposed changes to trip limits are intended to provide additional flexibility to fishery participants. The increased skate wing possession limit is intended to allow for additional yield on trips where skates have been a constraining factor, such as for the monkfish fishery. The increased skate bait possession limit is intended to offset any increased costs for skate bait trips that have experienced longer steam times, as distance to productive fishing grounds has increased in recent years. The scale of the possession limit increases are intended to accommodate these constraints and costs while not being large enough to incentivize substantial increased fishing effort.

Indices of relative abundance (stratified mean weight/tow) for each of the seven species in the skate complex have been developed from Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC) bottom trawl surveys. These indices and their rates of change form the basis for the conclusions about the status of the complex. The spring NEFSC survey data are used for little skate and the fall NEFSC survey data are used for the other managed skate species. Based on the 2025 NEFSC data update, overfishing is not occurring for any of the seven skate species, and only thorny skate is considered overfished.

It is estimated that the proposed bait possession limit increase could lead to bait landings of about 7.59 million lb (3.44 million kg) per year, as compared to the average bait landings of 7.20 million lb (3.27 million kg) from fishing years 2021–2024. These landings levels would equate to a bait TAL utilization of about 49 percent for fishing years 2026–2027 (15.5 M lb; 7.03 million kg) and 55 percent for fishing year 2028 (13.9 million lb; 6.30 million kg). These rates fall well within the range of bait TAL utilization rates of 45 to 62 percent in fishing years 2021–2024. While increasing skate possession limits could increase TAL utilization by increasing landings, the proposed increase is small enough to provide some operational flexibility and enough below the high end of the utilization rate range to avoid a substantial change in fishing effort. In addition, a substantial increase in fishing effort is not expected considering that, from 2021–2024, 91 percent of Bait LOA trips landed less than 75 percent of the current 25,000 lb (11,339.8 kg) possession limit. Catch is expected to remain within the ABC, and accountability measures would be triggered if a TAL or ACL is exceeded. Thus, these measures are not anticipated to increase the risk of overfishing for skate species or result in skate species becoming overfished. In addition, while skate mortality could increase with increased possession limits, some of the skates that are discarded dead under current possession limits would be landed instead, decreasing bycatch and mitigating increases in total mortality.

Data from observed trips in the Bait LOA fishery suggest that skate landings are largely comprised of little skate. Little skate survey biomass has been decreasing in recent years. The moving average of the survey biomass index for little skate (the 2024–2025 2-year average is 4.03) is close to its biomass threshold (3.38). If the moving average of the survey biomass index falls to less than the biomass threshold, the stock would be considered overfished. On average, it is estimated that about 7.06 million lb (3.20 million kg) of little skate have been landed annually since fishing year 2021. It is anticipated that increasing the bait possession limit, as proposed by this action, could lead to an increase in little skate landings of 381,228 lb (172,922 kg) per year and that total little skate landings could increase to 7,437,382 lb (3,373,540 kg) per year. Thus, this action could lead to an approximately 5.4-percent increase in little skate landings on average. However, this landing estimate is below the 8.28 million lb (3.76 million kg) of landings that occurred in 2021, and annual landings since then have remained below this level. Because the anticipated landings increase of 5.4 percent is relatively small and the landings estimate is below the landings in 2021, it is unlikely that the anticipated increase in mortality under the proposed action would cause little skate to become overfished. In addition, as described above, the increases in possession limits are expected to provide operational flexibility without resulting in an increase in fishing effort. Considering all of the above, no substantial changes in impacts to little skate are expected as a result of this proposed action.

Classification

NMFS is issuing this rule pursuant to sections 303(c), 304(b), and 305(d) of the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation

and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), which provides specific authority and procedure for implementing this action. The Council reviewed the proposed regulations for this action and deemed them necessary and appropriate to implement this action, consistent with section 303(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. The NMFS Assistant Administrator has determined that this proposed rule is consistent with the Northeast Skate Complex FMP, other provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and other applicable law, subject to further consideration after public comment. *See* 16 U.S.C. 304(b)(1)(A). In addition, in a previous action under section 304(b), the regulations at 50 CFR 648.320(a)(7) authorize NMFS to take this action under section 305(d).

Section 304(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1854(b)) requires publication of proposed regulations in the **Federal Register** with a public comment period of 15 to 60 days. NMFS finds that a 15-day comment period for this action provides a reasonable opportunity for public participation in this action pursuant to Administrative Procedure Act section 553(c) (5 U.S.C. 553(c)), while also ensuring that the final specifications and possession limits are in place as close as possible to the start of the 2026 skate fishing season on May 1. This is a routine action and stakeholders have been involved with the development of this action and have participated in public meetings throughout its development. A longer comment period would be contrary to the public interest as it could extend this rulemaking beyond the start of the 2026 fishing season, resulting in confusion for fishery participants, disadvantage for Federal permit holders, and enforcement challenges.

This proposed rule has been determined to be not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866.

This proposed rule is not an Executive Order 14192 regulatory action because this rule is not significant under Executive Order 12866.

The Chief Counsel for Regulation of the Department of Commerce certified to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration that this proposed rule, if adopted, would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The factual basis for this determination is as follows.

The Council conducted an evaluation of the potential socioeconomic impacts of the proposed measures. The increases in skate ACL and possession limits would impact vessels or affiliate groups that hold Federal skate permits and affect both bait and wing fisheries. For RFA purposes only, NMFS has established a small business size standard for businesses, including their affiliates, whose primary industry is commercial fishing (North American Industry Classification System code 114111) (see 50 CFR 200.2). A business that primarily engages in commercial fishing is classified as a small business if it is independently owned and operated, is not dominant in its field of operation (including its affiliates) and has combined annual receipts not more than $11 million for all its affiliated operations worldwide. Following the Small Business Administration guidelines, a five-year trailing average is used to determine which entities are classified as small business entities under the NMFS guidelines, as well as to measure total revenues for affiliate groups. During the most recent fishing year (2024), there were 1,929 Federal skate permits issued. These permits are affiliated with 1,304 unique entities. Regarding affiliate groups, there are 9 groups that classify as ''large entities,'' all of which are in the commercial fishing sector, which includes 124 permits. The remaining affiliate groups are classified as small entities, of which 837 (1,273 unique permits) are in the commercial fishing sector, 158 (195 unique permits) are in the for-hire sector, and 300 had no skate revenue (337 unique permits). Thus, the majority of entities affiliated with federal skate permits in 2024 were small entities. The large commercial affiliates averaged $16 million in revenue. Average gross revenues for the small commercial fishing entities were $636,987 and $192,648 for the for-hire affiliates.

Skate revenues comprise a relatively low percentage of total revenues for any federal vessel landing skate. Specifically, from 2022 through 2024, skate revenues for wing vessels only contributed an average of 9.8 percent of total vessel revenue. Skate revenue from vessels landing bait and vessels landing both wing and bait contributed slightly more to average total revenues (14.7 percent and 17.3, respectively). However, from 2022 through 2024, the average number of wing vessels (250) constitutes a much higher percentage of the skate fishery compared to the average number of bait vessels (17) and both wing and bait vessels (23).

From 2022 through 2024, average fishing year revenue from skate wing and bait is $4.6 million and $2 million, respectively. This action and the proposed increase in the wing possession limit is predicted to increase gross revenues in 2026 by $98,802 in Season 1 and $176,426 in Season 2 ($275,228 total). The increase in the bait possession limit is predicted to increase the gross revenues in 2026 of trips fishing on a Bait Letter of Authorization by $43,363 as compared to the previous possession limits. In total, the increase in possession limits is expected to yield up $900,908 in additional gross revenues for the combined bait and wing skate fishery over fishing years 2026 through 2028.

A description of this action, why it is being considered, and the legal basis for this action are contained at the beginning of this section in the preamble and are not repeated here. There are no additional record keeping or reporting requirements associated with this action. No relevant Federal rules have been identified that would duplicate, overlap, or conflict with the proposed rule. The proposed action is unlikely to disproportionately impact small businesses. It is expected that the increase in possession limits will positively impact small businesses, similarly to large businesses, with potential opportunities for increased landings, revenue, and trip efficiency gains. Considering all of the above, including recent skate revenues for small entities, the expected additional revenues from this proposed action, and the fact that skate revenues contribute a relatively small proportion to total annual revenues at the vessel level, this action is unlikely to have substantial impacts on vessels operating in the fishery. Thus, this proposed rule, if finalized, is not expected to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. As a result, an initial regulatory flexibility analysis is not required and none has been prepared.

This proposed rule contains no information collection requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 648

Fisheries, Fishing, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: March 23, 2026.

Samuel D. Rauch III,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, NMFS proposes to amend 50 CFR part 648 as follows:

PART 648—FISHERIES OF THE NORTHEASTERN UNITED STATES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 648 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

■ 2. In § 648.322, revise paragraphs (b)(1) and (c)(3), to read as follows:

§ 648.322 Skate allocation, possession, and landing provisions.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

(1) *Vessels fishing under an Atlantic sea scallop, NE multispecies, or monkfish DAS.*

(i) A vessel or operator of a vessel that has been issued a valid Federal skate permit under this part, and fishes under an Atlantic sea scallop, NE multispecies, or monkfish DAS as specified at §§ 648.53, 648.82, and 648.92, respectively, unless otherwise exempted under § 648.80 or paragraph (c) of this section, may fish for, possess, and/or land up to the allowable trip limits specified as follows: Up to 4,500 lb (2,041 kg) of skate wings (10,215 lb (4,633 kg) whole weight) per trip in Season 1 (May 1 through August 31), and 6,500 lb (2,948 kg) of skate wings (14,755 lb (6,693 kg) whole weight) per trip in Season 2 (September 1 through April 30), or any prorated combination of the allowable landing forms defined at paragraph (b)(5) of this section.

(ii) [Reserved]

* * * * *

(c) * * *

(3) The vessel owner or operator possesses or lands no more than 30,000 lb (13,608 kg) of whole skates per trip.

* * * * *

[FR Doc. 2026–05860 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

Notices

Federal Register
Vol. 91, No. 58
Thursday, March 26, 2026

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Comments are required regarding; whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding this information collection received by April 27, 2026 will be considered. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Farm Service Agency

Title: Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP).

OMB Control Number: 0560–0289.

Summary of Collection: Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP) provides cost share assistance to Individuals/Households known as producers and handlers of agricultural products who are obtaining or renewing their certification under the National Organic Program (NOP). The National Organic Certification Cost-Share Program (NOCCSP) is authorized under section 10606(d)(1) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7901 note), as amended by section 10004(c) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (2014 Farm Bill; Pub. L. 113–79).

Need and Use of the Information: The Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides cost-share assistance, through FSA county offices and participating state agencies, to organic producers or handlers who are obtaining or renewing their certification under the National Organic Program. The information collected is needed to ensure that organic producers or handlers and State agencies are eligible for funding and comply with applicable program regulations to ensure program integrity. Without this collection of information, FSA would not be able to manage, monitor or provide cost-share assistance to eligible producers, handlers and or state agencies.

Description of Respondents: Individuals or Households; State, Local and Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 12,030.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Semi-annually; Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 29.031.

Rachelle Ragland-Greene,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2026–05882 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–05–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[B–33–2026]

Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 164, Notification of Proposed Production Activity; Webco Industries, Inc.; (Steel Tubing); Kellyville, Oklahoma

Webco Industries, Inc. submitted a notification of proposed production activity to the FTZ Board (the Board) for its facility in Kellyville, Oklahoma within FTZ 164. The notification conforming to the requirements of the Board's regulations (15 CFR 400.22) was received on March 23, 2026.

Pursuant to 15 CFR 400.14(b), FTZ production activity would be limited to the specific foreign-status material(s)/component(s) and specific finished product(s) described in the submitted notification (summarized below) and subsequently authorized by the Board. The benefits that may stem from conducting production activity under FTZ procedures are explained in the background section of the Board's website—accessible via *www.trade.gov/ftz.*

The proposed finished products include welded stainless steel tubing and nickel alloy steel tubing (duty rate ranges from duty-free to 2%).

The proposed foreign-status materials/components include coiled rolled stainless steel slit coils, cold rolled nickel alloy steel slit coils, and hot rolled stainless steel slit coils (duty rate ranges from duty-free to 2%).

The request indicates that certain materials/components are subject to duties under section 122 of the Trade Act of 1974 (Section 122) or section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (section 232), depending on the country of origin. The applicable section 122, and section 232 decisions require subject merchandise to be admitted to FTZs in privileged foreign status (19 CFR 146.41.

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary and sent to: *ftz@trade.gov.* The closing period for their receipt is May 5, 2026.

A copy of the notification will be available for public inspection in the ''Online FTZ Information System'' section of the Board's website.

For further information, contact Brian Warnes at *brian.warnes@trade.gov.*

Dated: March 24, 2026.

Elizabeth Whiteman,

Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–05879 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[B–32–2026]

Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 81, Notification of Proposed Production Activity; Hypertherm Inc; (Plasma Cutting Equipment and Components); Hanover and Lebanon, New Hampshire

Hypertherm Inc. submitted a notification of proposed production activity to the FTZ Board (the Board) for its facilities in Hanover and Lebanon, New Hampshire within Subzone 81H. The notification conforming to the requirements of the Board's regulations (15 CFR 400.22) was received on March 20, 2026.

Pursuant to 15 CFR 400.14(b), FTZ production activity would be limited to the specific foreign-status material(s)/component(s) and specific finished product(s) described in the submitted notification (summarized below) and subsequently authorized by the Board. The benefits that may stem from conducting production activity under FTZ procedures are explained in the background section of the Board's website—accessible via *www.trade.gov/ftz.*

The proposed finished products include: plasma cutting consumables and kits containing plasma cutting consumables (duty rate ranges from 2.7 to 4.7%).

The proposed foreign-status materials/components include: tellurium copper (TeCu) rods, oxygen-free high thermal conductivity rods, and precision cut hafnium (duty rate ranges from 1.6 to 4.0%).

The request indicates that certain materials/components are subject to duties under section 122 of the Trade Act of 1974 (Section 122), section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (section 232), or section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 (section 301), depending on the country of origin. The applicable section 122, section 232, and section 301 decisions require subject merchandise to be admitted to FTZs in privileged foreign (PF) status (19 CFR 146.41).

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary and sent to: *ftz@trade.gov.* The closing period for their receipt is May 5, 2026.

A copy of the notification will be available for public inspection in the ''Online FTZ Information System'' section of the Board's website.

For further information, contact Christopher Williams at *Christopher.williams@trade.gov.*

Dated: March 23, 2026.

Elizabeth Whiteman,

Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–05880 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Industry and Security

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Miscellaneous Licensing and Reporting Responsibilities and Enforcement

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on December 19, 2025, during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

Agency: Bureau of Industry and Security, Commerce.

Title: Miscellaneous Licensing and Reporting Responsibilities and Enforcement.

OMB Control Number: 0694–0122.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Extension of a current information collection.

Number of Respondents: 2,224,151.

Average Hours per Response: 5 seconds to 4 hours.

Burden Hours: 97,456.

Needs and Uses: This collection of information involves miscellaneous licensing and reporting requirements as well as enforcement activities that are associated with the export, reexport or transfer of items controlled by the Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS). BIS is revising the title of this collection of information to better reflect the scope of the existing requirements associated with licensing and enforcement found in Parts 744, 748 and 758 of the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) but there are no changes to the current activities associated with this collection. Some of these activities involve submission of documents to BIS and some involve exchange of documents among parties in the export transaction to ensure that each party understands its obligations under U.S. law. Others involve writing certain export control statements on shipping documents or reporting unforeseen changes in shipping and disposition of exported commodities. These activities are needed by the Office of Export Enforcement and the U.S. Customs Service (Customs) to document export transactions, enforce the EAR and protect the National Security of the United States.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Frequency: On Occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Export Control Reform Act (ECRA) of 2018.

This information collection request may be viewed at *www.reginfo.gov.* Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function and entering either the title of the collection or the OMB Control Number 0694–0122.

Sheleen Dumas,

Departmental PRA Compliance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2026–05902 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–33–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; User Needs Survey by the Space Weather Advisory Group

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on December 11, 2025, during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

Agency: National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

Title: User Needs Survey by the Space Weather Advisory Group.

OMB Control Number: 0648–0814.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular submission (Extension of a current information collection).

Number of Respondents: 491.

Average Hours per Response:

- *Aviation:* 1 hour
- *Emergency Management:* 8 hours
- *Global Navigation Satellite System:* 15 minutes (Survey) and 1 hour (Interview)
- *Human Space Flight:* 1 hour
- *Power Grid:* 1 hour
- *Research Sector:* 1 hour
- *Space Situational Awareness:* 1 hour

Total Annual Burden Hours: 432.

Needs and Uses: The data collection is sponsored by Department of Commerce (DOC)/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)/National Weather Service (NWS)/Space Weather Advisory Group (SWAG). The SWAG is required under 51 U.S. Code § 60601(d)(3) to undertake a comprehensive survey of space weather product users to identify the ''research, observations, forecasting, prediction, and modeling advances required to improve space weather products.'' Specifically, the SWAG will (i) assess the adequacy of current Federal Government goals for lead time, accuracy, coverage, timeliness, data rate, and data quality for space weather observations and forecasting; (ii) identify options and methods to, in consultation with the academic community and the commercial space weather sector, improve upon the advancement of the goals described in clause (i); (iii) identify opportunities for collection of new data to address the needs of the space weather user community; (iv) identify methods to increase coordination of space weather research to operations and operations to research; (v) identify opportunities for new technologies, research, and instrumentation to aid in research, understanding, monitoring, modeling, prediction, forecasting, and warning of space weather; and (vi) identify methods and technologies to improve preparedness for potential space weather phenomena.

This collection identified seven sectors (Aviation, Emergency Management, Global Navigation Satellite System, Human Space Flight, Power Grid, Research, and Space Situational Awareness/Space Traffic Management) that will be consulted as part of this effort. Information will be collected from each of the sectors as needed. Respondents in each sector include the general public, defined as (adults ages 18+). Members of the SWAG will oversee recruitment of the respondents. Respondents will be asked questions about their current use of space weather observations, information, and forecasts, technological systems, components or elements affected by space weather, current and future risk and resilience activities, future space weather requirements, and unused or new types of measurements or observations that would enhance space weather risk mitigation. This data collection serves many purposes, including gaining a better understanding of the needs of users of space weather products. The SWAG will use the data to identify the space weather research, observations, forecasting, prediction, and modeling advances required to improve space weather products. Specifically, the information will be used to advise the National Science and Technology Council's Space Weather Operations, Research, and Mitigation (SWORM) Subcommittee on improving the ability of the United States to prepare for, mitigate, respond to, and recover from space weather storms.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit organizations; Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local, or Tribal government; Federal government.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: 51 U.S. Code 60601 Space weather.

This information collection request may be viewed at *www.reginfo.gov.* Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function and entering either the title of the collection or the OMB Control Number 0648–0814.

Sheleen Dumas,

Departmental PRA Compliance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2026–05900 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–KE–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Recreational Landings and Bluefin Tuna Catch Reports

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on July 11, 2025, during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

Agency: National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

Title: Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Recreational Landings and Bluefin Tuna Catch Reports.

OMB Control Number: 0648–0328.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular submission (extension of a current information collection).

Number of Respondents: 14,161.

Average Hours per Response: 5–10 minutes per landings report.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,557.

Needs and Uses: Catch reporting from recreational and commercial handgear fisheries provides important data used to monitor catches of Atlantic highly migratory species (HMS) and supplements other existing data collection programs. Data collected through this program are used for both domestic and international fisheries management and stock assessment purposes.

Atlantic bluefin tuna (BFT) catch reporting provides real-time catch information used to monitor the BFT fishery. Under the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act of 1975 (ATCA, 16 U.S.C. 971), the United States (U.S.) is required to adopt regulations, as necessary and appropriate, to implement recommendations of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), including recommendations on a specified BFT quota. BFT catch reporting helps the U.S. monitor this quota and supports scientific research consistent with ATCA and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act, 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*). Recreational anglers and commercial handgear fishermen are required to report specific information regarding their catch of BFT.

Atlantic billfish and swordfish are managed internationally by ICCAT and nationally under ATCA and the Magnuson-Stevens Act. This collection provides information needed to monitor the recreational catch of Atlantic blue marlin, white marlin, and roundscale spearfish, which is applied to the recreational limit established by ICCAT, and the recreational catch of North Atlantic swordfish, which is applied to the U.S. quota established by ICCAT. This collection also provides information on recreational landings of West Atlantic sailfish, which is unavailable from other established monitoring programs.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit organizations; individuals or households; and State, Local, or Tribal government.

Frequency: Irregular as the reporting requirement is triggered by landing a bluefin tuna, billfish, or swordfish. Most permit holders will only need to report once or twice a year.

Respondent's Obligation: HMS Angling, Charter/Headboat, and Atlantic Tunas General category permit holders are required to report landings of billfish and swordfish and bluefin tuna catch (*i.e.,* landings and dead discards) within 24 hours.

Legal Authority: Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), and the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act of 1975 (16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*).

This information collection request may be viewed at *www.reginfo.gov.* Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function and entering either the title of the collection or the OMB Control Number 0648–0328.

Sheleen Dumas,

Departmental PRA Compliance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2026–05904 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; NOAA Space-Based Data Collection System (DCS) Agreement

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on December 22, 2025, during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

Title: NOAA Space-Based Data Collection System (DCS) Agreement.

OMB Control Number: 0648–0157.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular submission [revision and extension of a current information collection].

Number of Respondents: 225.

Average Hours per Response: .5 hours.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 113.

Needs and Uses: This request is for a revision and extension of an existing information collection. The Polar-Orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite (POES) data collection system (DCS), also known as the Argos system, is being removed from this collection as it is no longer administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

NOAA operates a space-based data collection system (DCS) per 15 CFR part 911: the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite (GOES) DCS. The GOES DCS is operated to support environmental applications, *e.g.,* meteorology, oceanography, hydrology, ecology, and remote sensing of Earth resources. Presently, the majority of users of this system are government agencies and researchers and much of the data collected by the GOES DCS are provided to the World Meteorological Organization via the Global Telecommunication System for inclusion in the World Weather Watch Program.

Current loading does not use the entire capacity of that system, so NOAA is able to make its excess capacity available to other users who meet certain criteria. Applications are made in response to the requirements in 15 CFR 911 (under the authority of 15 U.S.C. 313, Duties of the Secretary of Commerce and others), using system use agreement (SUA) form. The application information received is used to determine if the applicant meets the criteria for use of the system. The SUA contains the following information: (1) the period of time the agreement is valid and procedures for its termination, (2) the authorized use(s) of the DCS, and its priorities for use, (3) the extent of the availability of commercial services which met the user's requirements and the reasons for choosing the government system, (4) any applicable government interest in the data, (5) required equipment standards, (6) standards of operation, (7) conformance with applicable International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and Federal Communications Commission

(FCC) agreements and regulations, (8) reporting time and frequencies, (9) data formats, (10) data delivery systems and schedules and (11) user-borne costs.

Accepted applicants use the NOAA DCS to collect environmental data. The applicants must submit information to ensure that they meet these criteria. NOAA does not approve agreements where there is a commercial service available to fulfill the user requirements (per 15 CFR part 911).

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions; Federal government; state, local, or tribal government; business or other for-profit organizations.

Frequency: Annual, every 3 years, every 5 years (per regulations).

Respondent's Obligation: Required to Obtain or Retain Benefits.

Legal Authority: 15 CFR 911.

This information collection request may be viewed at *www.reginfo.gov.* Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function and entering either the title of the collection or the OMB Control Number 0648–0157.

Sheleen Dumas,

Department PRA Compliance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2026–05905 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–HR–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XF606]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce Department.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a 3-day meeting with online webinar participation options to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

DATES: The meeting will be held Tuesday, April 14 through Thursday, April 16, 2026, beginning at 10 a.m. on Tuesday and 9 a.m. on Wednesday and Thursday.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland, ME 04101; telephone (207) 775–2311; online at *https://www.innbythebay.com/.* Webinar registration: Information on how to register and provide public comment via webinar will be posted on the Council's April 2026 meeting web page at: *https://www.nefmc.org/calendar/april-2026-council-meeting.*

Register for the webinar at *https://nefmc-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_r4asGYi-ToWe48_6S3dTgg.*

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950; telephone (978) 465–0492; *www.nefmc.org.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cate O'Keefe, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465–0492, ext. 113.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Agenda

Tuesday, April 14, 2026

The Council will begin the meeting with a closed session of the Executive Committee, pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, to discuss sensitive information related to Council resources. Following the closed session, the meeting will open with introductions and announcements from the Council Chair. The Council will then receive reports on recent activities from the Council Chair and Executive Director; the Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO) Regional Administrator; NOAA Office of General Counsel; the Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC); the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC); the U.S. Coast Guard; NOAA Enforcement; and representatives associated with ICCAT, Highly Migratory Species (HMS), and the Dolphin-Wahoo fishery.

After reports, the Council will review Executive Order 14276, *Restoring American Seafood Competitiveness.* The Executive Director will summarize additional public comments received through December 2025 and review the Council's September 2025 response and associated workplan.

After a lunch break, the Council will receive an update on the NOAA framework to narrow the scope of NMFS management and science activities. This update will summarize efforts of the Regional Working Group to populate a Risk/Value Matrix for Council-managed stocks. The Council will then receive a report from the Monkfish and Skate Coordinated Committee. The report will include review and potential approval of a scoping document and schedule for a potential individual fishing quota program for the monkfish and/or skate wing fisheries, as well as a white paper summarizing coordinated monkfish and skate activities in 2025. The Council will also receive a presentation from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution on the Locking Away Carbon on the Northeast Shelf and Slope project. The Council will adjourn for the day at approximately 5 p.m., followed by a public outreach event in the hotel, to foster open communication among meeting attendees.

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

On the second day, the Council will receive a presentation from NEFSC staff on the 2026 State of the Ecosystem report, with input from the Science and Statistical Committee (SSC), followed by Council questions. The Council will then receive an update from the SSC Chair on activities including a review of monkfish catch-per-unit-effort research, and updates from the SSC's Social Science Subcommittee. Next, the Council will receive a presentation on the draft Holistic Strategic Plan report from the Parnin Group.

Following a lunch break, the Council will receive an update from the Risk Policy Working Group on revisions to the Council's Risk Policy Concept, including a summary of SSC input. The presentation will also include an overview of technical analyses conducted by the University of Maine on applying the Risk Policy approach and updates on implementation considerations. The Council will then receive a report from the Atlantic Herring Committee, including an update on the development of an action for Fishing Years 2027–2031 Atlantic herring specifications, river herring and shad management measures, and other related measures. The day will conclude with an open period for public comment on Council issues not otherwise listed on the agenda.

Thursday, April 16, 2026

On the final day, the Council will receive a report from the Groundfish Committee on the Redfish Exemption Program Review draft report. Then the Council will then receive an update from the NEFSC on fishery-independent surveys, including the 2025 and 2026

survey seasons, activities of the Northeast Trawl Advisory Panel, the Regional Industry-Based Trawl Survey, and other survey-related topics. Next, the Council will receive a Council planning update from the Executive Director covering the status of fishery management plan updates, Council priorities, Inflation Reduction Act initiatives, and other ongoing activities. The Council will address other business before adjourning the meeting at approximately 12 p.m.

Although non-emergency issues not contained on this agenda may come before the Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency. The public also should be aware that the meeting will be recorded. Consistent with 16 U.S.C. 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Executive Director Cate O'Keefe (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

(Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*)

Dated: March 24, 2026.

Rey Israel Marquez,

Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2026–05895 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Additions and Deletions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Additions to and deletions from the Procurement List.

SUMMARY: This action adds product(s) and service(s) to the Procurement List that will be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and deletes service(s) from the Procurement List previously furnished by such agencies.

DATES: *Date added to and deleted from the Procurement List:* April 25, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, 355 E Street SW, Suite 325, Washington, DC 20024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information or to submit comments contact: Michael R. Jurkowski, Telephone: (703) 489–1322, or email *CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Addition

On December 29, 2025 (90 FR 60683) and February 12, 2026 (91 FR 6624), the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled (operating as the U.S. AbilityOne Commission) published an initial notice of proposed additions to the Procurement List. The Committee determined that the products and service(s) listed below are suitable for procurement by the Federal Government and has added these products and service(s) to the Procurement List as a mandatory purchase for the contracting activities listed. In accordance with 41 CFR 51–5.3(b), the mandatory purchase requirement is limited to the contracting activities at the locations listed, and in accordance with 41 CFR 51–5.2, the Committee has authorized the listed nonprofit agencies as the authorized source(s) of supply.

After consideration of the material presented to it concerning capability of qualified nonprofit agencies to provide the products and service(s) and impact of the additions on the current or most recent contractors, the Committee has determined that the products and service(s) listed below are suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 8501–8506 and 41 CFR 51–2.4.

Regulatory Flexibility Act Certification

End of Certification

1. The action will not result in additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities.

2. The action may result in authorizing small entities to furnish the product(s) and service(s) to the Government.

3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 8501–8506) in connection with the product(s) and service(s) deleted from the Procurement List.

End of Certification

Accordingly, the following product(s) and service(s) are added to the Procurement List:

Product(s)

NSN(s)—Product Name(s):
1095–01–619–0636—Knife, Combat, Drop Point, Automatic
1095–01–609–1271—Knife, Combat, Drop Point, Black
Authorized Source of Supply: DePaul Industries, Portland, OR
Mandatory For: DEPT OF DEFENSE
Contracting Activity: DEPT OF DEFENSE, DLA LAND AND MARITIME

Services(s)

Service Type: Custodial Service
Mandatory for: National Park Service, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Marin County Administrative Buildings and Public Restrooms, and San Francisco County Public Restrooms, San Francisco, CA, Fort Mason Building 201, San Francisco, CA
Authorized Source of Supply: Toolworks, Inc., San Francisco, CA
Contracting Activity: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Deletion

On February 19, 2026 (91 FR 7977), the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notice of proposed deletions from the Procurement List. This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 8503(a)(2) and 41 CFR 51–2.3.

After consideration of the relevant matter presented, the Committee has determined that the service(s) listed below are no longer suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 8501–8506 and 41 CFR 51–2.4.

Regulatory Flexibility Act Certification

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities.

2. The action may result in authorizing small entities to furnish the service(s) to the Government.

3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 8501–8506) in connection with the service(s) deleted from the Procurement List.

End of Certification

Accordingly, the following service(s) are deleted from the Procurement List:

Services(s)

Service Type: Janitorial/Custodial
Mandatory for: VA Medical Center, 1481 W. 10th Street, 1st Floor, Indianapolis, IN
Authorized Source of Supply: GW Commercial Services, Inc., Indianapolis, IN
Contracting Activity: DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, 583–INDIANAPOLIS

Service Type: Custodial & Grounds Maintenance
Mandatory for: Richard L. Roudebush VAMC, Building 7: 2669 Cold Springs Road, Indianapolis, IN, Richard L. Roudebush VAMC: Basement, 2nd Floor, Outbuildings, Parking Garage, 1481 W. Tenth Street, Indianapolis, IN
Authorized Source of Supply: GW Commercial Services, Inc., Indianapolis, IN
Contracting Activity: DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, NAC

Service Type: Janitorial Service
Mandatory for: U.S. Navy, NEXCOM, Norfolk Naval Base, Base Exchange, Norfolk, VA, 1560 Mall Dr, Bldg CD–13, Norfolk, VA
Authorized Source of Supply: Didlake, Inc., Manassas, VA
Contracting Activity: DEPT OF DEFENSE, Navy Exchange Service Command

Service Type: Administrative Service
Mandatory for: Defense Logistics Agency, Logistics Information Services, Hart Dole Inouye Federal Center, Defense Reutilization & Marketing Service, Battle Creek, MI, 74 N. Washington Avenue, Battle Creek, MI
Authorized Source of Supply: Peckham Vocational Industries, Inc., Lansing, MI
Contracting Activity: DEPT OF DEFENSE, DLA DISPOSITION SERVICES—EBS

Service Type: Janitorial/Grounds Maintenance
Mandatory for: U.S. Army, Soo Area Office, Sault Ste. Marie, MI, 312 W. Portage Avenue, Sault Ste. Marie, MI
Authorized Source of Supply: Northern Transitions, Inc., Sault Ste. Marie, MI
Contracting Activity: DEPT OF DEFENSE, W072 ENDIST DETROIT

Service Type: Grounds Maintenance
Mandatory for: U.S. Army, Fort Lawton Cemetery, Seattle, WA, 3801 Discovery Park Blvd., Fort Lawton, WA
Authorized Source of Supply: AtWork!, Bellevue, WA
Contracting Activity: DEPT OF DEFENSE, W6QM MICC–JB LEWIS–MC CHORD

Service Type: Janitorial/Custodial
Mandatory for: Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM), NEXCOM, Oceana Naval Air Station, Base Exchange, Virginia Beach, VA, 1449 Tomcat Blvd., Virginia Beach, VA, Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM), Navy Exchange Service Command, Dam Neck Fleet Combat Training Center Atlantic, Base Exchange, Virginia Beach, VA, 1977 Terrier Ave., Bldg 524, Virginia Beach, VA
Authorized Source of Supply: Sara's Mentoring Center, Inc., Virginia Beach, VA
Contracting Activity: DEPT OF DEFENSE, Navy Exchange Service Command

Service Type: Custodial service
Mandatory for: U.S. GAO, Dayton GAO Field Office, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, OH, 2196 D Street, Building 39, Area B, Dayton, OH
Authorized Source of Supply: Goodwill Easter Seals Miami Valley, Dayton, OH
Contracting Activity: GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE, US GAO ACQUISITION MANAGEMENT

Michael R. Jurkowski,

Director, Business Operations.

[FR Doc. 2026–05869 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6353–01–P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Proposed Additions and Deletions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Proposed additions to and deletions from the Procurement List.

SUMMARY: The Committee is proposing to add service(s) to the Procurement List that will be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and delete product(s) and services previously furnished by such agencies.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before: April 25, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, 355 E Street SW, Suite 325, Washington DC, 20024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information or to submit comments contact: Michael R. Jurkowski, Telephone: (703) 489–1322, or email *CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 8503 (a)(2) and 41 CFR 51–2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the proposed actions.

Additions

In accordance with 41 CFR 51–5.3(b), the Committee intends to add this services requirement to the Procurement List as a mandatory purchase only for the contracting activity at the location listed with the proposed qualified nonprofit agency as the authorized source of supply. Prior to adding the service to the Procurement List, the Committee will consider other pertinent information, including information from Government personnel and relevant comments from interested parties regarding the Committee's intent to geographically limit this services requirement.

The following service(s) are proposed for addition to the Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agencies listed:

Services(s)

Service Type: Base Operations & Maintenance Services
Mandatory for: Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Anchorage, AK
Authorized Source of Supply: Skookum Educational Program, Bremerton, WA
Contracting Activity: DEPT OF THE AIR FORCE, 673rd Contracting Squadron FA5000

Deletion

The following product(s) and services are proposed for deletion to the Procurement List:

Product(s)

NSN(s)—Product Name(s):
5340–00–894–9542—Strap, Webbing, 84″ x 1″
5340–00–715–3854—Strap, Webbing, 54″ length, 1″ wide
5340–00–020–5067—Strap, Webbing, 120″ x 1″, Steel Buckle
Authorized Source of Supply: The Charles Lea Center, Inc., Spartanburg, SC
Mandatory For: DEPT OF DEFENSE
Contracting Activity: DEPT OF DEFENSE, DLA LAND AND MARITIME

NSN(s)—Product Name(s):
2350–01–394–2531—Combat Identification Kit, M88, Brown
2350–01–398–5171—Combat Identification Panel Kit, M993 MLRS Platform, Brown
2350–01–398–5168—Combat Identification Kit, JCIMS, Brown
2320–01–398–5163—Combat Identification Panel Kit, FLU 419 SEE Platform, Brown
2590–01–399–6774—Combat Identification Kit, M9 Ace, Brown
2590–01–400–1809—Combat Identification Kit, D5B Dozer Platform, Brown
2590–01–392–0288—Combat Identification Assembly, M60 AVLB Platform, Front, Brown
2590–01–392–0290—Combat Identification Assembly, M60 AVLB Platform, Rear, Brown
2590–01–392–0291—Combat Identification Assembly, M60 AVLB Platform, Side, Brown
2590–01–392–0292—Combat Identification Assembly, M60 AVLB Platform, Top, Brown
2590–01–394–5639—Combat Identification Assembly, M88A1 Platform, Front, Brown
2590–01–394–5640—Combat Identification Assembly, M88A1 Platform, Side, Brown
2590–01–398–3835—Combat Identification Assembly, FLU419 SEE Platform, Side, Brown 2590–01–398–3837—Combat Identification Assembly, FLU419 SEE Platform, Front, Brown 2590–01–398–3840—Combat Identification Assembly, FLU419 SEE Platform, Rear, Brown 2590–01–398–3842—Combat

Identification Assembly, M113 Series of Platforms, Front, Brown 2590–01–398–3845—Combat Identification Assembly, M2/3A2/A3 Platform, Right Turret, Brown
2590–01–398–3847—Combat Identification Assembly, M270A1 MLRS Platform, Front, Brown 2590–01–398–6719—Combat Identification Assembly, Multiple Platform Use, # 2, Side, Brown 2590–01–398–6722—Combat Identification Assembly, M2/3A2/A3 Platform, Right Rear, Brown
2590–01–398–6725—Combat Identification Assembly, M2/3 A2/A3 Platform, Left Rear, Brown 2590–01–398–6726—Combat Identification Assembly, M2/3 A2/A3 Platform, Left Turret, Brown
2590–01–398–6727—Combat Identification Assembly, M992 A1/A2 FAASV & M109 A5/A6 PALADIN Platforms, Front, Brown
2590–01–398–6728—Combat Identification Assembly, M93A1 NBCRS (Fox) Platform, Right Side, Brown
2590–01–398–6739—Combat Identification Assembly, M93A1 NBCRS (Fox) Platform, Front, Brown
Authorized Source of Supply: Crossroads Rehabilitation Center, Inc., Indianapolis, IN
Mandatory For: DEPT OF DEFENSE
Contracting Activity: DEPT OF DEFENSE, W4GG HQ US ARMY TACOM

NSN(s)—Product Name(s): 2590–01–472–5892—Combat Identification Assembly, Multiple Platform Use, Side, Brown
Authorized Source of Supply: Crossroads Rehabilitation Center, Inc., Indianapolis, IN
Mandatory For: DEPT OF DEFENSE
Contracting Activity: DEPT OF THE ARMY, W4GG HQ US ARMY TACOM

NSN(s)—Product Name(s):
7520–01–357–6846—Stamp, Custom-made, Self-inking, 1″ x 1½″
7520–01–357–6847—Stamp, Custom-made, Self-inking, 1½″ x 3″
7520–01–381–7993—Stamp, Custom-made, Self-inking, ½″ x 2⅛″
7520–01–381–7995—Stamp, Custom-made, Self-inking, ⅝″ x 1½″
7520–01–381–8017—Stamp, Custom-made, Self-inking, ⅞″ x 2¼″ 7520–01–419–6740—Stamp, Custom-made, Pre-inked, W/Logo
7520–01–419–6744—Stamp, Custom-made, Pre-inked, W/Signature
Authorized Source of Supply: LC Industries, Inc., Durham, NC
Mandatory For: Total Government Requirement
Contracting Activity: GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, GSA/FAS ADMIN SVCS ACQUISITION BR(2

NSN(s)—Product Name(s): 7360–00–139–0480—Disposable Dinnerware Kit
Mandatory For: DEPT OF DEFENSE
Contracting Activity: DEPT OF DEFENSE, DLA TROOP SUPPORT

NSN(s)—Product Name(s): 5925–01–651–2037—Kit, Lockout, Electrical/Valve with AC Sensor
Authorized Source of Supply: Goodwill Vision Enterprises, Rochester, NY
Mandatory For: Broad Government Requirement
Contracting Activity: DEPT OF DEFENSE, DLA TROOP SUPPORT

NSN(s)—Product Name(s): 1005–01–083–8113—Sling, Small Arm
Authorized Source of Supply: Envision, Inc., Wichita, KS
Mandatory For: DEPT OF DEFENSE
Contracting Activity: DEPT OF DEFENSE, DLA LAND AND MARITIME

NSN(s)—Product Name(s): 6850–01–598–1946—Ice Melt/De-Icer, 10 lbs.
Authorized Source of Supply: BOSMA Enterprises, Indianapolis, IN
Mandatory For: Broad Government Requirement
Contracting Activity: DEPT OF DEFENSE, DLA AVIATION

NSN(s)—Product Name(s):
7910–00–685–3912—Pad, Machine, Scrubbing, Floor, 14″ x ¼″
7910–00–685–4240—Pad, Machine, Stripping, Floor, 13″ x ¼″
7910–00–685–4241—Pad, Machine, Stripping, Floor, 16″ x ¼″
7910–00–685–4242—Pad, Machine, Stripping, Floor, 14″ x ¼″
7910–00–685–4243—Pad, Machine, Stripping, Floor, 15″ x ¼″
7910–00–685–4244—Pad, Machine, Stripping, Floor, 17″ x ¼″
7910–00–685–4245—Pad, Machine, Stripping, Floor, 18″ x ¼″
Authorized Source of Supply: Beacon Lighthouse, Inc., Wichita Falls, TX
Mandatory For: Broad Government Requirement
Contracting Activity: GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, GSA/FSS GREATER SOUTHWEST ACQUISITI

NSN(s)—Product Name(s):
8415–00–NSH–0600—Pocket, Magazine, M–4, Double, CQB
8415–00–NSH–0602—Pocket, Magazine, .45 ACP Single, CQB
8415–00–NSH–0616—Sling, M–240, Padded, Quick Release Weapon/General
Authorized Source of Supply: Chautauqua County Chapter, NYSARC, Jamestown, NY
Mandatory For: DEPT OF DEFENSE
Contracting Activity: DEPT OF THE ARMY, W6QK ACC–APG NATICK

Services(s)

Service Type: Shelf Stocking, Custodial & Warehousing
Mandatory for: Defense Commissary Agency, Naval Air Station (NAS) North Island Commissary, San Diego, CA, 2017 Colorado Street, San Diego, CA, Defense Commissary Agency, Miramar Marine Corps Air Station Commissary, San Diego, CA, 2661 MCAS Miramar, San Diego, CA
Designated Source of Supply: Job Options, Inc., San Diego, CA
Contracting Activity: DEPT OF DEFENSE, DEFENSE COMMISSARY AGENCY (DECA)

Michael R. Jurkowski,

Director, Business Operations.

[FR Doc. 2026–05868 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6353–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID: DOD–2026–OS–0100]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: The Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (OUSD(R&E)), Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: 30-Day information collection notice.

SUMMARY: The DoD has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by April 27, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Reginald Lucas, (571) 372–7574, *whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number: Science, Mathematics and Research for Transformation Scholarship Program; DD Forms 3067–2, 3067–4, 3067–7, 3067–8, 3067–9, 3067–11, 3067–12, 3067–13, 3067–15; OMB Control Number 0704–0466.

Type of Request: Revision.

Number of Respondents: 4,000.

Responses per Respondent: 3.6.

Annual Responses: 14,400.

Average Burden per Response: 55.74 minutes.

Annual Burden Hours: 13,378.

Needs and Uses: Science, Mathematics and Research for Transformation Scholarship Program (SMART) is designed to increase the number of new civilian science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) entrants to the DoD. Additionally, the SMART Program develops and retains current DoD civilian STEM employees that are critical to the national security functions of the DoD and are needed in the DoD's workforce. SMART awards scholarships, ranging from 1 to 5 years to undergraduate and graduate level students pursuing a degree in one of 22

technical disciplines. Upon graduation, scholars fulfill a service commitment with the DoD facility that nominated the scholar for an award. The information collection activity under review is a statutory and functional requirement necessary to administer the scholarship program.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

DoD Clearance Officer: Mr. Reginald Lucas.

Dated: March 23, 2026.

Stephanie J. Bost,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2026–05841 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID: DoD–2025–HA–0101]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (OASD(HA)), Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: 30-Day information collection notice.

SUMMARY: The DoD has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by April 27, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Reginald Lucas, (571) 372–7574, *whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number: Department of Defense Active Duty/Reserve Forces Dental Examination; DD Form 2813; OMB Control Number 0720–0022.

Type of Request: Reinstatement.

Number of Respondents: 150,000.

Responses per Respondent: 5.

Annual Responses: 750,000.

Average Burden per Response: 3 minutes.

Annual Burden Hours: 37,500.

Needs and Uses: The information collection requirement is necessary to obtain and record the dental health status of members of the Armed Forces. This form is the means for civilian dentists to record the results of their findings and provide the information to the member's military organization. The military organizations are required by DoD policy to track the dental status of its members.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit institutions; individuals or households.

Frequency: As required.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

DoD Clearance Officer: Mr. Reginald Lucas.

Dated: March 20, 2026.

Stephanie J. Bost,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2026–05840 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID: DOD–2026–OS–0694]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs (OASD(PA)), Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: 60-Day information collection notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995,* the Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of War for Public Affairs, announces a proposed public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by May 26, 2026.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Mail: Department of War, Office of the Director of Administration and Management, Privacy, Civil Liberties, and Transparency Directorate, Regulatory Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Mailbox #24, Suite 05F16, Alexandria, VA 22350–1700.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at *http://www.regulations.gov* as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to Alán Ortiz, Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of War (Public Affairs), Community and Public Outreach, Room 2D982, 1400 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301–1400 or call 703–695–9368.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number: Joint Civilian Orientation Conference Program (JCOC) Eligibility of Nominators and Candidates; JCOC Nomination Form, JCOC Registration Form; OMB Control Number 0704–0562.

Needs and Uses: The information collection requirement is necessary to administer the JCOC Program; to verify the eligibility of nominators and candidates; and to select those nominated individuals for participation in JCOC.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Annual Burden Hours: 33.

Number of Respondents: 180.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Annual Responses: 180.

Average Burden per Response: 11 minutes.

Frequency: Annually.

Respondents are individuals authorized to nominate candidates for participation in JCOC, and candidates nominated for and selected to participate in JCOC. The JCOC Nomination Form and Registration Form each record the nominator's credentials and contact information and the candidate's credentials and contact

information. The completed forms are used to administer the JCOC program, verify the eligibility of nominators and candidates, and to select those nominated individuals for participation in JCOC, which is impossible to do without this information. Ensuring the credentials of nominators and candidates is vital to the integrity and accountability of the JCOC program.

Dated: March 23, 2026.

Stephanie J. Bost,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2026–05842 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID: DoD–2026–OS–0034]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: The Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: 30-Day information collection notice.

SUMMARY: The DoD has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by April 27, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Reginald Lucas, (571) 372–7574, *whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number: The GlobalNET Collection; OMB Control Number 0704–0558.

Type of Request: Extension.

Number of Respondents: 6,000.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Annual Responses: 6,000.

Average Burden per Response: 5 minutes.

Annual Burden Hours: 500.

Needs and Uses: The purpose of the GlobalNET system is to provide a collaborative social networking environment/capability where students, alumni, faculty, partners, and other community members and subject matter experts can find relevant and timely information about pertinent subject matter experts and conduct required training. GlobalNET also collects information on students in order to allow regional center personnel to manage students while enrolled at regional centers.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

DoD Clearance Officer: Mr. Reginald Lucas.

Dated: March 23, 2026.

Stephanie J. Bost,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2026–05839 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

[DOD–2026–OS–0695]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, Department of Defense, (DoD).

ACTION: 60-Day information collection notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995,* the Naval Health Research Center announces a revision to an approved information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by May 26, 2026.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Mail: Department of War, Office of the Director of Administration and Management, Privacy, Civil Liberties, and Transparency Directorate, Regulatory Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Mailbox #24, Suite 05F16, Alexandria, VA 22350–1700.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at *http://www.regulations.gov* as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to Naval Health Research Center, Gate 4, Patterson Rd. at McClelland Rd., Bldg. 320, San Diego, CA 92152, Dr. Cameron McCabe, (619) 553–8067.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number: Challenges of Operational Environments Study; OMB Control Number 0703–0100.

Needs and Uses: Recent suicide clusters aboard Naval vessels have highlighted a critical need to better understand risk factors for suicide among various shipboard environments (*e.g.,* in maintenance yards, at sea). Unfortunately, extremely limited research to date has identified individual and organizational factors that are directly associated with harmful behaviors, including suicidality, in a variety of Naval environments. In response, the Office of Naval Research and the Defense Health Agency have funded a longitudinal study called the Challenges of Operational Environments Study to identify specific shipboard stressors associated with different phases of the aircraft carrier life cycle and determine the effects of these stressors on Sailor's mental and behavioral health and readiness. Research is needed to provide the Navy with in-depth information on specific risks to Sailors at each phase of the carrier cycle, such that allocation of resources to prevent suicidality and other mental/behavioral health problems can be tailored to meet potentially unique needs at each phase. Additionally, findings from the effort are used to develop targeted recommendations to improve Sailor mental health and well-being that are provided directly to Navy leaders. To date, this research has resulted in over

10 operational briefs to Navy leaders, and its findings have been incorporated into the Chief of Naval Operations NAVPLAN. Based on feedback received throughout the course of study implementation and to ensure continued alignment with Navy and Department of War priorities, the study team is seeking to update the previously approved survey measures to include additional questions regarding operational stressors and other threats to the readiness and performance of Navy Sailors. Because we cannot fully anticipate a specific command's evolving needs or accommodate urgent ad hoc data collection requests from leadership, we are seeking a Generic Clearance that will extend the approval of the core methodology while granting the study team the necessary adaptability to respond to stakeholder requirements in a timely manner. To support this Generic Clearance request, the burden allotment estimates below provide a projection of the maximum anticipated potential time and cost based on 6 annual data collections (3 ships, 2 data collections/ship) over a 3-year period of performance (18 total) and may not reflect the actual burden over 3 years.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Challenges of Operational Environments Survey

Burden Hours Over 3 Years: 9,000.
Number of Respondents Over 3 Years: 18,000.
Responses per Respondent: 1.
Number of Responses Over 3 Years: 18,000.
Average Burden per Response: 30 minutes.

Challenges of Operational Environments Focus Groups

Burden Hours Over 3 Years: 2,700.
Number of Respondents Over 3 Years: 1,800.
Responses per Respondent: 1.
Number of Responses Over 3 Years: 1,800.
Average Burden per Group: 90 minutes.

Implementation Focus Groups

Burden Hours Over 3 Years: 1,350.
Number of Respondents Over 3 Years: 900.
Responses per Respondent: 1.
Number of Responses Over 3 Years: 900.
Average Burden per Group: 90 minutes.

Total

Total Burden Hours Over 3 Years: 13,050.
Total Number of Respondents Over 3 Years: 20,700.
Total Responses Over 3 Years: 20,700.
Frequency: On occasion or by request.

Dated: March 20, 2026.

Stephanie J. Bost,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2026–05837 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED–2026–SCC–0596]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Teacher Cancellation Low Income Directory

AGENCY: Federal Student Aid (FSA), Department of Education (ED).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Department is proposing an extension without change of a currently approved information collection request (ICR).

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before May 26, 2026.

ADDRESSES: To access and review all the documents related to the information collection listed in this notice, please use *http://www.regulations.gov* by searching the Docket ID number ED–2026–SCC–0596. Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at *http://www.regulations.gov* by selecting the Docket ID number or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. If the *regulations.gov* site is not available to the public for any reason, the Department will temporarily accept comments at *ICDocketMgr@ed.gov.* Please include the docket ID number and the title of the information collection request when requesting documents or submitting comments. Please note that comments submitted after the comment period will not be accepted. Written requests for information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to Zelma Barrett, U.S. Department of Education, Federal Student Aid, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202–1200.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Zelma Barrett, 202–245–8012.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. The Department is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. The Department is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

Title of Collection: Teacher Cancellation Low Income Directory.
OMB Control Number: 1845–0077.
Type of Review: An extension without change of a currently approved ICR.
Respondents/Affected Public: State, Local, and Tribal Governments.
Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 57.
Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 6,840.

Abstract: The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, (HEA) allows for up to a one hundred percent cancellation of a Federal Perkins Loan and loan forgiveness of a Federal Family Education Loan and Direct Loan program loan if the graduate teaches full-time in an elementary or secondary school serving low-income students.

The data collected for the development of the Teacher Cancellation Low Income Directory provides web-based access to a list of all elementary and secondary schools, and educational service agencies that serve a total enrollment of more than 30 percent low income students (as defined under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended). The Directory allows post-secondary institutions to determine whether or not a teacher, who received a Federal Perkins Loan, Direct Loan, or Federal Family Education Loan at their school, is eligible to receive loan

cancellation or forgiveness or that a teacher who received a TEACH Grant is meeting the service obligation. This revision request updates the collection with an optional school type data element.

Ross Santy,

Chief Data Officer, Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development.

[FR Doc. 2026–05894 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Representative Average Unit Costs of Energy

AGENCY: Office of Critical Minerals and Energy Innovation, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) forecasts the representative average unit costs of five residential energy sources for the year 2025 pursuant to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (Act). The five sources are electricity, natural gas, No. 2 heating oil, propane, and kerosene.

DATES: The representative average unit costs of energy contained in this notice will become effective April 27, 2026 and will remain in effect until further notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mr. Troy Watson, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Critical Minerals and Energy Innovation, EE–5B, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585–0121, Telephone: (202) 449–9387, Email: *ApplianceStandardsQuestions@ee.doe.gov.*

Mr. Peter Cochran, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of General Counsel, GC–33, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585–0103, Telephone: (202) 586–4798, Email: *peter.cochran@hq.doe.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: DOE is required to prescribe test procedures for measuring the estimated annual operating costs or other measures of energy consumption for certain consumer products, as specified in Section 323 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (the Act) (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)(3)). These test procedures are found in Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 430, subpart B.

The estimated annual operating costs of a covered product must be calculated from measurements of energy use in a representative average use cycle or period of use and from representative average unit costs of the energy needed to operate the product during the cycle (Section 323(b)(3) of the Act). (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)(3) and (b)(4)) DOE must provide information to manufacturers regarding the representative average unit costs of energy. (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)(4)) This cost information should be used by manufacturers to meet their obligations under Section 323(c) of the Act. These costs are also used to comply with Federal Trade Commission (FTC) requirements for labeling. Manufacturers are required to use the revised DOE representative average unit costs when the FTC publishes new ranges of comparability for specific covered products (16 CFR part 305). Interested parties can also find information covering the FTC labeling requirements at *https://www.ftc.gov/appliances.*

DOE last published representative average unit costs of residential energy in a **Federal Register** notice entitled, ''Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Representative Average Unit Costs of Energy'', dated October 17, 2024, 89 FR 83672. DOE's Energy Information Administration (EIA) developed the 2025 representative average unit after-tax residential costs found in this notice. EIA based these costs for electricity, natural gas, and No. 2 heating oil on its September 2025, EIA Short-Term Energy Outlook (EIA releases the Outlook monthly). The representative average unit after-tax costs for propane and kerosene are based on the projected 2025 U.S. residential sector prices found in EIA's Annual Energy Outlook 2025 (AEO2025) (April 15, 2025). The Short-Term Energy Outlook and the Annual Energy Outlook are available on the EIA website at *https://www.eia.gov.* For more information on the data sources used in this notice, contact the National Energy Information Center, Forrestal Building, EI–30, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585, Telephone: (202) 586–8800, Email: *infoctr@eia.doe.gov.*

The 2025 representative average unit costs under section 323(b)(4) of the Act are set forth in Table 1, and will become effective April 27, 2026. They will remain in effect until further notice.

Signing Authority

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on March 17, 2026, by Audrey Robertson, Assistant Secretary (EERE) for Critical Minerals and Energy Innovation, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC, on March 24, 2026.

Jennifer Hartzell,

Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.

TABLE 1—REPRESENTATIVE AVERAGE UNIT COSTS OF ENERGY FOR FIVE RESIDENTIAL ENERGY SOURCES

[2025]

Type of energy	$ Per million Btu [1]	In commonly used terms	As required by test procedure
Electricity	50.47	17.22 ¢/kWh [2 3]	$0.1722/kWh.
Natural Gas	14.37	$1.43/therm [4] or $14.9/MCF [5 6]	$0.00001437/Btu.
No. 2 Heating Oil	25.91	$3.56/gallon [7]	$0.00002591/Btu.
Propane	25.68	$2.35/gallon [8]	$0.00002568/Btu.
Kerosene	25.11	$3.39/gallon [9]	$0.00002511/Btu.

Sources: *U.S. Energy Information Administration, Short-Term Energy Outlook (September 9, 2025) and Annual Energy Outlook (April 15, 2025).*

Notes: Prices include taxes.

[1] Btu stands for British thermal units.

[2] kWh stands for kilowatt hour.

[3] 1 kWh = 3,412 Btu.

[4] 1 therm = 100,000 Btu.
[5] MCF stands for 1,000 cubic feet.
[6] For the purposes of this table, one cubic foot of natural gas has an energy equivalence of 1,037 Btu.
[7] For the purposes of this table, one gallon of No. 2 heating oil has an energy equivalence of 137,381 Btu.
[8] For the purposes of this table, one gallon of liquid propane has an energy equivalence of 91,333 Btu.
[9] For the purposes of this table, one gallon of kerosene has an energy equivalence of 135,000 Btu.

[FR Doc. 2026–05899 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 6398–026]

Hackett Mills Hydro Associates, LLC; Notice of Application Ready for Environmental Analysis and Soliciting Comments, Recommendations, Terms and Conditions, and Prescriptions

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection.

a. *Type of Application:* Subsequent Minor License.

b. *Project No.:* 6398–026.

c. *Date filed:* August 31, 2022.

d. *Applicant:* Hackett Mills Hydro Associates, LLC (Hackett Mills Hydro).

e. *Name of Project:* Hackett Mills Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* On the Little Androscoggin River, in the towns of Poland and Minot, in Androscoggin County, Maine.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. 791(a)–825(r).

h. *Applicant Contact:* Jody Smet, Chief Compliance Officer, Hackett Mills Hydro Associates, LLC c/o Eagle Creek Renewable Energy, LLC, 7315 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1100W, Bethesda, Maryland 20814; phone: (804) 382–1764; email: *jody.smet@eaglecreekre.com.*

i. *FERC Contact:* Jody Callihan at (202) 502–8278 or *jody.callihan@ferc.gov.*

j. *Deadline for filing comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and prescriptions:* on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on May 22, 2026; reply comments are due on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on July 6, 2026.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and prescriptions using the Commission's eFiling system at *https://ferconline.ferc.gov/FERCOnline.aspx.* Commenters can submit brief comments up to 10,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at *https://ferconline.ferc.gov/QuickComment.aspx.* For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at *FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov,* (866) 208–3676 (toll free), or (202) 502–8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, you may submit a paper copy. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852. All filings must clearly identify the project name and docket number on the first page: Hackett Mills Hydroelectric Project (P–6398–026).

The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

k. This application has been accepted and is ready for environmental analysis at this time.

l. The Hackett Mills Project consists of the following existing facilities: (1) a 186-foot-long dam that consists of two spillway sections: a 101-foot-long, 8-foot-high rock-filled timber crib dam with an uncontrolled spillway (main spillway section) and a 85-foot-long, 8-foot-high concrete gravity dam with three uncontrolled bays (secondary spillway section); (2) an obsolete sluice gatehouse that connects the main spillway and the secondary spillway sections; (3) a 3.5-mile-long, 60-acre impoundment with no useable storage capacity at a normal maximum water surface elevation of 235.05 feet; [1] (4) a 17.5-foot-long, 40-foot-high and 22-foot-wide intake structure containing five gates; (5) a 100-foot-long, 25-foot-wide, 10-foot-deep power canal; (6) a 20-foot-long, 43.5-foot-high and 22-foot-wide concrete powerhouse located at the end of the canal containing one 485-kilowatt right angle drive bulb turbine-generator unit, with a minimum hydraulic capacity of 113 cubic feet per second (cfs) and a maximum hydraulic capacity of 474 cfs; (7) a downstream fish passage facility; (8) a 200-foot-long, 12.5-kilovolt transmission line; and (9) appurtenant facilities.

The Hackett Mills Project is currently operated in a run-of-river mode and generates 1,602 megawatt-hours annually. Hackett Mills Hydro proposes to continue operating the project as a run-of-river facility and does not propose any new construction at the project.

m. A copy of the application can be viewed on the Commission's website *http://www.ferc.gov,* using the ''eLibrary'' link. Enter the docket number, excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document (P–6398). For assistance, contact FERC Online Support (see item j above).

All filings must (1) bear in all capital letters the title ''COMMENTS,'' ''REPLY COMMENTS,'' ''RECOMMENDATIONS,'' ''TERMS AND CONDITIONS,'' or ''PRESCRIPTIONS;'' (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the application to which the filing responds; and (3) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. All comments, recommendations, terms and conditions or prescriptions must set forth their evidentiary basis and otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 4.34(b). Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant. Each filing must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed on the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding in accordance with 18 CFR 4.34(b) and 385.2010.

For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, contact the Office of Public Participation at (202) 502–6595 or *OPP@ferc.gov.*

You may also register online at *https://ferconline.ferc.gov/FERCOnline.aspx* to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

n. The applicant must file the following on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern

[1] All elevations are referenced to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929.

Time on May 22, 2026: (1) a copy of the water quality certification; (2) a copy of the request for certification, including proof of the date on which the certifying agency received the request; or (3) evidence of a waiver of water quality certification.

o. Final amendments to the application must be filed with the Commission on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on April 22, 2026.

(Authority: 18 CFR 2.1)

Dated: March 23, 2026

Carlos D. Clay,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–05884 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings #1

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric corporate filings:

Docket Numbers: EC26–73–000.

Applicants: Waterside Power, LLC, Selkirk Cogen Partners LLC, New Athens Generating Company, LLC, Millennium Power Company, LLC, Berkshire Power Company, LLC.

Description: Joint Application for Authorization Under Section 203 of the Federal Power Act of Berkshire Power Company, LLC, et al.

Filed Date: 3/18/26.

Accession Number: 20260318–5202.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/8/26.

Docket Numbers: EC26–75–000.

Applicants: Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC.

Description: Application for Authorization Under Section 203 of the Federal Power Act of Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC.

Filed Date: 3/20/26.

Accession Number: 20260320–5414.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/10/26.

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric rate filings:

Docket Numbers: ER21–2382–000.

Applicants: Shell Energy North America (US), L.P.

Description: Refund Report: Refund Report.

Filed Date: 3/20/26.

Accession Number: 20260320–5329.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/10/26.

Docket Numbers: ER26–1219–001.

Applicants: Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

Description: Tariff Amendment: MEAN-City of Delta, Colorado—Amended Network Customer Trans. Credits Filing to be effective 4/1/2026.

Filed Date: 3/20/26.

Accession Number: 20260320–5348.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/10/26.

Docket Numbers: ER26–1222–001.

Applicants: Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

Description: Tariff Amendment: MEAN-City of Kimball, Nebraska—Amended Network Customer Transmission Credits to be effective 4/1/2026.

Filed Date: 3/20/26.

Accession Number: 20260320–5354.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/10/26.

Docket Numbers: ER26–1250–001.

Applicants: PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.

Description: Tariff Amendment: Amendment to Original GIA, SA No. 7811; Project Identifier No. AG1–105 to be effective 1/5/2026.

Filed Date: 3/23/26.

Accession Number: 20260323–5150.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/13/26.

Docket Numbers: ER26–1883–000.

Applicants: Renewable Roots America Corp.

Description: Initial Rate Filing: Application for Market Based Rate Authority to be effective 3/21/2026.

Filed Date: 3/20/26.

Accession Number: 20260320–5338.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/10/26.

Docket Numbers: ER26–1884–000.

Applicants: PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.

Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: Amendment to ISA, Service Agreement No. 6822; Queue No. AF1–328 to be effective 5/23/2026.

Filed Date: 3/23/26.

Accession Number: 20260323–5090.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/13/26.

Docket Numbers: ER26–1885–000.

Applicants: PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.

Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: Original GIA, Service Agreement No. 7936; Project Identifier No. AF2–095 to be effective 2/20/2026.

Filed Date: 3/23/26.

Accession Number: 20260323–5101.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/13/26.

Docket Numbers: ER26–1886–000.

Applicants: PacifiCorp.

Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: OATT Revised Attachment H–1—(Rev Depreciation Rates 2026) to be effective 6/1/2026.

Filed Date: 3/23/26.

Accession Number: 20260323–5133.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/13/26.

Docket Numbers: ER26–1887–000.

Applicants: Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: 3375R1 WAPA & Basin Electric Power Interconnection Agr to be effective 3/23/2026.

Filed Date: 3/23/26.

Accession Number: 20260323–5163.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/13/26.

Docket Numbers: ER26–1889–000.

Applicants: The Connecticut Light and Power Company.

Description: Tariff Amendment: Cancel—New York Transco LLC—Engineering, Design and Procurement Agreement to be effective 3/24/2026.

Filed Date: 3/23/26.

Accession Number: 20260323–5170.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/13/26.

Docket Numbers: ER26–1890–000.

Applicants: PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.

Description: Tariff Amendment: Notice of Cancellation of ISA, SA No. 6866; Project Identifier No. AF2–254 to be effective 5/23/2026.

Filed Date: 3/23/26.

Accession Number: 20260323–5187.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/13/26.

Docket Numbers: ER26–1891–000.

Applicants: NSTAR Electric Company.

Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: Park City Wind LLC Second A&R Settlement Transmission Support Agreement to be effective 5/22/2026.

Filed Date: 3/23/26.

Accession Number: 20260323–5192.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/13/26.

Docket Numbers: ER26–1892–000.

Applicants: PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.

Description: Tariff Amendment: Notice of Cancellation of GIA, SA No. 7582; Project Identifier No. AG1–508 to be effective 5/23/2026.

Filed Date: 3/23/26.

Accession Number: 20260323–5197.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/13/26.

Docket Numbers: ER26–1893–000.

Applicants: PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.

Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: Amendment to ISA, Service Agreement No. 6768; Queue No. AF1–325 to be effective 5/23/2026.

Filed Date: 3/23/26.

Accession Number: 20260323–5215.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/13/26.

Docket Numbers: ER26–1894–000.

Applicants: Alabama Power Company, Georgia Power Company, Mississippi Power Company.

Description: § 205(d) Rate Filing: Alabama Power Company submits tariff filing per 35.13(a)(2)(iii: AMEA NITSA Amendment Filing (Add Opelika No. 10 DP) to be effective 3/1/2026.

Filed Date: 3/23/26.

Accession Number: 20260323–5218.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/13/26.

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric securities filings:

Docket Numbers: ES26–32–000.
Applicants: PJM Settlement, Inc.
Description: Application Under Section 204 of the Federal Power Act for Authorization to Issue Securities of PJM Settlement, Inc.
Filed Date: 3/20/26.
Accession Number: 20260320–5412.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/10/26.

The filings are accessible in the Commission's eLibrary system (*https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/search/fercgensearch.asp*) by querying the docket number.

Any person desiring to intervene, to protest, or to answer a complaint in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rules 211, 214, or 206 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214, or 385.206) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. Protests may be considered, but intervention is necessary to become a party to the proceeding.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: *http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf.* For other information, call (866) 208–3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502–8659. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502–6595 or *OPP@ferc.gov.*

Dated: March 23, 2026.

Carlos D. Clay,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–05887 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 15094–002]

Ohio Power and Light, LLC; Notice of Reasonable Period of Time for Water Quality Certification Application

On March 16, 2026, Current Hydro LLC (Current Hydro) submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) a notice from the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (West Virginia DEP) that West Virginia DEP received a request for a Clean Water Act section 401(a)(1) water quality certification as defined in 40 CFR 121.5, from Ohio Power and Light, LLC, in conjunction with the above captioned project on November 13, 2025. Pursuant to the Commission's regulations,[1] we hereby notify West Virginia DEP of the following dates:

Date of Receipt of the Certification Request: November 13, 2025.

Reasonable Period of Time to Act on the Certification Request: One year, November 13, 2026.

If West Virginia DEP fails or refuses to act on the water quality certification request on or before the above date, then the certifying authority is deemed waived pursuant to section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1341(a)(1).

(Authority: 18 CFR 2.1)

Dated: March 23, 2026.

Carlos D. Clay,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–05888 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

[1] 18 CFR 4.34(b)(5)(iii).

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings

Take notice that the Commission has received the following Natural Gas Pipeline Rate and Refund Report filings:

Filings Instituting Proceedings

Docket Numbers: PR26–46–000.
Applicants: Southern California Gas Company.
Description: § 284.123 Rate Filing: Offshore Delivery Service Rate Revision March 2026 to be effective 3/1/2026.
Filed Date: 3/20/26.
Accession Number: 20260320–5197.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/10/26.

Docket Numbers: RP26–634–000.
Applicants: Brotman Generating, LLC, Brotman II, LLC, South Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Description: Joint Petition for Limited Waiver of Capacity Release Regulations, et al. of Brotman Generating, LLC, et al.
Filed Date: 3/10/26.
Accession Number: 20260310–5199.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 3/27/26.

Docket Numbers: RP26–653–000.
Applicants: Equitrans, L.P.
Description: § 4(d) Rate Filing: AVC Storage Loss Retainage Factor—2026 to be effective 4/1/2026.
Filed Date: 3/20/26.
Accession Number: 20260320–5090.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/1/26.

Docket Numbers: RP26–654–000.
Applicants: Florida Gas Transmission Company, LLC.
Description: § 4(d) Rate Filing: Update Tariff Map Links to be effective 4/20/2026.
Filed Date: 3/20/26.
Accession Number: 20260320–5094.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/1/26.

Docket Numbers: RP26–655–000.
Applicants: Transwestern Pipeline Company, LLC.
Description: § 4(d) Rate Filing: Update Tariff Map Links to be effective 4/20/2026.
Filed Date: 3/20/26.
Accession Number: 20260320–5106.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/1/26.

Docket Numbers: RP26–656–000.
Applicants: Fayetteville Express Pipeline LLC.
Description: § 4(d) Rate Filing: Update Tariff Map Links to be effective 4/20/2026.
Filed Date: 3/20/26.
Accession Number: 20260320–5107.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/1/26.

Docket Numbers: RP26–657–000.
Applicants: ETC Tiger Pipeline, LLC.
Description: § 4(d) Rate Filing: Update Tariff Map Link to be effective 4/20/2026.
Filed Date: 3/20/26.
Accession Number: 20260320–5109.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/1/26.

Docket Numbers: RP26–658–000.
Applicants: Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America LLC.
Description: § 4(d) Rate Filing: Negotiated Rate Agreements—Various Shippers March 23, 2026 to be effective 4/1/2026.
Filed Date: 3/23/26.
Accession Number: 20260323–5097.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/6/26.

Docket Numbers: RP26–659–000.
Applicants: Enable Gas Transmission, LLC.
Description: § 4(d) Rate Filing: 3–23–26 Filed Agreements Housekeeping to be effective 4/23/2026.
Filed Date: 3/23/26.
Accession Number: 20260323–5098.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/6/26.

Docket Numbers: RP26–660–000.
Applicants: Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Company, LP.
Description: § 4(d) Rate Filing: Update Tariff Map Links to be effective 4/23/2026.
Filed Date: 3/23/26.
Accession Number: 20260323–5124.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/6/26.

Docket Numbers: RP26–661–000.
Applicants: Trunkline Gas Company, LLC.
Description: § 4(d) Rate Filing: Update Tariff Map Links to be effective 4/23/2026.

Filed Date: 3/23/26.

Accession Number: 20260323–5125.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/6/26.

Docket Numbers: RP26–662–000.

Applicants: Rover Pipeline LLC.

Description: § 4(d) Rate Filing: Update Tariff Map Links to be effective 4/23/2026.

Filed Date: 3/23/26.

Accession Number: 20260323–5126.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/6/26.

Docket Numbers: RP26–663–000.

Applicants: Transwestern Pipeline Company, LLC.

Description: § 4(d) Rate Filing: Negotiated Rates Filing—Tenaska & UNS Gas Co to be effective 4/1/2026.

Filed Date: 3/23/26.

Accession Number: 20260323–5138.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 4/6/26.

Any person desiring to intervene, to protest, or to answer a complaint in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rules 211, 214, or 206 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214, or 385.206) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. Protests may be considered, but intervention is necessary to become a party to the proceeding.

The filings are accessible in the Commission's eLibrary system (*https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/search/fercgensearch.asp*) by querying the docket number.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: *http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf.* For other information, call (866) 208–3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502–8659.

For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, contact the Office of Public Participation at (202) 502–6595 or *OPP@ferc.gov.*

Dated: March 23, 2026.

Carlos D. Clay,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–05889 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 3562–026]

KEI (Maine) Power Management (III) LLC; Notice of Application Ready for Environmental Analysis and Soliciting Comments, Recommendations, Terms and Conditions, and Prescriptions

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection.

a. *Type of Application:* Subsequent Minor License.

b. *Project No.:* 3562–026.

c. *Date filed:* July 29, 2021.

d. *Applicant:* KEI (Maine) Power Management (III) LLC (KEI Power).

e. *Name of Project:* Barker Mill Upper Hydroelectric Project (Upper Barker Project).

f. *Location:* On the Little Androscoggin River, in the City of Auburn, Androscoggin County, Maine.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. 791(a)–825(r)

h. *Applicant Contact:* Lewis C. Loon, General Manager, KEI (USA) Power Management Inc., 423 Brunswick Avenue, Gardiner, ME 04345; phone at (207) 203-3025; email at *LewisC.Loon@krueger.com.*

i. *FERC Contact:* Jody Callihan at (202) 502–8278 or *jody.callihan@ferc.gov.*

j. *Deadline for filing comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and prescriptions:* on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on May 22, 2026; reply comments are due on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on July 6, 2026.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and prescriptions using the Commission's eFiling system at *https://ferconline.ferc.gov/FERCOnline.aspx.* Commenters can submit brief comments up to 10,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at *https://ferconline.ferc.gov/QuickComment.aspx.* For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at *FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov,* (866) 208–3676 (toll free), or (202) 502–8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, you may submit a paper copy. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852. All filings must clearly identify the project name and docket number on the first page: Barker Mill Upper Hydroelectric Project (P–3562–026).

The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

k. This application has been accepted and is ready for environmental analysis at this time.

l. *The Barker Mill Upper Project consists of the following existing facilities:* (1) a 41-acre impoundment with a maximum storage capacity of 255 acre-feet at a normal maximum water surface elevation of 192 feet; [1] (2) a dam consisting of (starting from the west bank): (a) a 43-foot-long concrete abutment; (b) a 40-foot-long gated spillway structure consisting of two, 18-foot-high, 15-foot-wide steel Tainter gates; (c) an 86-foot-long, 24-foot-high stone masonry with concrete overlay overflow spillway with 3-foot-high wooden flashboards and a crest elevation of 192 feet at the top of the flashboards (189 feet when the flashboards are lowered); (d) a 31-foot-long concrete intake structure; and, (e) a 27-foot-long underground abutment; (3) a powerhouse containing a single 950-kilowatt turbine-generator unit; (4) a tailrace; (5) a 50-foot-long, 12.47-kilovolt transmission line; and (6) appurtenant facilities.

KEI Power filed a Settlement Agreement (Settlement) for the Barker's Mill Project (FERC No. 2808),[2] Upper Barker Project (FERC No. 3562), and Marcal Project (FERC No. 11482) executed by and between the licensee and the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Maine Department of Marine Resources (Maine DMR), and the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (Settlement Parties). The purpose of the Settlement is to resolve the parties' disagreements over the issues related to fish and aquatic resource management, including

[1] All elevations are referenced to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988.

[2] The Barker's Mill Project is also known as and referred to herein as the Lower Barker Project.

upstream and downstream passage measures for American eel, river herring, American shad, sea lamprey, and Atlantic salmon; minimum flow releases; and aquatic invasive species. Specifically, for the relicensing of the Upper Barker Project, the Settlement provides for: (1) coordinating the time frame for providing upstream and downstream fish passage at the Upper Barker Project; (2) aligning the minimum and seasonal flows at the Upper Barker and the Lower Barker Projects; (3) aligning the Upper Barker and Lower Barker Projects' license terms by extending the 40-year license term of the Lower Barker Project to 50 years and requesting a license term of 47 years for the Upper Barker Project; (4) establishing an off-license agreement to fund an Androscoggin Basin Stewardship Fund administered by Maine DMR to benefit spawning and rearing habitat in the basin; and (5) assuring, through an off-license agreement, the resources agencies' support for KEI Power's request for Low Impact Hydropower Institute certification for the Upper Barker Project.

On January 29, 2026, KEI Power filed additional details, including design drawings, of its proposed full-depth trash rack overlays (perforated plates with 1-inch hole openings) to protect against fish and eel entrainment and its proposed method of upstream eel passage—installing mussel spat rope.[3] The Upper Barker Project is currently operated in run-of-river mode and generates 4,681 megawatt-hours annually.

m. A copy of the application can be viewed on the Commission's website *http://www.ferc.gov,* using the ''eLibrary'' link. Enter the docket number, excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document (P–3562). For assistance, contact FERC Online Support (see item j above).

All filings must (1) bear in all capital letters the title ''COMMENTS,'' ''REPLY COMMENTS,'' ''RECOMMENDATIONS,'' ''TERMS AND CONDITIONS,'' or ''PRESCRIPTIONS;'' (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the application to which the filing responds; and (3) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. All comments, recommendations, terms and conditions or prescriptions must set forth their evidentiary basis and otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 4.34(b). Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant. Each filing must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed on the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding in accordance with 18 CFR 4.34(b) and 385.2010.

For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, contact the Office of Public Participation at (202) 502–6595 or *OPP@ferc.gov.*

You may also register online at *https://ferconline.ferc.gov/FERCOnline.aspx* to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

n. The applicant must file the following on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on May 22, 2026: (1) a copy of the water quality certification; (2) a copy of the request for certification, including proof of the date on which the certifying agency received the request; or (3) evidence of a waiver of water quality certification.

o. Final amendments to the application must be filed with the Commission on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on April 22, 2026.

(Authority: 18 CFR 2.1.)

Dated: March 23, 2026.

Carlos D. Clay,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–05890 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

[3] Mussel spat ropes are made of coarse ultra-violet stabilized polypropylene fibers and while typically used in the aquaculture industry to provide a settlement substrate for mussel larvae, these ropes can also be used to facilitate the upstream fish passage of climbing species such as eels.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA–HQ–OW–2026–1090; FRL–13236–01–OW]

EPA's Clean Water Act (CWA) Financial Capability Assessment (FCA) Guidance; Request for Comment

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invites written feedback on its Clean Water Act (CWA) Financial Capability Assessment (FCA) Guidance. The FCA Guidance provides information on how to assess a community's financial capability as part of negotiating implementation schedules under both permits and enforcement agreements. In addition, the FCA Guidance identifies specific methodologies, supplementing the Interim Economic Guidance for Water Quality Standards (1995; *https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-01/interim-economic-guidance-water-quality-standards-workbook-1995.pdf*), that can be used to consider economic impacts to public entities when determining water quality standards (WQS) variances and antidegradation reviews. In appropriate cases, these methodologies also inform decisions about revisions to designated uses.

As part of the agency's commitment to implementing CWA objectives in an effective manner, EPA continues to enhance understanding of the issues surrounding FCAs for communities and seeks ways to improve the guidance. The agency will use this input to determine whether updates to the guidance are necessary to provide clear recommendations that accurately identify a community's financial capability. EPA is requesting comment on its CWA FCA guidance.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before May 26, 2026.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OW–2026–1090, by the following method:

- *Federal eRulemaking portal: https://www.regulations.gov/.* Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Docket ID No. for this guidance. Comments received may be posted without change to *https://www.regulations.gov/,* including any personal information provided. For detailed instructions on sending comments and additional information on the guidance process, see the ''Request for Public Comments'' heading of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

Tips for Preparing Comments: When submitting comments, remember to:

- Identify the guidance by docket number and other identifying information (subject heading, **Federal Register** date, and page number).
- Follow directions—the agency asks commenters to respond to specific questions and provide information according to the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) recommended criteria.
- Explain why you agree or disagree; suggest alternatives and substitute language for your requested changes.
- Describe any assumptions and provide any technical information and/or data that you used.

- Provide specific examples to illustrate your comments and suggest alternatives.
- Explain your views as clearly as possible.
- Adhere to the comment period deadline.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tara Johnson, Office of Wastewater Management, Water Infrastructure Division (MC4204M), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 809–7368; email address: *johnson.tara@epa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

EPA's Financial Capability Assessment Guidance

I. Purpose of Revisions to the Current FCA Guidance

This effort will revise, as needed, previous versions of the CWA FCA Guidance, including the draft guidance released in 2022 (*https://www.regulations.gov/document/EPA-HQ-OW-2020-0426-0071*) and the most recent guidance originally published in March 2023 and revised in March 2024 (*https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-01/cwa-financial-capability-assessment-guidance.pdf*). The FCA Guidance is not legally binding and is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.

Since releasing the 2023 guidance, EPA has received significant feedback on the document. Much of the feedback is focused on the practical implications of several elements. The agency is revisiting the guidance to address these concerns through possible revisions, as part of its ongoing commitment to working with communities to ensure practical implementation and public health protection. Several questions/concerns/areas for further discussion have emerged as EPA has engaged with states, authorized tribes, communities, and other stakeholders to implement CWA permitting, enforcement, and WQS programs, specifically:

1. The ability of metrics that assess the severity and prevalence of poverty within a utility's service area to accurately reflect any economic impacts on rural and small communities and low-income households;

2. How to consider the effect cost of living has on the economic impacts to a community and its financial capacity;

3. Appropriate schedule lengths for compliance with CWA requirements; and

4. Specific to the WQS program, additional guidance that would help determine whether and how to account for costs when identifying a community's current financial burden.

EPA requests public comment on how to better assess these four topics, including any specific approaches and/or metrics that the agency should consider. If commenters suggest new or revised metrics of financial capability for consideration, EPA requests that the commenter identify the frequency at which the proposed data sources are published and how EPA and interested parties can obtain such data. In making revisions to its FCA Guidance, the agency intends to follow the criteria recommended by the NAPA for metrics:

- Readily available from publicly available data sources.
- Clearly defined and understood.
- Simple, direct, and consistent.
- Valid and reliable measures, according to conventional research standards, and applicable for comparative analyses among permittees.

II. Four Key Areas for FCA Revision

1. Prevalence and Severity of Poverty

In 2021, EPA proposed to supplement the Residential Indicator (RI) and the Financial Capability Indicator (FCI) metrics with two new metrics: the Lowest Quintile Residential Indicator (LQRI) and the Poverty Indicator (PI). The LQRI was intended to evaluate the financial impact of CWA costs on lowest quintile households in a community by calculating the ratio of adjusted costs per lowest quintile household to the service area's lowest quintile income.

While commenters from local governments, the wastewater sector, and environmental organizations were supportive of the new poverty measures, some of these commentors also expressed concerns about the methodology proposed to scale the costs for lowest quintile households and the proposed LQRI thresholds. A number of community-specific factors—such as age of infrastructure, housing type, and efficiency of water appliances—may impact water usage and costs to lowest quintile households.

In response to public feedback, the 2023 guidance added a single new metric called the Lowest Quintile Poverty Indicator (LQPI) to be considered with the RI and FCI. EPA has received requests to explicitly address concerns regarding metrics used to encompass the prevalence and severity of poverty in the FCA Guidance. The LQPI evaluates the economic impact on low-income households by assessing the prevalence and severity of poverty in a community or service area using U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) data. These ACS data meet the criteria for data recommended by NAPA (see above).

Whereas the LQRI and the PI were each individual indicators for analysis, the LQPI methodology consists of six indicators.

- LQPI #1: Upper limit of the lowest income quintile (50% weight).
- LQPI #2: Percentage of population with income below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (10% weight).
- LQPI #3: Percentage of households receiving food stamps/SNAP benefits (10% weight).
- LQPI #4: Percentage of vacant housing units (10% weight).
- LQPI #5: Trend in household growth (10% weight).
- LQPI #6: Percentage of unemployed population 16 and over in civilian labor force (10% weight).

EPA will use any additional comments on this issue to further assess the need for potential modifications to the LQRI and/or the LQPI analysis and/or additional analyses to characterize the severity and prevalence of poverty in a community or service area to accurately reflect economic impacts on small, rural communities and low-income households.

2. Cost of Living

EPA has received requests to explicitly address concerns regarding cost of living in the FCA Guidance. EPA plans to use any additional comments on this topic to further assess the need for a new framework or whether there are gaps in the current analytical framework that need to be addressed to accurately reflect economic impacts on a community and its financial capacity.

A potential proxy for assessing cost of living and local affordability can be a service area's median household income (MHI); however, some commenters on previous proposed FCA Guidance have noted that MHI—or even lowest quintile income (LQI)—alone are not sufficient measures of poverty.

3. Schedule Length for Compliance

A critical issue in many CWA permits and enforcement actions with utilities is the length of the schedule to achieve compliance with the CWA. When negotiating extended schedules, EPA intends to balance the timely mitigation of human health and environmental impacts as well as ability of the community to finance compliance costs

and the impacts on individual households throughout the utility's service area. EPA will consider any relevant information presented that illustrates the unique or atypical circumstances faced by a community when negotiating CWA permit and enforcement compliance schedules, and will evaluate appropriate timelines to be encompassed in the FCA based on that information.

4. For WQS, Costs When Identifying Financial Burden

It is critical for states and tribes to accurately describe and quantify water-related costs communities are incurring, or have made a commitment to invest in, to demonstrate whether there will be a substantial economic impact if the community incurs additional costs to meet requirements derived from applicable WQS. EPA recognizes that wastewater treatment costs are typically not the only water cost paid by households and that aging infrastructure and shifting populations require careful planning to maintain service levels. In the FCA Guidance, EPA provides standardized instructions for reporting drinking water, stormwater, and asset management costs. The agency now requests input on whether more specific guidance, or a separate standalone guidance document, regarding incorporating these types of information directly into the Municipal Preliminary Screener analysis would be helpful, if a community elects to do so.

III. Request for Public Comments

EPA requests public comment on the most recent FCA Guidance, specifically:

1. EPA seeks comment on the effectiveness of the LQRI and the LQPI methodologies at measuring the severity and prevalence of poverty and whether an alternative or additional analyses may better capture economic impacts to small and rural communities and low-income households.

The 2020 proposed FCA Guidance uses the LQRI and PI methodology:

- Lowest Quintile Residential Indicator—cost per low-income household as a percentage of the LQI.
- Poverty Indicator—five poverty indicators used to benchmark the prevalence of poverty throughout the service area.

The 2024 FCA Guidance uses the LQPI methodology:

- Lowest Quintile Poverty Indicators—upper limit of the lowest income quintile; percentage of population with income below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level; percentage of households receiving food stamps/SNAP benefits; percentage of vacant housing units; trend in household growth; and percentage of unemployed population 16 and over in civilian labor force.

Both methodologies include consideration of the following factors:

- Residential Indicator—cost per household as a percentage of MHI
- Financial Capability Indicator—six socioeconomic, debt, and financial indicators used to benchmark a community's financial strength.

EPA is interested in feedback on indicators that provide distinct information regarding the severity and prevalence of poverty in a community or service area.

2. EPA seeks public comment on whether the FCA Guidance should explicitly incorporate cost of living metrics. If yes, how should the analysis incorporate cost of living? What data sources are publicly available to consider cost of living?

3. EPA seeks public comment on the current scheduling benchmarks for communities facing unusually high financial impacts associated with complying with CWA requirements. Any scheduling considerations need to be balanced with the need for the agency to ensure that CWA requirements are complied with in a timely manner. If commentors propose schedule benchmarks, EPA requests examples to support the basis for such benchmarks.

4. For purposes of WQS analyses, EPA seeks comment on what information or separate guidance would be helpful to determine whether and how states and authorized tribes could account for costs, such as asset management costs, stormwater costs and/or drinking water costs, when characterizing costs that communities are incurring or have made a commitment to invest in.

5. EPA requests comments on what, if any, additional perspectives or considerations relevant to the implementation of the FCA Guidance are not addressed by the focused questions above.

Andrew D. Sawyers,

Director, Office of Wastewater Management, Office of Water.

[FR Doc. 2026–05864 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–13278–01–OMS]

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

AGENCY: Office of Mission Support (OMS), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of a modified system of records.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Acquisition Solutions is giving notice that it proposes to modify a system of records pursuant to the provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974 to add a new routine use as required by Executive Order (E.O.) 14249 and OMB Memorandum M–25–32, and to update the contact information for the Agency Privacy Officer.

DATES: Persons wishing to comment on this system of records notice must do so by April 27, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OMS–2020–0210, by one of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: https://www.regulations.gov Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Email: docket_oms@epa.gov. Include the Docket ID number in the subject line of the message.

Fax: 202–566–1752.

Mail: OMS Docket, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code: 2822T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460.

Hand Delivery: OMS Docket, EPA/DC, WJC West Building, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460. Such deliveries are only accepted during the Docket's normal hours of operation, and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

Instructions: Direct your comments to Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OMS–2020–0210. The EPA policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change and may be made available online at *https://www.regulations.gov,* including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes information claimed to be Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) or other information for which disclosure is restricted by statute. Do not submit information that you consider to be CUI or otherwise protected through *https://www.regulations.gov.* The *https://www.regulations.gov* website is an ''anonymous access'' system for EPA,

which means the EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. Each agency determines submission requirements within their own internal processes and standards. EPA has no requirement to include personal information. If you send an email comment directly to the EPA without going through *https://www.regulations.gov* your email address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the internet. If you submit an electronic comment, the EPA recommends that you include your name and other contact information in the body of your comment. If the EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, the EPA may not be able to consider your comment. Electronic files should avoid the use of special characters, any form of encryption, and be free of any defects or viruses. For additional information about the EPA public docket, visit the EPA Docket Center homepage at *https://www.epa.gov/dockets.*

Docket: All documents in the docket are listed in the *https://www.regulations.gov* index. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, *e.g.,* CUI or other information for which disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, will be publicly available only in hard copy. Publicly available docket materials are available either electronically in *https://www.regulations.gov* or in hard copy at the OMS Docket, EPA/DC, WJC West Building, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington. DC 20460.

We encourage the public to submit comments via *https://www.regulations.gov* or email, as there may be a delay in processing mail and faxes. Hand deliveries and couriers may be received by scheduled appointment only. For further information on EPA Docket Center services and the current status, please visit us online at *https://www.epa.gov/dockets.* The telephone number for the Public Reading Room is (202) 566–1744, and the telephone number for the OMS Docket is (202) 566–1752.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Please submit questions to Victor Rodriguez, email: *rodriguez.victor@epa.gov,* telephone: 202–564–2212, Traci Jones, email: *jones.traci@epa.gov,* telephone: 202–564–4338; Kevin Barnes, email: *barnes.kevin@epa.gov,* telephone: 202–564–3893, or Lee Kelly, email: *kelly.lee@epa.gov,* Agency Privacy Act Officer, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. Washington, DC 20460; telephone: (202) 566–1197.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: EPA's Acquisition System (EAS) is an automated contract writing and management system with configurable workflow used to initiate, award, modify, and track acquisition actions for the procurement of goods and services. EPA is modifying the EAS system of records notice (SORN) to comply with E.O. 14249 and OMB Memorandum M–25–32, which require agencies to modify relevant SORNs to include a routine use that allows for the disclosure of records to the U.S. Department of the Treasury for the purpose of identifying, preventing, or recouping fraud and improper payments. Additionally, EPA is updating the contact information for the Agency Privacy Officer.

SYSTEM NAME AND NUMBER:

EPA Acquisition System (EAS), EPA–86.

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION:

Unclassified.

SYSTEM LOCATION:

Office of Acquisition Solutions, Environmental Protection Agency, William Jefferson Clinton Building, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460. EAS is hosted as a Software as a Service (SaaS) by Unison's Amazon Web Services (AWS) Cloud hosting environment which is FedRAMP authorized.

SYSTEM MANAGER(S):

Stefan Martiyan, Director, Office of Acquisition Solutions, Environmental Protection Agency, William Jefferson Clinton, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460, email: *Martiyan.Stefan@epa.gov,* telephone: 202–564–1987.

AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:

Executive Order 12072 (August 16, 1978); Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, 40 U.S.C. 121; Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act of 1974, 41 U.S.C. 1702.

PURPOSE(S) OF THE SYSTEM:

EPA uses EAS to initiate, award, modify and track acquisition actions. EAS identifies employees who initiate acquisition actions or are assigned to work on these actions. Specifically, the system tracks the requisitioner, contract official, contract specialist, and approving officials for each acquisition action.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

Categories of individuals covered are EPA employees including the: (a) EPA Project Officer, *i.e.,* the individual who is responsible for the review and evaluation of the application or proposal and the monitoring of a resulting contract acquisition; (b) EPA Program Official, *i.e.,* the individual who is responsible for review and approval of applications or proposals for funding; (c) EPA Budget Official, *i.e.,* the individual who is responsible for certifying availability of funds for approved applications or proposals; (d) EPA Contracting Officer or Contract Specialist, *i.e.,* individuals who are responsible for awarding and administering contracts, and (e) EPA Merit/Peer Reviewers, *i.e.,* individuals who provide a written review or evaluation of the application or proposal to the EPA Project Officer. (f) Vendor Representatives, *i.e.* corporate points of contact.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

EAS collects EPA employee first name, last name, work email, work telephone, EPA employee ID and LAN User ID information. The system also collects other information required for the tracking or approval of a contract action including contract proposals, technical reviews by a peer reviewer, records of contract awards, financial data. EAS also collects Vendor Contact information including: Vendor Code, Legal Name, Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) ID (a 9 character identifier used for identifying the Vendor), Cage Code (used to provide a standardized method of identifying a given facility at a specific location.), address, phone number, fax number, and email address.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:

EAS collects EPA employee information from EPA's directory service. Contract proposals and vendor information are collected directly from the user via the Federal Government's System for Award Management (SAM).

ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:

The routine uses below are both related to and compatible with the original purpose for which the information was collected. The following general routine uses apply to this system (): A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, and M. An additional routine use that applies to this system includes:

To the U.S. Department of the Treasury when disclosure of the

information is relevant to review payment and award eligibility through the Do Not Pay Working System for the purposes of identifying, preventing, or recouping improper payments to an applicant for, or recipient of, Federal funds, including funds disbursed by a state (meaning a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, a territory or possession of the United States, or a federally recognized Indian tribe) in a state-administered, federally funded program.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORAGE OF RECORDS:

These records are maintained electronically on computer storage devices located at Unison's Amazon Web Services (AWS) Cloud hosting environments (production and disaster recovery) which are Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program (FedRAMP) authorized. Backups will be maintained at production and disaster recovery sites, located at Unison's Amazon Web Services (AWS) Cloud hosting environments (production and disaster recovery). Computer records are maintained in a secure, password protected environment. Access to computer records is limited to those who have a need to know. All EAS user accounts are assigned permissions as needed based on their job functions. Permission level assignments will allow users access only to those functions for which they are authorized. All records are maintained in secure, access-controlled areas or buildings.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETRIEVAL OF RECORDS:

Records are retrieved by the first name, last name and/or User ID of EPA employees or Vendor ID (DUNS codes) associated with contracts.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETENTION AND DISPOSAL OF RECORDS:

EPA will retain and dispose of EAS records in accordance with the National Archives and Records Administration General Records Schedule and EPA Records Schedule 055—Contracts Management Systems. EAS records are retained for at least 6 years after contract closeout for non-Superfund actions, and 30 years after contract closeout for Superfund site actions.

ADMINISTRATIVE, TECHNICAL, AND PHYSICAL SAFEGUARDS:

Security controls used to protect personally identifiable information in EAS are commensurate with those required for an information system rated moderate for confidentiality, integrity, and availability, as prescribed in NIST Special Publication, 800–53, ''Security and Privacy Controls for Information Systems and Organizations,'' Revision 5.

1. Administrative Safeguards: EPA personnel are required to complete annual agency Information Security and Privacy training. EPA personnel are instructed to lock their computers when they leave their desks.

2. Technical Safeguards: Electronic records are maintained in a secure, password protected electronic system. EAS access is limited to authorized, authenticated users. All of the system's electronic communication utilizes Transport Layer Security (TLS), secure communication protocol for all transactions.

3. Physical Safeguards: All records are maintained in secure, access-controlled areas or buildings.

RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:

All requests for access to personal records should cite the Privacy Act of 1974 and reference the type of request being made (*i.e.,* access). Requests must include: (1) the name and signature of the individual making the request; (2) the name of the Privacy Act system of records to which the request relates; (3) a statement whether a personal inspection of the records or a copy of them by mail is desired; and (4) proof of identity. A full description of EPA's Privacy Act procedures for requesting access to records is available at 40 CFR part 16.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

Requests for correction or amendment must include: (1) the name and signature of the individual making the request; (2) the name of the Privacy Act system of records to which the request relates; (3) a description of the information sought to be corrected or amended and the specific reasons for the correction or amendment; and (4) proof of identity. A full description of EPA's Privacy Act procedures for the correction or amendment of a record are described in EPA's Privacy Act regulations at 40 CFR part 16.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES:

Individuals who wish to be informed whether a Privacy Act system of records maintained by EPA contains any record pertaining to them, should make a written request to EPA, Attn: Agency Privacy Officer, MC 2810A, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460, *privacy@epa.gov,* or submit their request online at *https://epabap.my.site.com/privacy/s/.* A full description of EPA's Privacy Act procedures is included in EPA's Privacy Act regulations at 40 CFR part 16.

EXEMPTIONS PROMULGATED FOR THE SYSTEM:

None.

HISTORY:

86 FR 10949 (February 23, 2021).

Carter Farmer,

Senior Agency Official for Privacy.

[FR Doc. 2026–05870 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA–HQ–OPPT–2017–0652; FRL–13307–01–OMS]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Access to TSCA Confidential Business Information (Renewal)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has submitted an information collection request (ICR), Access to TSCA Confidential Business Information Under TSCA (EPA ICR Number 2570.03, OMB Control Number 2070–0209) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act. This is a proposed extension of the ICR which is currently approved through March 31, 2026. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on June 10, 2025. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

DATES: Comments may be submitted on or before April 27, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID number EPA–HQ–OPPT–2017–0652, to EPA online using *www.regulations.gov* (our preferred method), or by mail to: EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460.

EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes profanity, threats, information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

Submit written comments and recommendations to OMB for the proposed information collection within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.*

Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Katherine Sleasman, Office of Mission Critical Support (Mail Code 7602M), Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 2046; telephone number: 202–566–1204; email address: *Sleasman.Katherine@epa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a proposed extension of the ICR, which is currently approved through March 31, 2026. 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 OMB control number.

Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on June 10, 2025, during a 60-day comment period (90 FR 24399). This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments. Supporting documents, which explain in detail the information that the EPA will be collecting, are available in the public docket for this ICR. The docket can be viewed online at *www.regulations.gov* or in person at the EPA Docket Center, WJC West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC. The telephone number for the Docket Center is 202–566–1744. For additional information about EPA's public docket, visit *http://www.epa.gov/dockets*.

Abstract: The TSCA amendments of June 22, 2016, known as the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, expanded the categories of people to whom EPA may disclose TSCA confidential business information (CBI). The amendments authorize EPA to disclose TSCA CBI to state, tribal, and local governments; environmental, health, and medical professionals; and emergency responders, under certain conditions, including consistency with guidance that EPA is required to develop. Three guidance documents were developed, corresponding to the new authorities in TSCA section 14(d)(4), (5), and (6). The conditions for access vary under each of the provisions, but generally include the following: requesters must show that they have a need for the information related to their employment, professional, or legal duties; recipients of TSCA CBI are prohibited from disclosing or permitting further disclosure of the information to individuals not authorized to receive it (physicians/nurses may disclose the information to their patient); and except in emergency situations EPA must notify the entity that made the CBI claim at least 15 days prior to disclosing the CBI. In addition, under these new provisions, requesters (except in some emergency situations) are required to sign an agreement and may be required to submit a statement of need to EPA. In accordance with the requirements of TSCA section 14(c)(4)(B), the guidance documents cover the content and form of the agreements and statements required under each provision and include information on where and how to submit requests to EPA.

The ICR, which is available in the docket along with other related materials, provides a detailed explanation of the collection activities and the burden estimate that is only briefly summarized here:

Form number(s): None.

Respondents/affected entities: Entities potentially affected by this ICR include government employees (federal, state, local, tribal), as well as medical professionals, such as doctors and nurses. The North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes for health care and social assistance is 62. North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes identified in question 12 of the ICR.

Respondent's obligation to respond: Required to Obtain or Retain Benefits (15 U.S.C. 2607).

Estimated number of respondents: 6 (total).

Frequency of response: On occasion.

Total estimated burden: 89 hours (per year). Burden is defined at 5 CFR 1320.3(b).

Total estimated cost: $6,585 (per year), which includes $0 annualized capital or operation & maintenance costs.

Changes in the estimates: There is no change in the total estimated respondent burden compared with that currently approved by OMB.

Courtney Kerwin,

Deputy Director, Data and Enterprise Programs Division.

[FR Doc. 2026–05874 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

[OMB No. 3064–0139]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection Renewal; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The FDIC, as part of its obligations under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the request to renew the existing information collections described below (OMB Control No. 3064–0139). The notices of proposed renewal for these information collections were previously published in the **Federal Register** on February 2, 2026, allowing for a 60-day comment period. No comments have been received.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before April 27, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties are invited to submit written comments to the FDIC by any of the following methods:

- *Agency Website: https://www.fdic.gov/resources/regulations/federal-register-publications/.*
- *Email: comments@fdic.gov.* Include the name and number of the collection in the subject line of the message.
- *Mail:* Robert Meiers, Regulatory Attorney, MB–3013, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20429.
- *Hand Delivery:* Comments may be hand-delivered to the guard station at the rear of the 17th Street NW building (located on F Street NW), on business days between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find these information collections by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Meiers, Regulatory Attorney, *Romeiers@fdic.gov,* MB–3013, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20429.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Proposal to renew the following currently approved collection of information:

1. *Title:* CRA Sunshine.

OMB Number: 3064–0139.

Affected Public: Insured state nonmember banks and state savings associations and their affiliates and nongovernmental entities and persons.

Burden Estimate:

SUMMARY OF ESTIMATED ANNUAL BURDEN

[OMB No. 3064–0139]

Information Collection (IC) (obligation to respond)	Type of burden (frequency of response)	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Average time per response (HH:MM)	Annual burden (hours)
IC 1. Reporting burden by covered banks—list of agreements, 12 CFR 346.6(d)(1)(ii) (Mandatory).	Reporting (On occasion)	1	1	01:00	1
IC 2. Reporting burden by covered banks—copies of agreements, 12 CFR 346.6(d)(1)(i) (Mandatory).	Reporting (On occasion)	1	1	01:00	1
IC 3. Reporting burden by NGEPs—copies of agreements, 12 CFR 346.6(c) (Mandatory).	Reporting (On occasion)	1[p]	0.333	01:00	0
IC 4. Reporting burden by covered banks—annual report, 12 CFR 346.7(b) (Mandatory).	Reporting (Annual)	2	1	04:00	8
IC 5. Reporting burden by NGEPs—annual report, 12 CFR 346.7(b) (Mandatory).	Reporting (Annual)	2	1	04:00	8
IC 6. Reporting burden by covered banks—filing NGEP report, 12 CFR 346.7(f)(2)(ii) (Mandatory).	Reporting (Annual)	2	1	01:00	2
IC 7. Disclosure burden by covered banks—covered agreements to public, 12 CFR 346.6(b) (Mandatory).	Disclosure (On occasion)	1	1	01:00	1
IC 8. Disclosure burden by NGEPs—covered agreements to public, 12 CFR 346.6(b) (Mandatory).	Disclosure (On occasion)	1	1	01:00	1
IC 9. Disclosure burden by covered banks to NGEPs—CRA affiliate activities, 12 CFR 346.4(b) (Mandatory).	Disclosure (On occasion)	1	1	01:00	1
Total Annual Burden (Hours)					23

Source: FDIC.

General Description of Collection: This collection implements a statutory requirement imposing reporting, disclosure and recordkeeping requirements on some community reinvestment-related agreements between insured depository institutions or affiliates, and nongovernmental entities or persons. The information assists interested members of the public in assessing whether the parties are fulfilling their agreements, and helps the agencies understand how the institutions they regulate are fulfilling their CRA responsibilities. There is no change in the method or substance of the collection. The overall reduction in burden hours is the result of economic fluctuation. In particular, the decline in the estimated overall annual time burden from 42 hours in 2023 to 19 hours in 2026 is the result of a reduction in the number respondents.

Request for Comment

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the FDIC's functions, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the estimates of the burden of the information collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Dated at Washington, DC, on March 23, 2026.

Jennifer M. Jones,

Deputy Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–05836 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6714–01–P

FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meetings

FEDERAL REGISTER CITATION OF PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT: 91 FR 11549, March 10, 2026.

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED TIME AND DATE OF THE MEETING: Meeting was originally scheduled for 10 a.m., on Thursday, March 26, 2026.

CHANGES IN THE MEETING: The meeting is cancelled.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Rory P. Smith (202) 525–8649/(202) 708–9300 for TDD Relay/1–800–877–8339 for toll free.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 552b.

Dated: March 24, 2026.

Rory P. Smith,

Attorney-Advisor.

[FR Doc. 2026–05939 Filed 3–24–26; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 6735–01–P

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Change in Bank Control Notices; Acquisitions of Shares of a Bank or Bank Holding Company

The notificants listed below have applied under the Change in Bank Control Act (Act) (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)) and 225.41 of the Board's Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.41) to acquire shares of a bank or bank holding company. The factors that are considered in acting on the applications are set forth in paragraph 7 of the Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(7)).

The public portions of the applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, if any, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank(s) indicated below and at the offices of the Board of Governors. This information may also be obtained on an expedited basis, upon request, by contacting the appropriate Federal Reserve Bank and from the Board's Freedom of Information Office at *https://www.federalreserve.gov/foia/request.htm.* Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in paragraph 7 of the Act.

Comments received are subject to public disclosure. In general, comments received will be made available without change and will not be modified to remove personal or business information including confidential, contact, or other identifying information. Comments should not include any information such as confidential information that would not be appropriate for public disclosure.

Comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors, Benjamin W. McDonough, Secretary of the Board, 20th Street and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20551–0001, not later than April 10, 2026.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City (Jeffrey Imgarten, Assistant Vice President) 1 Memorial Drive, Kansas City, Missouri 64198–0001. Comments can also be sent electronically to *KCApplicationComments@kc.frb.org:*

1. *Todd Davidson, Salina, Kansas, and N. Terry Nelson, Long Island, Kansas, as co-trustees of the N. Terry Nelson Trust No. 7 (Trust No. 7), Long Island, Kansas; Clarke S. Nelson, Stanton D. Nelson, and Janet Sell, all of Long Island, Kansas, John P. Engelbert, Norton, Kansas, Todd Davidson and N. Terry Nelson, as co-trustees of the Stanton D. Nelson Trust No. 2 (Stanton Trust No. 2), Long Island, Kansas; and Todd Davidson, N. Terry Nelson, Clarke S. Nelson, Stanton D. Nelson, Janet Sell, and John P. Engelbert as co-trustees of the Clarke S. Nelson Trust No. 2 (Clarke Trust No. 2), Long Island, Kansas;* to join the Nelson Family Control Group (NFCG), a group acting in concert, to retain voting shares of Norton Bankshares, Inc. (NBI), and thereby indirectly retain voting shares of The First State Bank (FSB), both of Norton, Kansas.

In addition, *the John P. Engelbert Trust No. 1, John P. and Pamela K. Engelbert, as co-trustees, all of Norton, Kansas, and Jared and McKenzie Engelbert, both of Holdrege, Nebraska;* to join the NFCG and retain voting shares of NBI, and thereby indirectly retain voting shares of FSB.

Finally, *Trust No. 7;* to acquire additional voting shares of NBI, and thereby indirectly acquire additional voting shares of FSB. Trust No. 7, Stanton Trust No. 2, the Clarke Trust No. 2, and all of the aforementioned co-trustees, excluding Todd Davidson, are members of the NFCG and were each previously permitted by the Federal Reserve System to acquire voting shares of NBI.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

Michele Taylor Fennell,

Associate Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 2026–05881 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[Document Identifier: CMS–10433]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is announcing an opportunity for the public to comment on CMS' intention to collect information from the public. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension or reinstatement of an existing collection of information, and to allow a second opportunity for public comment on the notice. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including the necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions, the accuracy of the estimated burden, ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected, and the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

DATES: Comments on the collection(s) of information must be received by the OMB desk officer by April 27, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

To obtain copies of a supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed collection(s) summarized in this notice, please access the CMS PRA website by copying and pasting the following web address into your web browser: *https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/PaperworkReductionActof1995/PRA-Listing.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William Parham at (410) 786–4669.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520), federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. The term ''collection of information'' is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c) and includes agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)) requires federal agencies to publish a 30-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension or reinstatement of an existing collection of information, before submitting the collection to OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, CMS is publishing this notice that summarizes the following proposed collection(s) of information for public comment.

1. *Type of Information Collection:* Revision of a currently approved

collection; *Title of Information Collection Request:* Initial Plan Data Collection to Support QHP Certification and other Financial Management and Exchange Operations; *Use:* As directed by the rule Establishment of Exchanges and Qualified Health Plans; Exchange Standards for Employers (77 FR 18310) (Exchange rule), each Exchange is responsible for the certification and offering of Qualified Health Plans (QHPs). To offer insurance through an certification standards, such as network adequacy, inclusion of Essential Community Providers (ECPs), and non-discrimination. The Exchange is responsible for ensuring that QHPs meet these minimum certification standards as described in the Exchange rule under 45 CFR 155 and 156, based on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), as well as other standards determined by the Exchange. Issuers can offer individual and small group market plans outside of the Exchanges that are not QHPs.

Issuers can offer individual and small group market plans outside of the Exchanges that are not QHPs. Such plans are referred to in this document as ''non-Exchange.'' For the risk adjustment program, administrative information is used to identify all non-grandfathered small group and individual market non-Exchange plan offerings eligible for the program. Risk adjustment also requires select data such as rating area, rating factors, and actuarial value (AV) level, to perform calculation of payments and charges.

This information collection request serves as a formal request for the revision of the data collection clearance. We intend to use the instruments in this information collection for the 2025 certification process and beyond, and believe that providing these instruments now will give issuers and other stakeholders more opportunity to familiarize themselves with the instruments before releasing the 2025 application. While we intend to use these instruments in 2025, we may propose further revisions to this data collection in the future as necessary which will include seeking comments through the full 60-day and 30-day public comment periods. *Form Number:* CMS–10433 (OMB control number: 0938–1187); *Frequency:* Annually; *Affected Public:* Private Sector—Business or other for-profits; State, Local, or Tribal Governments; *Number of Respondents:* 1,073; *Number of Responses:* 1,073; *Total Annual Hours:* 61,154. (For questions regarding this collection, contact Alexandra Gribbin at (667) 290–9977.)

William N. Parham, III,

Director, Division of Information Collections and Regulatory Impacts, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2026–05915 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4120–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

[Office of Management and Budget (OMB) #: 0970–0248]

Submission for OMB Review; Annual Report on Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Programs and State Maintenance-of-Effort Programs—ACF–204 (Annual TANF and MOE Report)

AGENCY: Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION: Request for public comments.

SUMMARY: The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is requesting a 3-year extension of the ACF–204: Annual Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and State Maintenance-of-Effort (MOE) Report (Office of Management and Budget #0970–0248, expiration March 31, 2026). There are no substantive changes requested to the form, but instructions have been updated, and burden estimates adjusted.

DATES: *Comments due* April 27, 2026.

ADDRESSES: The public may view and comment on this information collection request at: *https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewICR?ref_nbr=202603-0970-007.* You can also obtain copies of the proposed collection of information by emailing *infocollection@acf.hhs.gov.* Identify all emailed requests by the title of the information collection.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Description: The Annual TANF and MOE Report is used to collect descriptive program characteristics information on the programs operated by states and territories in association with their TANF programs. All state and territory expenditures claimed toward states and territories MOE requirements must be appropriate, *i.e.,* meet all applicable MOE requirements. The Annual TANF and MOE Report provides the ability to learn about and to monitor the nature of state and territory expenditures used to meet states and territories MOE requirements, and it is an important source of information about the different ways that states and territories are using their resources to help families attain and maintain self-sufficiency. In addition, the report is used to obtain state and territory program characteristics for ACF's annual report to Congress, and the report serves as a useful resource to use in Congressional hearings about how TANF programs are evolving, in assessing state and territory MOE expenditures, and in assessing the need for legislative changes. This information collection will support administration and agency priorities to enhance oversight mechanisms and reinforce accountability across programs. Further, this information collection addresses a recommendation issued by the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) in its final report, GAO–25–107235, that the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services should ensure ACF conducts a review of all TANF reporting requirements and forms and make appropriate changes within its statutory authority to enhance reporting for oversight of TANF funds. The Annual TANF and MOE Report requires states to relate each TANF and MOE benefit or service program to the third and fourth statutory purposes of TANF, which is responsive to GAO's recommendation and aligns with the agency's values of program integrity and fiscal stewardship. This request includes clarifications within instructions, a reduction in burden hours, and a change in collection title to better reflect the content of the collection.

Respondents: The 50 states of the U.S., the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

Annual Burden Estimates

ACF proposes a 32 percent reduction in estimated average time per response to reflect the intent of existing regulations. 45 CFR 265.9(d) indicates that states that have already incorporated the information required in their TANF State Plan may meet the annual reporting requirements by reference in lieu of completing a re-submission of a particular data element. If the information in the annual report has not changed since the previous annual report, the state may reference this information in lieu of re-submission of a particular data element. Instructions have been updated to make clear both opportunities to reference in lieu of re-submission.

Instrument	Total number of respondents	Annual number of responses per respondent	Average burden hours per response	Annual burden hours
ACF–204; Annual TANF and MOE Report	54	1	80	4,320

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 602 and 611; the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Public Law 104–193, 110 Stat. 2105.

Mary C. Jones,

ACF/OPRE Certifying Officer.

[FR Doc. 2026–05855 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4184–82–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[FDA–2025–N–3346]

Elite Laboratories, Inc., et al.; Withdrawal of Approval of 72 Abbreviated New Drug Applications; Correction

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice; correction.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is correcting a notice that appeared in the **Federal Register** on September 24, 2025 (90 FR 183), appearing on page 45942 in FR Doc. 2025–18453. The document announced the withdrawal of approval of 72 abbreviated new drug applications (ANDAs) from multiple applicants, withdrawn as of October 23, 2025. The document indicated that FDA was withdrawing approval of the ANDA 070631 for valproic acid, capsule, 250 milligrams, held by Upsher-Smith Laboratories, LLC, 6701 Evenstad Dr., Maple Grove, MN 55369. Before FDA withdrew the approval of this ANDA, Upsher-Smith Laboratories, LLC, 6701 Evenstad Dr., Maple Grove, MN 55369, informed FDA that they did not want the approval of the ANDA withdrawn. Because Upsher-Smith Laboratories, LLC, timely requested that approval of the ANDA not be withdrawn, the approval is still in effect. This notice corrects this error.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Martha Nguyen, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 75, Rm. 1676, Silver Spring, MD 20993–0002, 301–796–3471, *Martha.Nguyen@fda.hhs.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the **Federal Register** of Wednesday September 24, 2025 (90 FR 183), appearing on page 45942 in FR Doc. 2025–18453, the following correction is made:

On page 45943, in the table, the entry for ANDA 070631 is removed.

Grace R. Graham,

Deputy Commissioner for Policy, Legislation, and International Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2026–05913 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4164–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Eye Institute; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 1009 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Board of Scientific Counselors, National Eye Institute.

The meeting will be closed to the public as indicated below in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended for the review, discussion, and evaluation of individual intramural programs and projects conducted by the National Eye Institute, including consideration of personnel qualifications and performance, and the competence of individual investigators, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: Board of Scientific Counselors, National Eye Institute.

Date: April 6, 2026.

Time: 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate personnel qualifications and performance, and competence of individual investigators.

Address: National Eye Institute, 31 Center Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: David M. Schneeweis, Ph.D., Acting Scientific Director, National Eye Institute, National Institutes of Health, Building 31, Room 6A22, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301–451–6763, *David.schneeweis@nih.gov.*

Information is also available on the Institute's/Center's home page: *https://www.nei.nih.gov/about/advisory-committees,* where an agenda and any additional information for the meeting will be posted when available.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.867, Vision Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: March 23, 2026.

Rosalind M. Niamke,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2026–05852 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Finding of Mass Influx of Aliens

On January 23, 2025, the Acting Secretary of Homeland Security issued a Finding of Mass Influx of Aliens. This finding went into effect immediately (on January 23, 2025) and remained in effect for 60 days (until March 23, 2025). The Acting Secretary's finding published in the **Federal Register** on January 29, 2025. *See* 90 FR 8399. On March 21, 2025, I extended the January 23, 2025, Finding of Mass Influx for 180 days (until September 17, 2025). My decision extending the Finding of Mass Influx published in the **Federal Register** on March 25, 2025. *See* 90 FR 13622. On September 17, 2025, I extended the March 23, 2025, Finding of Mass Influx for 180 days (until March 21, 2026). My decision extending the Finding of Mass Influx published in the **Federal Register** on September 22, 2025. *See* 90 FR 45396. Upon review of the current situation at the border, I am extending that finding.

The Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), at 8 U.S.C. 1103(a), provides an expansive grant of authority, stating that in the event of a mass influx of aliens off the coast of the United States or a land border, the Secretary may authorize a State or local law enforcement officer, with the consent of the officer's superiors, to perform duties of immigration officers under the INA. In turn, section 65.83 of Title 28 of the Code of Federal Regulations allows the Secretary [1] to ''request assistance from a

[1] Although the regulations reference the ''Attorney General,'' Congress has, since the publication of these regulations, transferred the authority and responsibility for administering and enforcing the immigration laws to the Secretary of Homeland Security. See Homeland Security Act of 2002 471, 6 U.S.C. 291 (abolishing the former Immigration and Naturalization Service); id. S 441,

Continued

State or local government in the administration of the immigration laws of the United States'' under certain specified circumstances. Among those circumstances are when ''[t]he [Secretary] determines that there exist circumstances involving the administration of the immigration laws of the United States that endanger the lives, property, safety, or welfare of the residents of a State or locality.'' 28 CFR 65.83(b).

In making such a determination, the Secretary may also determine that there is an ''immigration emergency.'' The regulations define an immigration emergency as ''an actual or imminent mass influx of aliens which either is of such magnitude or exhibits such other characteristics that effective administration of the immigration laws of the United States is beyond the existing capabilities of [the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)] in the affected area or areas.'' 28 CFR 65.83(d)(1) (using identical language as 8 U.S.C. 1103(a)(10)).

Such a determination is based on ''the factors set forth in the definitions contained in'' 28 CFR 65.81. Characteristics of an influx of aliens, other than magnitude, which may be considered in determining whether an immigration emergency exists include: the likelihood of continued growth in the magnitude of the influx; an apparent connection between the influx and increases in criminal activity; the actual or imminent imposition of unusual and overwhelming demands on law enforcement agencies; and other similar characteristics.

Upon review of the current data, I have determined that there continues to exist circumstances involving the administration of the immigration laws of the United States that endanger the lives, property, safety, or welfare of the residents of all 50 States and that an actual or imminent mass influx of aliens is arriving at the southern border of the United States and presents urgent circumstances requiring a continued federal response. I make this finding for the reasons discussed below.

First, over the last several years, our southern border has been overrun. As noted in Proclamation 10888, *Guaranteeing the States Protection Against Invasion,* from 2020 to 2024, ''at least 8 million illegal aliens were encountered along the southern border of the United States, and countless millions more evaded detection and illegally entered the United States.'' DHS continues to encounter thousands of aliens on a weekly basis attempting to enter the United States illegally via the Southwest border.[2]

Second, at this time, the ability of DHS to control an influx of aliens at the border has been hampered due to a federal court decision. On August 1, 2025, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision partially staying an order from the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia enjoining the implementation of Proclamation 10888, *Guaranteeing the States Protection Against Invasion,* 90 FR 8333 (Jan. 20, 2025) (Invasion Proclamation). *See Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services (RAICES)* v. *Noem,* No. 25–5243 (D.C. Cir. Aug. 1, 2025). Because of this decision, DHS no longer directly repatriates apprehended aliens or relies upon expedited removal under INA § 212(f), but rather must process aliens for expedited removal pursuant to 8 U.S.C. 1225(b)(1). Given that DHS's use of the Invasion Proclamation, which previously contributed to low border encounters throughout much of 2025, has been limited, there is a continued need for a finding of mass influx.

Third, as stated in the previous notices, when border crossing numbers are high, much detention capacity is required of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Mandatory detention of aliens apprehended at the border serves important public safety and national security purposes. Aliens who have not completed this process have not been effectively vetted for criminality or national security threats. Current databases still do not allow for comprehensive and rapid searching for foreign convictions or other public safety and national security risks of recent arrivals. As a result, when numbers at the border are such that DHS is effectively forced to engage in catch-and-release practices which thwart legally mandated screenings, there is a threat to public safety and national security. This does not account for so-called gotaways, of which there have been millions over the last several years, who are not screened in any manner.

In addition, increased enforcement efforts in the interior have resulted in large numbers of aliens in custody. Many of these aliens are applicants for admission who are subject to mandatory detention pending removal proceedings under the INA. 8 U.S.C. 1225(b)(2)(A); *see Matter of Yajure Hurtado,* 29 I&N Dec. 216 (BIA 2025) (holding that immigration judges lack authority to hear bond requests or grant bond to aliens present in the United States without admission and in removal proceedings, based on the plain language of 8 U.S.C. 1225(b)(2)(A)).

As mentioned in the prior findings of mass influx, without controls in place at the border to stem the influx, DHS loses its capacity to hold all aliens as required by the INA. *See, e.g.,* 8 U.S.C. 1225(b). As of March 12, 2026, ICE has a detention population of 63,482, with a maximum capacity of 78,0000. ICE's facilities are currently nearly at 81% occupancy, and ICE's priority for detention space is removing aliens with criminal records, public safety risks, and national security risks. Similar to the explanation provided in the March and September 2025 Notices, should this finding not be extended, ICE would be hampered in this critical effort and be unable to detain a large number of aliens at the Southwest border despite these aliens being subject to mandatory detention. Additionally, should this finding not be extended, ICE would be required to use bed space on detaining some of these aliens apprehended at the Southwest Border at the expense of its interior enforcement priorities, which are designed to enhance and promote public safety.

Fourth, an influx of aliens presents significant concerns with respect to increased criminal activity. Between FY 2017 and 2019, ICE removed 485,930 aliens with criminal convictions or pending criminal charges. Between FY 2021 and FY 2023, ICE removed 158,931 aliens with criminal convictions or pending criminal charges. Between September 1, 2025, and March 11, 2026, ICE removed 128,889 aliens with criminal convictions or pending criminal charges, 663 known or suspected terrorists, and 2,847 gang members. Assuming that the crime rate of aliens has remained unchanged over the year, this 67% decrease (in removals) between FY 2019 and 2021 and FY 2021 and 2023 suggests that tens of thousands of criminal aliens remain in the United States. Even if ICE were to continue to remove aliens at the same levels through the rest of this fiscal year, it would still fall short of the total number of aliens removed between FY 2017 and FY 2019, indicating the large, continued presence of criminal aliens in the United States. Where there is an increase in criminal aliens, there is likely to be an increase in criminal

6 U.S.C. 251 (transferring immigration enforcement functions from the Department of Justice to the Department of Homeland Security); Immigration and Nationality Act 103(a)(1), 8 U.S.C. 1103(a)(1) (''the Secretary of Homeland Security shall be charged with the administration and enforcement of this chapter and all other laws relating to the immigration and naturalization of aliens.'')

[2] *Nationwide Encounters,* U.S. Customs and Border Protection (last modified Feb 19, 2026), available at *https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/nationwide-encounters.*

activity. This once again shows that ICE needs to continue to prioritize the need to remove criminal aliens rather than divert resources to detain aliens recently apprehended at the Southwest border.

Furthermore, there continues to be significant criminality present at the Southwest border. In January 2026, U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP's) Office of Field Operations (OFO) and U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) encountered 399 criminal aliens. OFO made 788 criminal arrests, and USBP had 25 gang apprehensions. USBP referred 285 smuggling events for prosecution, and OFO referred 233 events for criminal prosecution. Officers and agents seized 16,528.65 pounds of illicit narcotics, including 767.16 pounds of deadly fentanyl. Officers and agents also seized 56 firearms and 42,849 rounds of ammunition, as well as $808,223.72 in currency. These numbers are only likely to increase if encounter numbers increase.

Fifth, there have been high, unusual, and overwhelming demands on law enforcement officers and agencies, which continue to present significant danger to officers and agents. For example, in January 2026, CBP records indicate that 74 CBP officers/agents were assaulted. Even while encounter numbers were lower than average in January 2026, officers and agents at the border have consistent threats against them, and there are still too many assaults and use of force incidents on officers and agents. ICE records indicate that aliens assaulted or used force against 182 ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) officers from the period of September 2025 to February 2026, representing an average of 30 per month. In February 2025, ICE records indicated that aliens assaulted or used force against 10 ICE ERO officers. This 300% increase indicates the increasing risk that ICE ERO officers face as they seek to arrest and detain aliens that entered during periods of loose border restrictions.

Additionally, there remains a strain on ICE resources, which takes ICE away from its mission to preserve national security and public safety. ICE has many aliens pending removal that entered during prior influxes at the Southwest border. Managing those removals requires a significant expenditure of ICE resources. As of March 13, 2026, there are 1,526,800 aliens on the ICE non-detained docket with final orders of removal. This number will only increase should this finding not be extended.

Between September 1, 2025, and March 11, 2026, ICE arrested 135,395 aliens with criminal convictions or pending criminal charges. Of these, 565 were known or suspected terrorists, and 3,193 were suspected gang members. Failure to extend this finding will impede the ability of ICE to properly enforce immigration laws and focus on public safety risks.

On the basis of the above facts, I find that these circumstances continue to endanger the lives, property, safety, and welfare of the residents of every State in the Union. The only way to effectively prevent this danger to the States is to maintain operational control of the border, which Congress defined to mean ''the prevention of all unlawful entries into the United States, including entries by terrorists, other unlawful aliens, instruments of terrorism, narcotics, and other contraband.'' Secure Fence Act of 2006, Public Law 109–367, 2, 120 Stat. 2638 (2006); 8 U.S.C. 1701 note (stating that the Secretary of DHS ''shall take all actions the Secretary determines necessary and appropriate to achieve and maintain operational control over the entire international land and maritime borders of the United States''). Given that Congress directed DHS to prevent all unlawful entries, the thousands of aliens that DHS continues to encounter on a weekly basis attempting to enter the United States illegally via the Southwest border is an influx. Therefore, I find that there is currently an influx of aliens arriving across our entire southern border, which requires a federal response.

Accordingly, pursuant to the authorities under the INA, 8 U.S.C. 1101, *et seq.,* including the implementing regulations identified above, I find ''that there exist circumstances involving the administration of the immigration laws of the United States that endanger the lives, property, safety, or welfare of the residents'' of all 50 States. I further find that an actual or imminent mass influx of aliens is arriving at the southern border of the United States and presents urgent circumstances requiring an immediate federal response. I therefore request the assistance of State and local governments in all 50 States.

The finding is effective immediately and expires in 180 days. This finding may expire sooner in the event I find that circumstances have changed. Such a finding would be published in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: March 21, 2026.

Kristi Noem,

Secretary of Homeland Security.

[FR Doc. 2026–05854 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9112–FP–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

[OMB Control Number 1076–0141; 267A2100DD/AAKP300000/ A0A501010.000000]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Water Request

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA, we) is proposing to renew an information collection without change.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments. To be considered, your comments must be received on or before April 27, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Send your written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection request (ICR) to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) through *https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRA/icrPublicCommentRequest?ref_nbr=202512-1076-001* or by visiting *https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain* and selecting ''Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments'' and then scrolling down to the ''Department of the Interior.''

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Mullen, Information Collection Clearance Officer, Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action—Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1001 Indian School Road NW, Suite 229, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87104; *comments@bia.gov;* (202) 924–2650. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. You may also view the ICR at *https://www.reginfo.gov/public/Forward?SearchTarget=PRA&textfield=1076-0141.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) and 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), we provide the general public and other Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the

public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

A **Federal Register** notice with a 60-day public comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on January 22, 2026 (91 FR 2796). No comments were received.

As part of our continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burdens, we are again soliciting comments from the public and other Federal agencies on the proposed ICR that is described below. We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following:

(1) Whether or not the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether or not the information will have practical utility;

(2) The accuracy of our estimate of the burden for this collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) How might the agency minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.,* permitting electronic submission of response.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Abstract: The BIA owns, operates, and maintains irrigation projects that provide a service to the end user. To properly bill for the services provided, the BIA must collect customer information to identify the individual responsible for repaying the government the costs of delivering the service; determine eligibility for waiver of fees; and determine designation of irrigable lands as assessable or non-assessable. Additional information necessary for providing the service is the location of the service delivery, and the number of serviced acres. The Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (DCIA) requires that certain information be collected from individuals and businesses doing business with the government. This information includes the taxpayer identification number for possible future use to recover delinquent debt. To implement the DCIA requirement to collect customer information, the BIA has included a section concerning the collection of information in its regulations governing its irrigation projects (25 CFR 171).

Title of Collection: Water Request.

OMB Control Number: 1076–0141.

Form Number: BIA–DWP–Irr–101; BIA–DWP–Irr–102; BIA–DWP–Irr–103; BIA–DWP–Irr–104; BIA–DWP–Irr–105; BIA–DWP–Irr–106.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Respondents/Affected Public: Individuals.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 13,438.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 35,941.

Estimated Completion Time per Response: Varies from 0.2 to 6 hours.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 17,981.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain a benefit.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion.

Total Estimated Annual Non-hour Burden Cost: $0.

Authority

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 OMB control number. The authority for this action is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

Steven Mullen,

Information Collection Clearance Officer, Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2026–05856 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4337–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

[OMB Control Number 1076–0193; 267A2100DD/AAKP300000/ A0A501010.000000]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Education Contracts Under the Johnson-O'Malley Act

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we, the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE), are proposing to renew an information collection without change.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments. To be considered, your comments must be received on or before April 27, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Send your written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection request (ICR) to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) through *https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRA/icrPublicCommentRequest?ref_nbr=202504-1076-004* or by visiting *https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain* and selecting ''Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments'' and then scrolling down to the ''Department of the Interior.''

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Mullen, Information Collection Clearance Officer, Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action—Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1001 Indian School Road NW, Suite 229, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87104; *comments@bia.gov;* (202) 924–2650. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. You may also view the ICR at *https://www.reginfo.gov/public/Forward?SearchTarget=PRA&textfield=1076-0193.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) and 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), we provide the general public and other Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

A **Federal Register** notice with a 60-day public comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on January 22, 2026 (91 FR 2797). We received one comment, available at *https://www.regulations.gov/comment/BIA-2022-0005-0027* with pertinent summary below.

Comment 1: The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (WDPI) is dedicated to improving educational outcomes for all students in Wisconsin, including American Indian

students attending schools across the state. As the WDPI is not an eligible grant recipient, we are unable to provide feedback on the agency's estimated burden for this information collection or on the validity of the methodology and assumptions used. The WDPI views the proposed information collection as a valuable resource for Tribal education departments of Wisconsin and across the United States. However, gathering this data efficiently can be challenging. Simplifying data entry portals or sites to be clear, straightforward, and user-friendly could help streamline the data collection process.

Agency Response to Comment 1: The BIE is committed to process improvement; and will continue to work with stakeholders, and interested parties, to refine and improve this information collection, within the bounds of available and appropriate technological resources.

As part of our continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burdens, we are again soliciting comments from the public and other Federal agencies on the proposed ICR that is described below. We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following:

(1) Whether or not the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether or not the information will have practical utility;

(2) The accuracy of our estimate of the burden for this collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) How might the agency minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.,* permitting electronic submission of response.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Abstract: The BIE seeks to renew the information collection conducted under the Johnson-O'Malley (JOM) Act, as amended by the JOM Supplemental Indian Education Program Modernization Act, and implementing regulations at 25 CFR part 273. The information collected assists BIE to manage program resources, fund distribution, and fiscal accountability. The information collection activities include an annual report form, student count report, and contract proposal application.

Title of Collection: Education Contracts under the Johnson-O'Malley Act.

Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control Number: 1076–0193.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Respondents/Affected Public: Tribal organizations, States, public school districts, Indian corporations.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 1,384.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 1,384.

Estimated Completion Time per Response: Ranges from 1 to 15 hours.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 10,360.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain a benefit.

Frequency of Collection: Annually.

Total Estimated Annual Nonhour Burden Cost: $0.

Authority

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 OMB control number. The authority for this action is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

Steven Mullen,

Information Collection Clearance Officer, Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2026–05893 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4337–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

[2560102DM; DS6CS00000; DLSN00000.000000; DX6CS25, OMB Control No. 1093–0010]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Youth Conservation Corps Application and Medical History Forms

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we, the Department of the Interior (DOI) are proposing to renew an information collection without change.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before May 26, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Send your comments on this ICR by mail to Jeffrey Parrillo, Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240; or by email to *DOI-PRA@ios.doi.gov.* Please reference OMB Control Number 1093–0010 in the subject line of your comments

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lucy Hurlbut, YCC Program Manager/Scouting Program Manager, Washington DC Area Support Office (WASO) at *lucy_hurlbut@*nps.gov (email); or at (202) 513–7161 (telephone). Please reference OMB Control Number 1093–0010 in the subject line of your comments. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States. You may also view the ICR at *http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501*et seq.*) and 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), all information collections require approval under the PRA. We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

As part of our continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burdens, we invite the public and other Federal agencies to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is the collection necessary to the proper functions of the DOI; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate

of burden accurate; (4) how might the DOI enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the DOI minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Abstract: The Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) is a summer youth employment program that engages young people in meaningful work experiences at national parks, forests, wildlife refuges, and fish hatcheries while developing an ethic of environmental stewardship and civic responsibility. YCC programs are generally eight to ten weeks and members are paid at least the state or federal minimum wage (whichever is higher) for a 40-hour work week. YCC opportunities provide paid daytime work activities with members who commute to the federal unit daily. Authorized by the Youth Conservation Corps Act of August 13, 1970, as amended (U.S. 1701–1706), participating agencies (National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service) use common forms: DI–4014, ''Youth Conservation Corps Application'' and DI–4015, ''Youth Conservation Corps Medical History'' to collect information to determine the eligibility of each youth for employment with the YCC. Parents or guardians must sign both forms if the applicant is under 18 years of age.

Title of Collection: Youth Conservation Corps Application and Medical History Forms.

OMB Control Number: 1093–0010.

Form Number: DI–4014, ''Youth Conservation Corps Application,'' and DI–4015, ''Youth Conservation Corps Medical History Form.''

Type of Review: Renewal of a currently approved collection.

Respondents/Affected Public: Youth 15 through 18 years old seeking seasonal employment in the YCC Program.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 11,409 (8,599/application 2,810/medical history).

Estimated Completion Time per Response: 25 minutes/application and 14 minutes/medical history form.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 4,239 hours (3,583 hours/application and 656 hours/medical history forms).

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain a benefit.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion.

Total Estimated Annual Non-hour Burden Cost: None.

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 OMB control number.

The authority for this action is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

Jeffrey Parrillo,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2026–05877 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4334–63–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation Nos. 701–TA–694 and 731–TA–1641–1642 (Final) (Remand)]

Aluminum Lithographic Printing Plates From China and Japan

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice of remand proceedings.

SUMMARY: The U.S. International Trade Commission (''Commission'') hereby gives notice of the procedures it intends to follow to comply with the court-ordered remand of its final determinations in the antidumping and countervailing duty investigations of aluminum lithographic printing plates from China and Japan. For further information concerning the conduct of these remand proceedings and rules of general application, consult the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, part 201, subparts A through E (19 CFR part 201), and part 207, subpart A (19 CFR part 207).

DATES: March 23, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Celia Feldpausch ((202) 205–2387), Office of Investigations, or Christopher W. Robinson ((202) 205–2542), Office of General Counsel, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202–205–1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202–205–2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (*https://www.usitc.gov*). The public record for Investigation Nos. 701–TA–694 and 731–TA–1641–1642 (Final) may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at *https://edis.usitc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background.—In November 2024, the Commission determined that an industry in the United States was materially injured by reason of imports of aluminum lithographic printing plates from China and Japan that were sold in the United States at less than fair value and subsidized by the government of China. *Aluminum Lithographic Printing Plates from China and Japan,* Inv. Nos. 701–TA–694 and 731–TA–1641–1642 (Final), USITC Pub. No. 5559 (Nov. 2024). Respondents Fujifilm North America Corporation, Fujifilm Corporation, and Fujifilm Printing Plate (China) Co. Ltd. contested the Commission's determinations before the U.S. Court of International Trade (''CIT''). The CIT remanded for the Commission to reconsider ''whether {Fujifilm Manufacturing USA, Inc. (''Fujifilm Greenwood'')} is a related party,'' discussing ''the four factors in 19 U.S.C. 1677(4)(B)(ii),'' and whether ''appropriate circumstances exist to exclude Fujifilm Greenwood from the domestic industry,'' addressing ''how the instant facts are an 'appropriate' case for excluding a related party in light of the example provided in the legislative history . . . .'' *Fujifilm N. Am. Corp.* v. *United States,* Court No. 24–00251, Slip Op. 26–17 (Ct. Int'l Trade Feb. 18, 2026).

Participation in the remand proceedings.—Only those persons who were interested parties that participated in the investigations (*i.e.,* persons listed on the Commission Secretary's service list) and also parties to the appeal may participate in the remand proceedings. Such persons need not file any additional appearances with the Commission to participate in the remand proceedings, unless they are adding new individuals to the list of persons entitled to receive business proprietary information (''BPI'') under administrative protective order. BPI referred to during the remand proceedings will be governed, as appropriate, by the administrative protective order issued in the

investigations. The Secretary will maintain a service list containing the names and addresses of all persons or their representatives who are parties to the remand proceedings, and the Secretary will maintain a separate list of those authorized to receive BPI under the administrative protective order during the remand proceedings.

Written submissions.—The Commission is not reopening the record and will not accept the submission of new factual information for the record. The Commission will permit the parties to file comments concerning how the Commission could best comply with the Court's remand instructions.

The comments must be based solely on the information in the Commission's record. The Commission will reject submissions containing additional factual information or arguments pertaining to issues other than the issue on which the Court has remanded this matter. The deadline for filing comments is April 10, 2026. Comments must be limited to no more than ten (10) double-spaced and single-sided pages of textual material, inclusive of attachments and exhibits.

Parties are advised to consult with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, part 201, subparts A through E (19 CFR part 201), and part 207, subpart A (19 CFR part 207) for provisions of general applicability concerning written submissions to the Commission. All written submissions must conform to the provisions of section 201.8 of the Commission's rules; any submissions that contain BPI must also conform with the requirements of sections 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission's rules. Please note the Secretary's Office will accept only electronic filings at this time. Filings must be made through the Commission's Electronic Document Information System (EDIS, *https://edis.usitc.gov*). No in-person paper-based filings or paper copies of any electronic filings will be accepted until further notice. The Commission's *Handbook on E-Filing,* available on the Commission's website at *http://edis.usitc.gov,* elaborates upon the Commission's rules with respect to electronic filing.

Additional written submissions to the Commission, including requests pursuant to section 201.12 of the Commission's rules, will not be accepted unless good cause is shown for accepting such submissions or unless the submission is pursuant to a specific request by a Commissioner or Commission staff.

In accordance with sections 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the Commission's rules, each document filed by a party to the investigation must be served on all other parties to the investigation (as identified by either the public or BPI service list), and a certificate of service must be timely filed. The Secretary will not accept a document for filing without a certificate of service.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: March 23, 2026.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2026–05847 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation Nos. 701–TA–764–766 and 731–TA–1747–1749 (Final)]

Hardwood and Decorative Plywood From China, Indonesia, and Vietnam; Scheduling of the Final Phase of Countervailing Duty and Antidumping Duty Investigations

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice of the scheduling of the final phase of antidumping and countervailing duty investigation Nos. 701–TA–764–766 and 731–TA–1747–1749 (Final) pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 to determine whether an industry in the United States is materially injured or threatened with material injury, or the establishment of an industry in the United States is materially retarded, by reason of imports of hardwood and decorative plywood from China, Indonesia, and Vietnam, provided for in subheadings 4412.10.05, 4412.31.06, 4412.31.26, 4412.31.42, 4412.31.45, 4412.31.48, 4412.31.52, 4412.31.61, 4412.31.92, 4412.33.06, 4412.33.26, 4412.33.32, 4412.33.57, 4412.34.26, 4412.34.32, 4412.34.57, 4412.39.40, 4412.39.50, 4412.41.00, 4412.42.00, 4412.51.10, 4412.51.31, 4412.51.41, 4412.51.51, 4412.52.10, 4412.52.31, 4412.52.41, 4412.91.06, 4412.91.10, 4412.91.31, 4412.91.41, 4412.92.07, 4412.92.11, 4412.92.31, and 4412.92.42 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, preliminarily determined by the Department of Commerce (''Commerce'') to be subsidized and sold at less-than-fair-value.

DATES: March 2, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Calvin Chang ((202) 205–3062), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202–205–1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202–205–2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (*https://www.usitc.gov*). The public record for these investigations may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at *https://edis.usitc.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Scope.—For purposes of these investigations, Commerce has defined the subject merchandise as hardwood and decorative plywood, and certain veneered panels as described below. For purposes of this investigation, hardwood and decorative plywood is defined as a generally flat, multilayered plywood or other veneered panel, consisting of two or more layers or plies of wood veneers in combination with a core or without a core. The veneers and, if present, the core are glued or otherwise bonded together. A hardwood and decorative plywood panel must have at least either the face or back veneer composed of one or more species of hardwood, softwood, or bamboo, regardless of any surface coverings. Hardwood and decorative plywood may include products that meet the American National Standard for Hardwood and Decorative Plywood, ANSI/HPVA HP–1–2024 (including any revisions to that standard).

For purposes of the investigation a ''veneer'' is a slice of wood regardless of thickness which is cut, sliced or sawed from a log, bolt, or flitch. The face and back veneers are the outermost veneer of wood irrespective of additional surface coatings or covers as described below. The core of hardwood and decorative plywood (for those products that include a core) consists of the layer or layers of one or more material(s) that are situated between the face and back veneers. The core may be composed of a range of materials, including but not limited to hardwood, softwood, particleboard, or medium density fiberboard (MDF).

All hardwood and decorative plywood is included within the scope even if it is trimmed; cut-to-size; notched; punched; drilled; or has undergone other forms of minor processing. All hardwood and decorative plywood is included within the scope of the investigation, without regard to dimension (overall thickness,

thickness of face veneer, thickness of back veneer, thickness of core, thickness of inner veneers, width, or length). However, the most common panel sizes of hardwood and decorative plywood are 1219 x 1829 mm (48 x 72 inches), 1219 x 2438 mm (48 x 96 inches), and 1219 x 3048 mm (48 x 120 inches). Subject merchandise also includes hardwood and decorative plywood that has been further processed in a third country, including but not limited to trimming, cutting, notching, punching, drilling, or any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigation if performed in the country of manufacture of the in-scope product.

All hardwood and decorative plywood is included within the scope even if it is trimmed; cut-to-size; notched; punched; drilled; or has undergone other forms of minor processing. All hardwood and decorative plywood is included within the scope of the investigation, without regard to dimension (overall thickness, thickness of face veneer, thickness of back veneer, thickness of core, thickness of inner veneers, width, or length). However, the most common panel sizes of hardwood and decorative plywood are 1219 x 1829 mm (48 x 72 inches), 1219 x 2438 mm (48 x 96 inches), and 1219 x 3048 mm (48 x 120 inches). Subject merchandise also includes hardwood and decorative plywood that has been further processed in a third country, including but not limited to trimming, cutting, notching, punching, drilling, or any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigations if performed in the country of manufacture of the in-scope product.

The scope of the investigation excludes the following items: (1) structural plywood (also known as ''industrial plywood'' or ''industrial panels'') that (a) is certified, manufactured, and stamped to meet U.S. Products Standard PS 1–09, PS 2–09, PS–1–22, PS 2–10, or PS 2–18 for Structural Plywood (including any revisions to that standard or any substantially equivalent international standard intended for structural plywood), including, but not limited to, the ''bond performance'' requirements and the performance criteria detailed in U.S. Products Standard PS 1–09, PS 2–09, PS–1–22, PS 2–10, or PS 2–18 for Structural Plywood (including any revisions to that standard or any substantially equivalent international standard intended for structural plywood), and (b) where the relevant standard identifies core species requirements, has a core made entirely of one or more of the following wood species: Pseudotsuga menziesii (Douglas Fir), Larix occidentalis (Western Larch), Tsuga heterophylla (Western Hemlock), Abies balsamea (Balsam Pine/Balsam Fir), Abies magnifica (California Red Fir), Abies grandis (Grand Fir), Abies procera (Noble Fir), Abies amabilis (Pacific Silver Fir), Abies concolor (White Fir), Abies lasiocarpa (Subalpine Fir), Picea glauca (White Spruce), Picea engelmannii (Engelmann Spruce), Picea mariana (Black Spruce), Picea rubens (Red Spruce), Picea sitchensis (Sitka Spruce), Pinus banksiana (Jack Pine), Pinus taeda (Loblolly Southern Pine), Pinus palustris (Longleaf Southern Pine), Pinus echinata (Shortleaf Southern Pine), Pinus elliottii (Slash Southern Pine), Pinus serotina (Pond Pine), Pinus resinosa (Red Pine), Pinus virginiana (Virginia Pine), Pinus monticola (Western White Pine), Picea mariana (Black Spruce), Picea rubens (Red Spruce), Picea sitchensis (Sitka Spruce), Pinus contorta (Lodgepole Pine), Pinus strobus (Eastern White Pine), and Pinus lambertiana (Sugar Pine); (2) products which have a face and back veneer of cork; (3) hardwood plywood subject to the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on hardwood plywood from China. See Certain Hardwood Plywood Products from the People's Republic of China: Amended Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, and Antidumping Duty Order, 83 FR 504 (January 4, 2018); and Certain Hardwood Plywood Products from the People's Republic of China: Countervailing Duty Order, 83 FR 513 (January 4, 2018); (4) multilayered wood flooring, as described in the antidumping duty and countervailing duty orders on multilayered wood flooring from China. See Multilayered Wood Flooring from the People's Republic of China: Amended Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Antidumping Duty Order, 76 FR 76690 (December 8, 2011); and Multilayered Wood Flooring from the People's Republic of China: Countervailing Duty Order, 76 FR 76693 (December 8, 2011), as amended by Multilayered Wood Flooring from the People's Republic of China: Amended Antidumping and Countervailing Orders, 77 FR 5484 (February 3, 2012); (5) multilayered wood flooring with a face veneer of bamboo or composed entirely of bamboo; (6) plywood which has a shape or design other than a flat panel, with the exception of any minor processing described above; (7) products made entirely from bamboo and adhesives (also known as ''solid bamboo''); and (8) Phenolic Film Faced Plyform (PFF), also known as Phenolic Surface Film Plywood (PSF), defined as a panel with an ''Exterior'' or ''Exposure 1'' bond classification as is defined by The Engineered Wood Association, having an opaque phenolic film layer with a weight equal to or greater than 90g/m3 permanently bonded on both the face and back veneers and an opaque, moisture resistant coating applied to the edges.

Also excluded from the scope of the investigation are wooden furniture goods that, at the time of importation, are fully assembled and are ready for their intended uses. Also excluded from the scope of the investigation is ''ready to assemble'' (RTA) furniture. RTA furniture is defined as (A) furniture packaged for sale for ultimate purchase by an end-user that, at the time of importation, includes (1) all wooden components (in finished form) required to assemble a finished unit of furniture, (2) all accessory parts (*e.g.,* screws, washers, dowels, nails, handles, knobs, adhesive glues) required to assemble a finished unit of furniture, and (3) instructions providing guidance on the assembly of a finished unit of furniture; (B) unassembled bathroom vanity cabinets, having a space for one or more sinks, that are imported with all unassembled hardwood and hardwood plywood components that have been cut-to-final dimensional component shape/size, painted or stained prior to importation, and stacked within a singled shipping package, except for furniture feet which may be packed and shipped separately; or (C) unassembled bathroom vanity linen closets that are imported with all unassembled hardwood and hardwood plywood components that have been cut-to-final dimensional shape/size, painted or stained prior to importation, and stacked within a single shipping package, except for furniture feet which may be packed and shipped separately.

Also excluded from the scope of the investigation are kitchen cabinets that, at the time of importation, are fully assembled and are ready for their intended uses. Also excluded from the scope of the investigation are RTA kitchen cabinets. RTA kitchen cabinets are defined as kitchen cabinets packaged for sale for ultimate purchase by an end-user that, at the time of importation, includes: (1) all wooden components (in finished form) required to assemble a finished unit of cabinetry; (2) all accessory parts (*e.g.,* screws, washers, dowels, nails, handles, knobs, hooks, adhesive glues) required to

assemble a finished unit of cabinetry; and (3) instructions providing guidance on the assembly of a finished unit of cabinetry. Excluded from the scope of the investigation are finished table tops, which are table tops imported in finished form with pre-cut or drilled openings to attach the underframe or legs. The table tops are ready for use at the time of import and require no further finishing or processing. Excluded from the scope of the investigation are finished countertops that are imported in finished form and require no further finishing or manufacturing. Also excluded from the scope of the investigation are laminated veneer lumber (''LVL'') door and window components with (1) a maximum width of 44 millimeters, a thickness from 30 millimeters to 72 millimeters, and a length of less than 2413 millimeters, (2) water boiling point exterior adhesive, (3) a modulus of elasticity of 1,500,000 pounds per square inch or higher, (4) finger-jointed or lap-jointed core veneer with all layers oriented so that the grain is running parallel or with no more than 3 dispersed layers of veneer oriented with the grain running perpendicular to the other layers; and (5) top layer machined with a curved edge and one or more profile channels throughout.

Also excluded from the scope of this investigation are certain door stiles and rails made of LVL that have a width not to exceed 50 millimeters, a thickness not to exceed 50 millimeters, and a length of less than 2,450 millimeters.

Also excluded from the scope of this investigation are finished two-ply products that are made of one ply of wood veneer and one ply of a non-wood veneer material and the two-ply product cannot be glued or otherwise adhered to additional plies or that are made of two plies of wood veneer and have undergone staining, cutting, notching, punching, drilling, or other processing on the surface of the veneer such that the two-ply product cannot be glued or otherwise adhered to additional plies.

Background.—The final phase of these investigations is being scheduled pursuant to sections 705(b) and 731(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1671d(b) and 1673d(b)), as a result of affirmative preliminary determinations by Commerce that certain benefits which constitute subsidies within the meaning of § 703 of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1671b) are being provided to manufacturers, producers, or exporters in China, Indonesia, and Vietnam of hardwood and decorative plywood, and that such products are being sold in the United States at less than fair value within the meaning of § 733 of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1673b). The investigations were requested in petitions filed on May 22, 2025, by the Coalition for Fair Trade in Hardwood Plywood, the members of which are Columbia Forest Products, Greensboro, North Carolina; Commonwealth Plywood Co., Ltd., Whitehall, New York; Manthei Wood Products, Petoskey, Michigan; States Industries LLC, Eugene, Oregon; and Timber Products Company, Springfield, Oregon.

For further information concerning the conduct of this phase of the investigations, hearing procedures, and rules of general application, consult the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, part 201, subparts A and B (19 CFR part 201), and part 207, subparts A and C (19 CFR part 207).

Participation in the investigations and public service list.—Persons, including industrial users of the subject merchandise and, if the merchandise is sold at the retail level, representative consumer organizations, wishing to participate in the final phase of these investigations as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in § 201.11 of the Commission's rules, no later than 21 days prior to the hearing date specified in this notice. A party that filed a notice of appearance during the preliminary phase of the investigations need not file an additional notice of appearance during this final phase. The Secretary will maintain a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to the investigations.

Please note the Secretary's Office will accept only electronic filings during this time. Filings must be made through the Commission's Electronic Document Information System (EDIS, *https://edis.usitc.gov*). No in-person paper-based filings or paper copies of any electronic filings will be accepted until further notice.

Limited disclosure of business proprietary information (BPI) under an administrative protective order (APO) and BPI service list.—Pursuant to § 207.7(a) of the Commission's rules, the Secretary will make BPI gathered in the final phase of these investigations available to authorized applicants under the APO issued in the investigations, provided that the application is made no later than 21 days prior to the hearing date specified in this notice. Authorized applicants must represent interested parties, as defined by 19 U.S.C. 1677(9), who are parties to the investigations. A party granted access to BPI in the preliminary phase of the investigations need not reapply for such access. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive BPI under the APO.

Staff report.—The prehearing staff report in the final phase of these investigations will be placed in the nonpublic record on July 1, 2026, and a public version will be issued thereafter, pursuant to § 207.22 of the Commission's rules.

Hearing.—The Commission will hold a hearing in connection with the final phase of these investigations beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 16, 2026. Requests to appear at the hearing should be filed in writing with the Secretary to the Commission on or before Friday, July 10, 2026. Any requests to appear as a witness via videoconference must be included with your request to appear. Requests to appear via videoconference must include a statement explaining why the witness cannot appear in person; the Chairman, or other person designated to conduct the investigation, may in their discretion for good cause shown, grant such a request. Requests to appear as remote witness due to illness or a positive COVID–19 test result may be submitted by 3:00 p.m. the business day prior to the hearing. Further information about participation in the hearing will be posted on the Commission's website at *https://www.usitc.gov/calendarpad/calendar.html.*

A nonparty who has testimony that may aid the Commission's deliberations may request permission to present a short statement at the hearing. All parties and nonparties desiring to appear at the hearing and make oral presentations should attend a prehearing conference, if deemed necessary, to be held at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 14, 2026. Parties shall file and serve written testimony and presentation slides in connection with their presentation at the hearing by no later than noon on Wednesday, July 15, 2026. Oral testimony and written materials to be submitted at the public hearing are governed by sections 201.6(b)(2), 201.13(f), and 207.24 of the Commission's rules. Parties must submit any request to present a portion of their hearing testimony *in camera* no later than 7 business days prior to the date of the hearing.

Written submissions.—Each party who is an interested party shall submit a prehearing brief to the Commission. Prehearing briefs must conform with the provisions of § 207.23 of the Commission's rules; the deadline for filing is July 9, 2026. Parties shall also file written testimony in connection with their presentation at the hearing,

and posthearing briefs, which must conform with the provisions of § 207.25 of the Commission's rules. The deadline for filing posthearing briefs is July 23, 2026. In addition, any person who has not entered an appearance as a party to the investigations may submit a written statement of information pertinent to the subject of the investigations, including statements of support or opposition to the petition, on or before July 23, 2026. On August 12, 2026, the Commission will make available to parties all information on which they have not had an opportunity to comment. Parties may submit final comments on this information on or before August 14, 2026, but such final comments must not contain new factual information and must otherwise comply with § 207.30 of the Commission's rules. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of § 201.8 of the Commission's rules; any submissions that contain BPI must also conform with the requirements of §§ 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission's rules. The Commission's *Handbook on Filing Procedures,* available on the Commission's website at *https://www.usitc.gov/documents/handbook_on_filing_procedures.pdf,* elaborates upon the Commission's procedures with respect to filings.

Additional written submissions to the Commission, including requests pursuant to § 201.12 of the Commission's rules, shall not be accepted unless good cause is shown for accepting such submissions, or unless the submission is pursuant to a specific request by a Commissioner or Commission staff.

In accordance with §§ 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the Commission's rules, each document filed by a party to the investigations must be served on all other parties to the investigations (as identified by either the public or BPI service list), and a certificate of service must be timely filed. The Secretary will not accept a document for filing without a certificate of service.

Authority: These investigations are being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to § 207.21 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: March 23, 2026.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2026–05849 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation Nos. 701–TA–751 and 731–TA–1729 (Final)]

Erythritol From China; Determinations

On the basis of the record [1] developed in the subject investigations, the United States International Trade Commission (''Commission'') determines, pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 (''the Act''), that an industry in the United States is materially injured by reason of imports of erythritol from China, provided for in subheading 2905.49.40 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, that have been found by the U.S. Department of Commerce (''Commerce'') to be subsidized by the government of China and sold in the United States at less than fair value (''LTFV'').[2]

Background

The Commission instituted these investigations effective December 13, 2024, following receipt of petitions filed with the Commission and Commerce by Cargill, Incorporated, Wayzata, Minnesota. The final phase of the investigations was scheduled by the Commission following notification of preliminary determinations by Commerce that imports of erythritol from China were subsidized within the meaning of section 703(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1671b(b)) and sold at LTFV within the meaning of 733(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1673b(b)). Notice of the scheduling of the final phase of the Commission's investigations and of a public hearing to be held in connection therewith was given by posting copies of the notice in the Office of the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC, and by publishing the notice in the **Federal Register** on August 1, 2025 (90 FR 36186).[3] The Commission conducted its hearing on February 3, 2026. All persons who requested the opportunity were permitted to participate.

The Commission made these determinations pursuant to §§ 705(b) and 735(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1671d(b) and 19 U.S.C. 1673d(b)). It completed and filed its determinations in these investigations on March 23, 2026. The views of the Commission are contained in USITC Publication 5717 (March 2026), entitled *Erythritol from China: Investigation Nos. 701–TA–751 and 731–TA–1729 (Final).*

By order of the Commission.

Issued: March 23, 2026.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2026–05850 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

[1] The record is defined in § 207.2(f) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 207.2(f)).

[2] 91 FR 5895 and 91 FR 5920 (February 10, 2026).

[3] Due to the lapse in appropriations and ensuing cessation of Commission operations, the Commission tolled its schedule for this proceeding. The schedule was revised in subsequent notices published in the **Federal Register** on November 26, 2025 (90 FR 54368) and December 15, 2025 (90 FR 58056).

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation Nos. 701–TA–456 and 731–TA–1152 (Third Review)]

Citric Acid and Certain Citrate Salts From China; Scheduling of Expedited Five-Year Reviews

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice of the scheduling of expedited reviews pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 (''the Act'') to determine whether revocation of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on citric acid and certain citrate salts from China would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury within a reasonably foreseeable time.

DATES: March 6, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alec Resch (202–708–1448), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202–205–1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202–205–2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (*https://www.usitc.gov*). The public record for this proceeding may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at *https://edis.usitc.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background.—On March 6, 2026, the Commission determined that the domestic interested party group response to its notice of institution (90 FR 55172, December 1, 2025) of the subject five-year reviews was adequate and that the respondent interested party group response was inadequate. The Commission did not find any other circumstances that would warrant

conducting full review.[1] Accordingly, the Commission determined that it would conduct expedited reviews pursuant to section 751(c)(3) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1675(c)(3)).

For further information concerning the conduct of these reviews and rules of general application, consult the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, part 201, subparts A and B (19 CFR part 201), and part 207, subparts A, D, E, and F (19 CFR part 207).

Staff report.—A staff report containing information concerning the subject matter of the reviews has been placed in the nonpublic record, and will be made available to persons on the Administrative Protective Order service list for these reviews on April 23, 2026. A public version will be issued thereafter, pursuant to § 207.62(d)(4) of the Commission's rules.

Written submissions.—As provided in § 207.62(d) of the Commission's rules, interested parties that are parties to the reviews and that have provided individually adequate responses to the notice of institution,[2] and any party other than an interested party to the reviews may file written comments with the Secretary on what determination the Commission should reach in the reviews. Comments are due on or before 5:15 p.m. on April 28, 2026, and may not contain new factual information. Any person that is neither a party to the five-year reviews nor an interested party may submit a brief written statement (which shall not contain any new factual information) pertinent to the reviews by April 28, 2026. However, should the Department of Commerce (''Commerce'') extend the time limit for its completion of the final results of its reviews, the deadline for comments (which may not contain new factual information) on Commerce's final results is three business days after the issuance of Commerce's results. If comments contain business proprietary information (BPI), they must conform with the requirements of §§ 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission's rules. The Commission's *Handbook on Filing Procedures,* available on the Commission's website at *https://www.usitc.gov/documents/handbook_on_filing_procedures.pdf,* elaborates upon the Commission's procedures with respect to filings.

In accordance with §§ 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the rules, each document filed by a party to the reviews must be served on all other parties to the reviews (as identified by either the public or BPI service list), and a certificate of service must be timely filed. The Secretary will not accept a document for filing without a certificate of service.

Determination.—The Commission has determined these reviews are extraordinarily complicated and therefore has determined to exercise its authority to extend the review period by up to 90 days pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 1675(c)(5)(B).

Authority: These reviews are being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to § 207.62 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: March 23, 2026.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2026–05848 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

[1] A record of the Commissioners' votes, the Commission's statement on adequacy, and any individual Commissioner's statements will be available from the Office of the Secretary and at the Commission's website.

[2] The Commission has found the responses submitted on behalf of Archer-Daniels-Midland Company, Cargill, Incorporated, and Primary Products Ingredients Americas LLC to be individually adequate. Comments from other interested parties will not be accepted (*see* 19 CFR 207.62(d)(2)).

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 337–TA–1408]

Certain Hydrodermabrasion Systems and Components Thereof; Notice of the Commission's Final Determination Finding a Violation of Section 337: Issuance and Suspension of Limited Exclusion Order and Cease and Desist Order; Termination of the Investigation

AGENCY: U.S. International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. International Trade Commission (''Commission'') has determined that that a violation under of section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1337) has occurred. The Commission has determined that the appropriate remedy is to issue a limited exclusion order and a cease and desist order and set the bond at zero percent (0%) of the entered value of the covered products during the period of Presidential review. However, the Commission has determined to suspend the issuance of the remedial orders in this investigation given the impending expiration of the asserted patent mere days into the period of Presidential review and the bond having been set at zero percent (0%). The investigation is terminated.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jonathan D. Link, Esq., Office of the General Counsel, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436, telephone (202) 205–3103. Copies of non-confidential documents filed in connection with this investigation may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at *https://edis.usitc.gov.* For help accessing EDIS, please email *EDIS3Help@usitc.gov.* General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server at *https://www.usitc.gov.* Hearing-impaired persons are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on (202) 205–1810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 17, 2024, the Commission instituted this investigation based on a complaint filed on behalf of HydraFacial LLC, f/k/a Edge Systems LLC, of Long Beach, California (''HydraFacial''). 89 FR 58188–89 (July 17, 2024). The complaint alleges violations of section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, 19 U.S.C. 1337 (''section 337''), based on the importation into the United States, the sale for importation, or sale within the United States after importation of certain hydrodermabrasion systems and components thereof by reason of the infringement of certain claims of the '287 patent. *Id.* The complaint further alleges that an industry in the United States exists as required by section 337. *Id.* The Commission's notice of investigation named as respondents Cartessa Aesthetics, LLC (''Cartessa'') of Melville, New York; and Eunsung Global Corp. of Republic of Korea. *Id.* The Office of Unfair Import Investigations is not participating in this investigation. *Id.*

On August 14, 2025, the Commission determined not to review an initial determination (Order No. 3) setting the target date for completion of the investigation as December 17, 2025. *See* Order No. 3 (July 29, 2024), *unreviewed by* Comm'n Notice (Aug. 14, 2024).

On January 21, 2025, the Commission terminated the investigation as to Eunsung based on a consent order. Order No. 19 (Dec. 19, 2024), *unreviewed by* Comm'n Notice (Jan. 21, 2025).

On April 11, 2025, the Commission determined not to review an initial determination (Order No. 34) granting Complainant's unopposed motion to terminate the investigation as to claims 1–10, 15, 17, 20, 23, 26, 28–31, 33–37,

and 39–45 of the '287 patent. *See* Order No. 34 (Mar. 26, 2025), *unreviewed by* Comm'n Notice (Apr. 11, 2025).

On August 26, 2025, the ALJ issued a final initial determination (''FID'') finding a violation of section 337 by respondent Cartessa. On September 8, 2025, Cartessa filed a petition for review of the FID and on September 16, 2025, HydraFacial filed its response.

On December 15, 2025, the Commission determined, in view of the shutdown of the Federal Government, to extend the date for determining whether to review the FID to January 22, 2026. *See* Comm'n Notice (Dec. 15, 2025). In that notice, the Commission also asked the parties to address the impact, if any, the upcoming expiration of the '287 patent would have on the investigation.

On January 22, 2026, the Commission determined to review the FID's findings on (1) the construction, and findings on infringement and the technical prong of the domestic industry, for the claim limitations including the term ''fluid communication''; (2) invalidity and non-infringement findings based on the finding that the term ''block'' is indefinite, including review of any underlying related orders (*e.g.,* Order Nos. 29 and 50); and (3) unenforceability based on prosecution laches. 91 FR 3540 (Jan. 27, 2026). The Commission sought briefing on remedy, the public interest, and bonding. *Id.* The Commission also determined to extend the target date for completion of the investigation to March 23, 2026. *Id.*

On January 28, 2026, Cartessa filed a motion to terminate the present investigation and vacate the FID on Violation of Section 337 (''Motion to Terminate'') based on the impending expiration of the '287 patent. On February 9, 2026, HydraFacial filed its opposition to the Motion to Terminate.

On February 5, 2026, HydraFacial and Cartessa submitted their initial submissions on remedy, bonding and the public interest. On February 12, 2026, HydraFacial and Cartessa submitted responses to the other's initial submission. The Commission also received public interest comments from interested third parties Sinclair Pharma Limited, Sinclair Pharma US, Viora, Inc., EMA Aesthetics, Ltd., Aesthetic Management Partners, LLC, and Aesthetic Management Partners, Inc.

Having considered the parties' submissions, the FID, and the record in this investigation, the Commission, on review, has determined to supplement and affirm the FID's finding that Cartessa has violated section 337 by importing into the United States and selling in the United States after importation certain hydrodermabrasion systems and components thereof that infringe claims 11, 12, 14, 16, 18, 19, 22, 24, and 25 of the '287 patent. Specifically, the Commission (1) affirms and supplement the FID's the construction, and findings on infringement and the technical prong of the domestic industry, for the claim limitations including the term ''fluid communication;'' (2) vacates the FID's finding that the term ''block'' is indefinite and finds that Complainant has waived its allegations as to where claim 32 is infringed; (3) and supplements and affirms the FID's finding that the '287 patent is not unenforceable based on prosecution laches. Accordingly, and in conjunction with the Commission's earlier determination not to review the FID's validity and economic domestic industry findings for the '287 patent, the Commission's final determination in this investigation is that Cartessa violated section 337 with respect to '287 patent.

The Commission has determined that the appropriate remedy is a limited exclusion order against Respondent Cartessa prohibiting entry of products that infringe one or more of the asserted claims of the '287 patent, and a cease and desist order. The Commission has further determined that the public interest factors enumerated in subsections (d)(l) (19 U.S.C. 1337(d)(l)) do not preclude issuance of the above referenced remedial orders. Additionally, the Commission has determined that the appropriate bond in this investigation would be set at zero percent (0%) of entered value of the covered products during the period of Presidential review. 19 U.S.C. 1337(j). The Commission, however, has determined to suspend enforcement of the orders. The '287 patent will expire on March 29, 2026, only six days after the remedial orders issue and before the conclusion of the Presidential review period when such orders would be enforced. Because of the Commission determination that bond for this investigation be set at zero percent (0%) during the period of Presidential review and the impending expiration of the '287 patent during the period of Presidential review, the Commission's orders will not have any future remedial effect.

The Commission has further determined that Cartessa's Motion to Terminate is denied as untimely. 19 CFR 210.21(a)(1). The investigation is terminated.

The Commission's orders and opinion were delivered to the President and United States Trade Representative on the day of their issuance.

The Commission vote for this determination took place on March 23, 2026.

The authority for the Commission's determination is contained in section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1337), and in Part 210 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR part 210).

By order of the Commission.

Issued: March 23, 2026.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2026–05853 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

JOINT BOARD FOR THE ENROLLMENT OF ACTUARIES

Meeting of the Advisory Committee; Meeting

AGENCY: Joint Board for the Enrollment of Actuaries.

ACTION: Notice of Federal Advisory Committee meeting.

SUMMARY: The Joint Board for the Enrollment of Actuaries gives notice of a closed teleconference meeting of the Advisory Committee on Actuarial Examinations.

DATES: The meeting will be held on April 20, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (EDT).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth Van Osten, Designated Federal Officer, Advisory Committee on Actuarial Examinations, at (202) 317–3648 or *elizabeth.j.vanosten@irs.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that the Advisory Committee on Actuarial Examinations will hold a teleconference meeting on April 20, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (EDT). The meeting will be closed to the public.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss topics and questions that may be recommended for inclusion on future Joint Board examinations in actuarial mathematics, pension law and methodology referred to in 29 U.S.C. 1242(a)(1)(B).

A determination has been made as required by section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. 1009(d), that the subject of the meeting falls within the exception to the open meeting requirement set forth in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B), and that the public interest requires that such meeting be closed to public participation.

Dated: March 23, 2026.

Thomas V. Curtin, Jr.,

Executive Director, Joint Board for the Enrollment of Actuaries.

[FR Doc. 2026–05838 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—1EdTech Consortium, Inc.

Notice is hereby given that, on October 31, 2025, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (''the Act''), 1EdTech Consortium, Inc. (''1EdTech Consortium'') has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, Rockwell Information Systems, Hornsby, COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA; University of Bremen, Bremen, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY; Dallas College, Dallas, TX; Skybridge Skills, Eugene, OR; Rutgers University, Franklin Township, NJ; Delft University of Technology, Delft, KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS; Hanover Norwich Schools, Hanover, NH; TruScholar, Maharashtra, REPUBLIC OF INDIA; Impierce Technologies, Houten, KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS; AET Management Systems for CTE Programs, Richards, TX; Audio Enhancement, West Jordan, UT; Jones Country Jr College, Ellisville, MS; Des Moines Area Community College, Ankeny, IA; East Hartford Public Schools, East Hartford, CT; and Prosper ISD, Prosper, TX, have been added as parties to this venture.

Also, Digital Respons-Ability, Lehi, UT; University of Nottingham Online, Nottingham, UNITED KINGDOM; State University of New York System, New York, NY; California IT in Education (CITE), Sacramento, CA; SCIVR, Inc., Long Beach, CA; Idaho Education Technology Association (IETA), Boise, ID; and StrongMind, Chandler, AZ, have withdrawn as parties to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and 1EdTech Consortium intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On April 7, 2000, 1EdTech Consortium filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on September 13, 2000 (65 FR 55283).

The last notification was filed with the Department on August 14, 2025. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on October 2, 2025 (90 FR 47825).

Suzanne Morris,

Deputy Director Civil Enforcement Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 2026–05908 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—ODVA, Inc.

Notice is hereby given that, on January 13, 2026, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (''the Act''), ODVA, Inc. (''ODVA'') has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, Hafner Pneumatika Termékgyártó, Kereskedö és Szolgáltató Korlátolt Felelösségü Társaság, Halászi, REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY; and Hottinger Brüel & Kjaer GmbH, Darmstadt, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, have been added as parties to this venture.

Also, STROKMATIC AUTOMAÇÃO INDUSTRIAL LTDA, Joinville, FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL; JVL A/S, Birkerød, KINGDOM OF DENMARK; BBH Products GmbH, Weiden, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY; and Tool-Temp AG, Sulgen, SWISS CONFEDERATION, have withdrawn as parties to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and ODVA intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On June 21, 1995, ODVA filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on February 15, 1996 (61 FR 6039).

The last notification was filed with the Department on October 8, 2025. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on January 2, 2026 (91 FR 162).

Suzanne Morris,

Deputy Director Civil Enforcement Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 2026–05907 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410–11–P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Biopharmaceutical Manufacturing Preparedness Consortium

Notice is hereby given that, on October 8, 2025, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (''the Act''), Biopharmaceutical Manufacturing Preparedness Consortium (''BIOMAP-CONSORTIUM'') has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, AGC Biologics, Bothell, WA; Anavatos Bio, Inc., Seattle, WA; Cidara Therapeutics INC, San Diego, CA; Crossmhv, L.l.C, Tampa, FL; Defense Operations & Execution Solutions INC, W Melbourne, FL; Health Supply US LLC, Mooresville, NC; Nanopass Technologies Ltd., Nes Ziona, STATE OF ISRAEL; Ommio Health, INC, Woodbridge, CT; UI Pharmaceuticals, Iowa City, IA; Axelyf, Inc., Chestnut Hill, MA; BetteRx Compounding Inc., Smithfield, RI; Crossject SA, Dijon, FRENCH REPUBLIC; Lavik Consulting LLC, Oakland, MO; Nanotag Biotechnologies Gmbh, Goettingen, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY; Quality Assured Artificial Intelligence LLC, Green Cove Springs, FL; Award Advisors, Washington, DC; Beckman Research Institute of the City of Hope, Duarte, CA; Gemini Therapeutics, San Fransisco, CA; Lumacyte, INC, Charlottesville, VA; Modus Operandi,

Inc., Melbourne, FL; Ship Odyssey, Inc., Sevierville, TN; Synergistic INC, New Baltimore, MI; Occam Systems Incorporated, Glen Allen, VA; Renco Manufacturing Group INC, Colebrook, NH; Revolution Biomanufacturing INC, Canton, MA; Sagitta Biotech, Liège, KINGDOM OF BELGIUM; Argentum Pharmaceuticals LLC, Aspen, CO; Culmen International, LLC, Alexandria, VA; EXCITE PHARMA SERVICES, LLC, Lees Summit, MO; Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security, Baltimore, MD; KNIGHT GREGORIAN, INC., Vista, CA; Kensington Street Consulting LLC, Arlington, VA; Method Made, Montreal, CANADA; Mriglobal, Kansas City, MO; N! Biomachines Ltd., Burlington, ON; Safi Biotherapeutics INC, Cambridge, MA; Science Systems and Applications, Inc., Lanham, MD; True Diagnostics, Inc., Carlsbad, CA; and Zeteo Biomedical LLC, Austin, TX have been added as parties to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and the BIOMAP-CONSORTIUM intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On January 5, 2024, the BIOMAP-CONSORTIUM filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on April 16, 2024 (89 FR 26923).

The last notification was filed with the Department on July 24, 2025. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on January 20, 2026 (91 FR 2369).

Suzanne Morris,

Deputy Director Civil Enforcement Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 2026–05906 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—MLCommons Association

Notice is hereby given that, on January 29, 2026, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (the ''Act''), MLCommons Association (''MLCommons'') filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, Inventec Corporation, Taoyuan City, REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN); Greenbox Labs Inc., Weehawken, NJ; Tensordyne, Sunnyvale, CA; WhiteFiber HPC, Inc., New York, NY; Alignment Guard Laboratories, Denver, CO; Anoop Rehman (individual member), Toronto, CANADA; Oleksiy Pototskyy (individual member), Madrid, KINGDOM OF SPAIN; Yunyi Zhao (individual member), Chelmsford, UNITED KINGDOM; Shufan Yang (individual member), Leeds, UNITED KINGDOM; Xinning Gao (individual member), Beijing, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA; Asheesh Pandey (individual member), Newark, NJ; Jui-Chien Tsou (individual member), Taoyuan City, REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN); Maya Viswanath (individual member), Glastonbury, CT; Krati Saxena (individual member), Bhopal, REPUBLIC OF INDIA; Zhaozhuo Xu (individual member), Santa Clara, CA; Paul Pival (individual member), Calgary, CANADA; Boryoung Kim (individual member), Seoul, REPUBLIC OF KOREA; and Xiaomei Mi (individual member), Manchester, UNITED KINGDOM have been added as parties to this venture.

Also, Maxwell Labs Inc., New Hope, MN; and Fuzzy Sequence Pte Ltd., Ayer Rajah Crescent, REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE have withdrawn as parties to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open and MLCommons intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On September 15, 2020, MLCommons filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on September 29, 2020 (85 FR 61032).

The last notification was filed with the Department on October 30, 2025. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on January 2, 2026 (91 FR 164).

Suzanne Morris,

Deputy Director Civil Enforcement Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 2026–05901 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Rust Foundation

Notice is hereby given that, on January 23, 2026, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (''the Act''), Rust Foundation has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, Doulos, Hampshire, UNITED KINGDOM; Meilisearch, Paris, FRENCH REPUBLIC; and Trafficking Free Tomorrow, Sacramento, CA, have been added as parties to this venture.

Also, Lynx Software Technologies, Campbell, CA, has withdrawn as a party to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and Rust Foundation intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On April 14, 2022, Rust Foundation filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on May 13, 2022 (87 FR 29384).

The last notification was filed with the Department on October 10, 2025. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on January 2, 2026 (91 FR 164).

Suzanne Morris,

Deputy Director Civil Enforcement Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 2026–05909 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—OpenGMSL Association

Notice is hereby given that, on February 27, 2026, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (''the Act''),

OpenGMSL Association (''OpenGMSL'') has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, TE Connectivity Germany GmbH, Bensheim, Federal Republic of Germany; and TRIGATE Co., Ltd., Tokyo, Japan have been added as parties to this venture.

Also, indie Semiconductor, Inc., Aliso Viejo, CA has withdrawn as a party to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open and OpenGMSL intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On June 30, 2025, OpenGMSL filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on August 13, 2025 (90 FR 38998).

The last notification was filed with the Department of Justice on December 11, 2025. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on January 26, 2026 (91 FR 3222).

Suzanne Morris,

Deputy Director Civil Enforcement Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 2026–05924 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act Of 1993—TeleManagement Forum (TM Forum)

Notice is hereby given that, on February 18, 2026, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (''the Act''), TM Forum, a New Jersey Non-Profit Corporation (''the Forum'') filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances.

Specifically, Norlys Digital A/S, Tranbjerg J, KINGDOM OF DENMARK; David Villegas (Affiliate), Roodt-sur-Syre, GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG; PANGEACO S.A.C, Lima, REPUBLIC OF PERU; Numo Data, Richardson, TX; Data Service Technology Co., Ltd., Chengdu, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA; CleverMobi, Eindhoven, KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS; Innovation Incubator Holding LLC, Jacksonville, FL; Zhilabs S.L.U., Madrid, KINGDOM OF SPAIN; DTS, Madrid, KINGDOM OF SPAIN; Redsapient Inc., Brampton, CANADA; Khalifa University of Science and Technology, Abu Dhabi, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES; Alex Bruce (individual member), Ottawa, CANADA; GoalPost Brij Non-Profit Org., Johannesburg, REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA; LabLabee, New York, NY; Infinite Computer Solutions, Rockville, MD; Virtusa Corporation, Southborough, MA; Sonalake Limited, Dublin, IRELAND; 4iG Nyrt, Budapest, REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY; iQmetrix, Vancouver, CANADA; Nuwave Communications, Las Vegas, NV; Nagarro Software Pvt Ltd, San Jose, CA; MTN Uganda, Kampala, REPUBLIC OF UGANDA have been added as parties to this venture.

Also, Canopus Network Pty Ltd, Haymarket, COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA; Clear Blockchain Technologies Pte. Ltd., Singapore, REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE; Cloudsense Ltd., London, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND; Cross Network Intelligence s.r.o, Prague 1, CZECH REPUBLIC; Forty Two Data Services Ltd., Yokne'am Illit, STATE OF ISRAEL; GCP Advisors, Philadelphia, PA; Inetum, Madrid, KINGDOM OF SPAIN; Innovaflo, Toronto, CANADA; Institute of Telecommunications, Faculty of Electronics and Information Technology-Warsaw University of Technology, Warsaw, REPUBLIC OF POLAND; NETCOMPANY–INTRASOFT S.A., Luxembourg, GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG; Nuiva s.a.r,l, Grand-Duché, GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG; Platinion GmbH, Köln, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY; PlektonLabs, Austin, TX; Resolve Systems, Campbell, CA; The University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND; TnBS, Paris, FRENCH REPUBLIC; Torry Harris Integration Solutions, Bangalore, REPUBLIC OF INDIA; and Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, IRELAND have withdrawn as parties to this venture.

In addition, the following members have changed their names: POST Luxembourg to POST Technologies, Luxembourg, GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG; and PT XL Axiata Tbk to PT XLSmart Telecom Sejahtera Tbk, Kota Jakarta Selatan, REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA.

No other changes have been made to either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and the Forum intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On October 21, 1988, the Forum filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on December 8, 1988 (53 FR 49615).

The last notification was filed with the Department on October 29, 2025. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on January 2, 2026 (91 FR 165).

Suzanne Morris,

Deputy Director Civil Enforcement Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 2026–05917 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Mercury Consortium

Notice is hereby given that, on February 27, 2026, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (''the Act''), Mercury Consortium, Inc. (''Mercury Consortium'') has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances.

Specifically, Easee AS, Stavanger, KINGDOM OF NORWAY; Hypervolt, London, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND; Natural Resources Defense Council, New York, NY; Emulate Energy, Brookline, MA; FranklinWH Energy Storage Inc., San Jose, CA; Codibly SA, Malopolskie, REPUBLIC OF POLAND; Idaho National Laboratory, Idaho Falls, ID; Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, London, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN

IRELAND; and SAP SE, Baden-Württemberg, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY have been added as parties to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open and Mercury Consortium intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On July 29, 2025, Mercury Consortium filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on August 18, 2025 (90 FR 40084).

The last notification was filed with the Department on October 28, 2025. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on January 20, 2026 (91 FR 2369).

Suzanne Morris,

Deputy Director Civil Enforcement Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 2026–05926 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—OpenJS Foundation

Notice is hereby given that, on March 5, 2026, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (''the Act''), OpenJS Foundation has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, Socket, Stanford, CA, has been added as a party to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and OpenJS Foundation intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On August 17, 2015, OpenJS Foundation filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on September 28, 2015 (80 FR 58297).

The last notification was filed with the Department on December 2, 2025. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on January 20, 2026 (91 FR 2372).

Suzanne Morris,

Deputy Director Civil Enforcement Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 2026–05928 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410–11–P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—The National Advanced Mobility Consortium, Inc. (Formerly Known as the Robotics Technology Consortium)

Notice is hereby given that, on October 20, 2025, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (''the Act''), The National Advanced Mobility Consortium, Inc. (''NAMC'') has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. On February 3, 2015, the RTC officially changed its name to NAMC. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, 10x National Security, LLC, Leesburg, VA; All Foam Products Co., Middlefield, OH; Allen Control Systems Inc., Austin, TX; American Fabricated Products, Spring Lake, MI; APPLIED RESEARCH ASSOCIATES, INC, Raleigh, NC; Austal USA, Mobile, AL; Autonomous Defense Technology Corp dba Swarm Aero, Oxnard, CA; BAE Systems (Electronic Systems), Austin, TX; Barbaricum LLC, Washington, DC; Barber-Nichols, LLC, Arvada, CO; Battelle Energy Alliance, LLC, Manager and Operator of Idaho National Laboratory, Idaho Falls, ID; Birdon America Inc, Denver, CO; Blue Water Autonomy, Brookline, MA; Brainstorm Technologies, Slidell, LA; Cenith Innovations, Sacramento, CA; Chariot Defense, San Bruno, CA; Control Systems Inc., Lake Zurich, IL; Crow Industries, Scottsdale, AZ; Crystal Group, Inc., Hiawatha, IA; Cubic Digital Solutions LLC, Ashburn, VA; Defience Systems, Inc., Owens Crossroads, AL; Deloitte Consulting LLP, Arlington, VA; DICE Defense LLC, Orlando, FL; Digital Force Technologies DFT, San Diego, CA; DRS Advanced ISR, LLC, Beavercreek, OH; Duggan Manufacturing, Shelby Township, MI; Echodyne Corp, Kirkland, WA; ECS Federal, LLC, Fairfax, VA; Eisen Electric Corporation, Lansing, MI; EIZO Rugged Solutions Inc, Orlando, FL; Everight Position Technologies Corporation, Bala Cynwyd, PA; Exiger Government Solutions, McLean, VA; FEV North America Inc., Auburn Hills, MI; First Line Technology LLC, Fredericksburg, VA; FluxWorks, Inc., College Station, TX; FORT Robotics Inc, Philadelphia, PA; Fox Valley Metal Tech, LLC, Green Bay, WI; Gambit Defense, Inc, Valley Village, CA; Georgia Tech Applied Research Corporation, Atlanta, GA; Gigantor Technologies Inc., Melbourne Beach, FL; GIRD Systems, Inc., Cincinnati, OH; Gravois Aluminum Boats, LLC dba Metal Shark, Jeanerette, LA; GreenSight Inc, Charlestown, MA; HavocAI, Providence, RI; Hermes Robotics, San Francisco, CA; Hidden Level, Inc., Syracuse, NY; HPSA LLC, West Bloomfield, MI; Integer Technologies LLC, Columbia, SC; Integration Innovation Inc, Huntsville, AL; ITL LLC, Hampton, VA; Kinedyne, Prattville, AL; Kopin Corporation, Westborough, MA; L3Harris Technologies, Inc., Harris Defense Communications, Rochester, NY; LCR Embedded Systems, LLC, Jeffersonville, PA; LDRA Technology, Inc., Lewisville, TX; Leidos Gibbs & Cox, New York, NY; Lunewave Inc, Tucson, AZ; Maren-go Solutions Corporation, Vancouver, WA; Maritime Applied Physics Corporation, Curtis Bay, MD; Marvin Land Systems, Inc. (Division of Marvin Engineering Co.), Inglewood, CA; Maxtena, Inc., Germantown, MD; Menet Aero, Oak Creek, WI; Merge Plot, Huntingdon Valley, PA; Midway Defense Systems, Utica, NY; MIT Lincoln Laboratory, Lexington, MA; Modern Technology Solutions, Inc., Alexandria, VA; Monterey Technologies, Inc., Park City, UT; NextGen Federal Systems LLC, Morgantown, WV; Nokomis, Inc., Charleroi, PA; Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation Aircraft Survivability (ACS), Rolling Meadows, IL; NVTS Night Vision Technology Solutions, North Kingstown, RI; Offroad Autonomy, Mission Viejo, CA; Olson Custom Designs, LLC., Indianapolis, IN; One Stop Systems, Inc., Escondido, CA; PacMar Technologies LLC, Honolulu, HI; Palo Alto Networks, Reston, VA; Picogrid, El Segundo, CA; Radiance Technologies, Huntsville, AL; R–DEX Systems, Inc., Woodstock, GA; Redara Labs Inc, San Fernando, CA; REMNAV Inc., San Jose, CA; RJA Technologies

LLC, New York, NY; Rook Armor, Leander, TX; Saronic Technologies, Austin, TX; Scientific Research Corporation, Atlanta, GA; Scout AI Inc., Sunnyvale, CA; Sea Machines Robotics, Inc., Boston, MA; Seal Dynamics, Hauppauge, NY; SERCO INC., Herndon, VA; STEER-Tech, LLC, Annapolis Junction, MD; Stelex LLC dba XR Training, Bethesda, MD; Tangram Flex, Inc., Dayton, OH; Teledyne FLIR Defense, Stillwater, OK; Tern AI Inc, Austin, TX; The Parsette, LLC, Troy, MI; Trident Maritime Systems—Heavy Equipment Group, Kingsford, MI; United Electronic Industries (a division of AMETEK Programmable Power), Norwood, MA; University of South Florida—Institute of Applied Engineering, Incorporated, Tampa, FL; Venera, Milford, MI; Viasat, Inc., Carlsbad, CA; Vivace Corporation, New Orleans, LA; VoiceIt Technologies Inc, DBA EnQuanta, Eden Prairie, MN; Walaris LLC, Peachtree Corners, GA; Western Labs LLC, Troy, MI; Wing Inflatables, Inc., Arcata, CA; WingXpand, Inc., Saint Louis, MO; World Kinect Government Solutions, Inc., Miami, FL; and Xtend Reality Inc., Crestview, FL have been added as parties to this venture.

Also, Acutronic USA, Inc, Pittsburgh, PA; American Systems Corporation, Chantilly, VA; Apptronik, Inc, Austin, TX; Arnold Magnetic Technologies, Rochester, NY; BAE Systems Information and Electronic Systems Integration, Inc., Merrimack, NH; Banks Technologies, Azusa, CA; Belding Tool and Machine, Belding, MI; BH Technology LLC, Pomona, NY; Broadband Antenna Tracking Systems, Inc, Indianapolis, IN; Canoo Technologies Inc., Torrance, CA; Choctaw Defense Manufacturing LLC, McAlester, OK; Commonwealth Technology Innovation LLC, Alexandria, VA; Cubic Defense Applications Inc., San Diego, CA; Defense Operations & Execution Solutions Inc. (DOES), W Melbourne, FL; Defense Research Associates, Inc., Beavercreek, OH; Defense Unicorns, Colorado Springs, CO; DuPont Specialty Products USA, LLC (formerly E.I. du Pont de Nenours), Wilmington, DE; Dynamic Dimension Technologies, LLC, Westminster, MD; esc Aerospace US, Inc., Orlando, FL; EZ–A Consulting, LLC, Bel Air, MD; GE Global Research, Niskayuna, NY; Genasys Inc (formerly LRAD Corporation), Salt Lake City, UT; Globe Tech LLC, Plymouth, MI; Hazard Protection Systems, Inc., Anchorage, AK; Highland Engineering, Inc, Howell, MI; Huntsman International LLC, The Woodlands, TX; Hypergiant Galactic Systems, Inc., Austin, TX; krtkl inc., San Francisco, CA; L3 Mustang Technology, Plano, TX; L3Harris Technologies, Greenville, TX; Lithos Energy, Inc., San Rafael, CA; Lynx Software Technologies, San Jose, CA; Mass XV LLC, Yorktown, VA; Massie MFG., Inc., Baraga, MI; National Technical Systems, Inc.—NTS Technical Systems (NTS), Camden, AR; Oakland University, Rochester, MI; On-Point Defense Technologies, Ft Walton Beach, FL; Orbital Traction, Ltd., Houston, TX; Powertrain Rockford Inc, Loves Park, IL; RAVE Computer, Sterling Heights, MI; Scale AI, San Francisco, CA; SecureCo, Inc., New York, NY; SeeByte Inc., San Diego, CA; Signal Systems Corporation, Millersville, MD; Skydex Technologies Inc, Centennial, CO; Spark Thermionics, Inc., Berkley, CA; Special Operations Solutions dba Aevex Engineering and Technology, Harrisonburg, VA; Sphere Brake Defense, LLC, Erie, PA; Strata-G Solutions, Inc., Huntsville, AL; Tangram Flex, Dayton, OH; Test & Evaluation Solutions, LLC, Warrenton, VA; The Boeing Company, Berkeley, MO; Tomahawk Robotics, LLC, Melbourne, FL; Transformational Security, LLC, Columbia, MD; TurbineOne, San Francisco, CA; Vega Technology Group LLC, North Canton, OH; and VSE Corporation, Sterling Heights, MI have withdrawn as parties to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and NAMC intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On October 15, 2009, NAMC filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on November 30, 2009 (74 FR 62599).

The last notification was filed with the Department on October 10, 2024. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on January 21, 2025 (90 FR 7171).

Suzanne Morris,

Deputy Director Civil Enforcement Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 2026–05925 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—America's Datahub Consortium

Notice is hereby given that, on March 4, 2026, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (''the Act''), America's DataHub Consortium (''ADC'') has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, Aforge LLC, Lorton, VA; Angmartek LLC, Kenmore, WA; Boulevard Consulting Group, Llc, The, Arlington, VA; Devtech Systems INC, Arlington, VA; Dignitas Technologies, LLC, Orlando, FL; Enlighten It Consulting LLC, Columbia, MD; Expanxia LLC, Jacksonville, FL; Human RITHM, LLC, Atlanta, GA; Ipsos Public Affairs, LLC, Norwalk, CT; Kotula Corsello Tiffany, Troy, VA; Meshesha Solutions LLC, Kent, WA; Teksouth Corporation, Gardendale, AL; and Willowview Consulting LLC, Eagle, ID, have been added as parties to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and ADC intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On November 11, 2021, ADC filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on December 22, 2021 (86 FR 72628).

The last notification was filed with the Department on December 17, 2025. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on February 23, 2026 (91 FR 8531).

Suzanne Morris,

Deputy Director Civil Enforcement Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 2026–05927 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—National Fire Protection Association

Notice is hereby given that, on February 3, 2026, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (''the Act''), National Fire Protection Association (''NFPA'') has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing additions or changes to its standards development activities. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, NFPA has provided an updated and current list of its standards development activities, related technical committee and conformity assessment activities. Information concerning NFPA regulations, technical committees, current standards, standards development, and conformity assessment activities are publicly available at *nfpa.org*.

On September 20, 2004, NFPA filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on October 21, 2004 (69 FR 61869).

The last notification was filed with the Department on October 1, 2025. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on January 20, 2026 (91 FR 2371).

Suzanne Morris,

Deputy Director Civil Enforcement Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 2026–05916 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Pistoia Alliance, Inc.

Notice is hereby given that, on January 20, 2026, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (the ''Act''), Pistoia Alliance, Inc. filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, Interstellar Life Science Consultants, Indian Rocks Beach, FL; Data Standards Decisions, Soroe, KINGDOM OF DENMARK; CINforma Consulting, Radford, VA; Scilligence Corporation, Cambridge, MA; Cresset Biomolecular Discovery Ltd., Litlington, UNITED KINGDOM; and Astrix Technology Group, Red Bank, NJ have been added as parties to this venture.

Also, Xponential, Hellertown, PA; and Galapagos, Mechelen, KINGDOM OF BELGIUM has withdrawn as a party to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and Pistoia Alliance, Inc. intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On May 28, 2009, Pistoia Alliance, Inc. filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on July 15, 2009 (74 FR 34364).

The last notification was filed with the Department on October 31, 2025. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on January 20, 2026 (91 FR 2372).

Suzanne Morris,

Deputy Director Civil Enforcement Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 2026–05914 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Cable Television Laboratories, Inc.

Notice is hereby given that, on January 20, 2026, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (''the Act''), CABLE TELEVISION LABORATORIES, INC. (''CableLabs'') has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, Boycom Cablevision, Inc., Bluff, MO has been added as a party to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or the planned activity of the venture. Membership in this venture remains open and CableLabs intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On August 8, 1988, CableLabs filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on September 7, 1988 (53 FR 34593).

The last notification was filed with the Department on September 2, 2025. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on January 27, 2026 (91 FR 3543).

Suzanne Morris,

Deputy Director Civil Enforcement Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 2026–05910 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—ASTM International

Notice is hereby given that, on December 8, 2025, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (''the Act''), ASTM International (''ASTM'') has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing additions or changes to its standards development activities. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, ASTM has provided an updated list of current, ongoing ASTM activities originating between September 26, 2025, and December 8, 2025, designated as Work Items. A complete listing of ASTM Work Items, along with a brief description of each, is available at *http://www.astm.org.*

On September 15, 2004, ASTM filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section

6(b) of the Act on November 10, 2004 (69 FR 65226).

The last notification was filed with the Department on October 7, 2025. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on February 23, 2026 (91 FR 8527).

Suzanne Morris,

Deputy Director Civil Enforcement Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 2026–05903 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—R Consortium, Inc.

Notice is hereby given that, on January 28, 2026, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (''the Act''), R Consortium, Inc. (''R Consortium'') has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, Oracle Corporation, Burlington, MA; Google, Mountain View, CA; and Genentech, Inc., San Francisco, CA, have withdrawn as parties to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and R Consortium intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On September 15, 2015, R Consortium filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on October 2, 2015 (80 FR 59815).

The last notification was filed with the Department on July 31, 2025. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on August 18, 2025 (90 FR 40083).

Suzanne Morris,

Deputy Director Civil Enforcement Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 2026–05911 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Z-Wave Alliance, Inc.

Notice is hereby given that, on February 20, 2026, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (the ''Act''), Z-Wave Alliance, Inc. (the ''Joint Venture'') filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, NM Ventures LLC DBA CleverK9, Ladson, SC; Sybersense IOT Company Limited, Hong Kong, HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION; Domestic Air Ltd, Stockport, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND; Novon Technologies LLC, Cincinnati, OH; Integrated Systems Technology, Morris, IL; iGuard Home Inc., Seattle, WA; Shenzhen Baishi Video Technology Co., Ltd., Shenzhen, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA; Arlo Technologies, Inc., Carlsbad, CA; DEN smart solutions BV, Enschede, KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS; and Ajax Systems Cyprus Holdings LTD, Nicosia, REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS have been added as parties to this venture.

Also, Inergy Systems LLC, Tempe, AZ; Shenzhen Neo Electronics Co., Ltd, Shenzhen, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA; HavenLock Inc., Franklin, TN; JLabs Corporation, Tokyo, JAPAN; DECH–X Aps, Roennede, KINGDOM OF DENMARK; GN Audio A/S, Ballerup, KINGDOM OF DENMARK; Samjin Co., Ltd, Gyeonggi-do, REPUBLIC OF KOREA; Stelpro, Quebec City, CANADA; Hank Smart Tech Co. Ltd., Shenzhen, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA; Flex Automation (Z-Wave Tecnologia), Sao Paulo, FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL; Sengled, Shanghai City, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA; Taiwan Fu Hsing Industrial Co., Ltd., Kaohsiung City, REPUBLIC OF CHINA (Taiwan); EUROtronic Technology GmbH, Steinau, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY; Arcadyan Technology Corporation, Hsinchu City, REPUBLIC OF CHINA (Taiwan); Brivo, Bethesda, MD; Enerwave, Irvine, CA; and D–3 Technology Co. Limited, New Territories, Hong Kong, HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION have withdrawn as parties to this venture. No other changes have been made in either the membership or the planned activity of the venture. Membership in this venture remains open, and the Joint Venture intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On November 19, 2020, the Joint Venture filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on December 1, 2020 (85 FR 77241).

The last notification was filed with the Department on August 28, 2025. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on October 2, 2025 (90 FR 47824).

Suzanne Morris,

Deputy Director Civil Enforcement Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 2026–05923 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Drug Enforcement Administration

[Docket No. DEA–1666]

Bulk Manufacturer of Controlled Substances Application: SpecGx LLC

AGENCY: Drug Enforcement Administration, Justice.

ACTION: Notice of application.

SUMMARY: SpecGx LLC has applied to be registered as a bulk manufacturer of basic class(es) of controlled substance(s). Refer to Supplementary Information listed below for further drug information.

DATES: Registered bulk manufacturers of the affected basic class(es), and applicants, therefore, may submit electronic comments on or objections to the issuance of the proposed registration on or before May 26, 2026. Such persons may also file a written request for a hearing on the application on or before May 26, 2026.

ADDRESSES: The Drug Enforcement Administration requires that all comments be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal, which provides the ability to type short comments directly into the comment field on the web page or attach a file for lengthier comments. Please go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and follow the online instructions at that site for submitting comments. Upon submission of your comment, you will receive a Comment Tracking Number. Please be

aware that submitted comments are not instantaneously available for public view on *https://www.regulations.gov.* If you have received a Comment Tracking Number, your comment has been successfully submitted and there is no need to resubmit the same comment.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with 21 CFR 1301.33(a), this is notice that on February 4, 2026, SpecGx, LLC, 3600 North Second Street, Saint Louis, Missouri 63147–3457, applied to be registered as a bulk manufacturer of the following basic class(es) of controlled substance(s):

Controlled substance	Drug code	Schedule
Gamma Hydroxybutyric Acid	2010	I
Tetrahydrocannabinols	7370	I
Psilocybin	7437	I
Codeine-N-oxide	9053	I
Dihydromorphine	9145	I
Difenoxin	9168	I
Morphine-N-oxide	9307	I
Normorphine	9313	I
Alphamethadol	9605	I
Betamethadol	9609	I
Norlevorphanol	9634	I
Acetyl Fentanyl (N-(1-phenethylpiperidin-4-yl)-N-phenylacetamide)	9821	I
Butyryl Fentanyl	9822	I
Fentanyl related compounds as defined in 21 CFR 1308.11(h)	9850	I
Amphetamine	1100	II
Methamphetamine	1105	II
Lisdexamfetamine	1205	II
Methylphenidate	1724	II
Nabilone	7379	II
ANPP (4-Anilino-N-phenethyl-4-piperidine)	8333	II
Phenylacetone	8501	II
Codeine	9050	II
Dihydrocodeine	9120	II
Oxycodone	9143	II
Hydromorphone	9150	II
Diphenoxylate	9170	II
Ecgonine	9180	II
Hydrocodone	9193	II
Levorphanol	9220	II
Isomethadone	9226	II
Meperidine	9230	II
Meperidine intermediate-A	9232	II
Meperidine intermediate-B	9233	II
Meperidine intermediate-C	9234	II
Methadone	9250	II
Methadone intermediate	9254	II
Dextropropoxyphene, bulk (non-dosage forms)	9273	II
Morphine	9300	II
Oripavine	9330	II
Thebaine	9333	II
Opium tincture	9630	II
Opium, powdered	9639	II
Oxymorphone	9652	II
Noroxymorphone	9668	II
Alfentanil	9737	II
Remifentanil	9739	II
Sufentanil	9740	II
Tapentadol	9780	II
Fentanyl	9801	II

The company plans to bulk manufacture the listed controlled substances for sale to its customers and for internal use to produce non-controlled substances. In reference to drug code 7370 (Tetrahydrocannabinols), the company plans to bulk manufacture this drug code as synthetic. No other activities for these drug codes are authorized for this registration.

Thomas Prevoznik,

Deputy Assistant Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2026–05912 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Lodging of Proposed Consent Decree Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

On March 19, 2026, the Department of Justice lodged a proposed Consent Decree with the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey in the lawsuit entitled *United States, et al.*

v. *Ford Motor Co., et al.,* Civil Action No. 2:26–cv–2846.

The United States filed this lawsuit on behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (''EPA'') against Ford Motor Company and the Borough of Ringwood, NJ for the performance of a remedial action and reimbursement of response costs under Sections 106 and 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (''CERCLA'') at the Ringwood Mines/Landfill Superfund Site (''Site''), which is contaminated with paint sludge, metals, polychlorinated biphenyls (''PCBs''), and other hazardous substances. The State of New Jersey, including the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, and the Administrator of the New Jersey Spill Compensation Fund, are co-plaintiffs.

Under the proposed consent decree, Ford Motor Company and the Borough of Ringwood agree to perform the remedial action for Operable Unit 3, identified in the EPA Record of Decision relating to the Site, dated September 2020. The proposed consent decree also requires the Defendants to partially reimburse the State of New Jersey for its past response costs and to reimburse the United States and the State of New Jersey for their future Site-related response costs. In exchange, Defendants will receive contribution protection and covenants not to sue under Sections 106, 107(a) and 113 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 9606, 9607(a) and 9613 and the Spill Compensation and Control Act (the ''Spill Act''), N.J.S.A. 58:10–23.11 through –23.24, for the Site.

The publication of this notice opens a period for public comment on the Consent Decree. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, and should refer to *United States, et al.* v. *Ford Motor Co., et al.,* Civil Action No. 2:26–cv–2846, D.J. Ref. No. 90–11–3–830/2. All comments must be submitted no later than sixty (60) days after the publication date of this notice. Comments may be submitted either by email or by mail:

To submit comments:	*Send them to:*
By email	*pubcomment-ees.enrd@usdoj.gov.*
By mail	Assistant Attorney General, U.S. DOJ—ENRD, P.O. Box 7611, Washington, DC 20044–7611.

Any comments submitted in writing may be filed by the United States in whole or in part on the public court docket without notice to the commenter.

NJDEP, in accordance with N.J.S.A 58:10–23.11e2 of the Spill Act will also publish notice of the proposed Consent Decree in the New Jersey Register and on NJDEP's website for a period of 60 days. Comments that are submitted to the Department will be shared with the State for consideration and will not need to be resubmitted.

During the public comment period, the Consent Decree may be examined and downloaded at this Justice Department website: *https://www.justice.gov/enrd/consent-decrees.* If you require assistance accessing the proposed Consent Decree, you may request assistance by email or by mail to the addresses provided above for submitting comments.

Eric D. Albert,

Assistant Section Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division.

[FR Doc. 2026–05897 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; National Worker Survey

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor (DOL) is submitting this Chief Evaluation Office (CEO)-sponsored information collection request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). Public comments on the ICR are invited.

DATES: The OMB will consider all written comments that the agency receives on or before April 27, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

Comments are invited on: (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimates of the burden and cost of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nicole Bouchet by telephone at 202–693–0213, or by email at *DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Worker Survey aims to estimate the prevalence of non-compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) among nonexempt workers across various industries, with an emphasis on low-wage sectors. The survey employs both Address-Based Sampling to reach a representative sample of nonexempt U.S. workers and Respondent-Driven Sampling to gather data from workers in industries with higher incidences of wage and hour violations. The data collected will inform DOL in its efforts to improve compliance with the FLSA, optimize enforcement strategies, and enhance protections for vulnerable workers. For additional substantive information about this ICR, see the related notice published in the **Federal Register** on August 8, 2024 (89 FR 64960).

This information collection is subject to the PRA. A Federal agency generally cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information, and the public is generally not required to respond to an information collection, unless the OMB approves it and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall generally be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information that does not display a valid OMB Control Number. *See* 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and 1320.6.

DOL seeks PRA authorization for this information collection for three (3) years. OMB authorization for an ICR cannot be for more than three (3) years without renewal. The DOL notes that information collection requirements submitted to the OMB for existing ICRs

receive a month-to-month extension while they undergo review.

Agency: DOL–CEO.

Title of Collection: National Worker Survey.

OMB Control Number: 1290–0NEW.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

Total Estimated Number of Respondents: 5,227.

Total Estimated Number of Responses: 5,227.

Total Estimated Annual Time Burden: 1,535 hours.

Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden: $0.

(Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3507(a)(1)(D))

Nicole Bouchet,

Senior Paperwork Reduction Act Analyst.

[FR Doc. 2026–05866 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–HX–P

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Copyright Office

[Docket No. 2026–3]

Alternative Fee Structures for Registration

AGENCY: U.S. Copyright Office, Library of Congress.

ACTION: Notice of inquiry.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Copyright Office is initiating this inquiry to collect information regarding alternative fee structures that could be adopted once its updated electronic registration system is fully operational. The information will be used to study the feasibility of alternative fee structures, their impact on participation in the registration system, and the potential economic effects. This inquiry is separate from the Office's pending rulemaking proceeding instituted on March 20, 2026 to update fees within the current fee structure.

DATES: Written comments must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on June 24, 2026.

ADDRESSES:

Submission of written comments: For reasons of governmental efficiency, the Copyright Office is using the *regulations.gov* system for the submission and posting of public comments in this proceeding. All comments are therefore to be submitted electronically through *regulations.gov*. Specific instructions for submitting comments are available on the Office's website at *https://www.copyright.gov/policy/altfeestudy*. If electronic comment submission is not feasible due to lack of access to a computer or the internet, please contact the Office using the contact information below for special instructions.

Submission of business confidential information: Any submissions containing business confidential information must be marked ''confidential treatment requested'' and submitted through *regulations.gov*. Submitters should provide an index listing the document(s) or information they would like the Office to withhold. The index should identify the confidential document(s) by document number(s) and document title(s) and should identify the confidential information by description(s) and relevant page number(s) and/or section number(s) within a document. Submitters should provide a statement explaining their grounds for requesting nondisclosure of the information to the public as well. The Office also requests that submitters of business confidential information include a non-confidential version (either redacted or summarized) that will be posted on *regulations.gov* and available for public viewing. In the event that the submitter cannot provide a non-confidential version of their submission, the Office requests that the submitter post a notice on the docket stating that they have provided us with business confidential information. Should a submitter fail either to docket a non-confidential version of their submission or to post a notice that they have provided business confidential information, the Office will note the receipt of the submission on the docket with the submitter's organization or name (to the degree permitted by law) and the date of submission.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rhea Efthimiadis, Assistant to the General Counsel, by email at *meft@copyright.gov* or telephone at 202–707–8350.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Copyright Office is in the midst of a comprehensive project to update its technological infrastructure. This project, the Enterprise Copyright System (''ECS''), is expanding access to the Office's services in furtherance of its strategic objective of ''Copyright for All.'' [1] A major component of ECS is a new registration system (''ECS Registration''), which will make the statutory benefits of registering works of authorship more accessible.

Currently, most copyright owners use the Standard Application, which allows registration of a single work for a set fee. The Office has also introduced an increasing number of group registration options that allow multiple works to be registered with one application and one filing fee, effectively reducing the per-work fee for certain types of works.[2] While many copyright owners have taken advantage of these options, some have also urged the adoption of alternative fee structures to further minimize or eliminate perceived barriers to registration.

Over the past few years, the Office has acknowledged these proposals and expressed the intent to consider them once the necessary technological capabilities are in place.[3] At this stage in the development of ECS Registration, the Office seeks to evaluate the feasibility of adopting any of the proposed fee mechanisms. This entails an analysis of their potential economic impact on the revenue that the Office receives from registration fees and the costs of administering the registration system. As we have affirmed in the context of the pending fee study,[4] our goal is to enhance access to the copyright registration system, growing a robust record of copyright ownership. To that end, this notice of inquiry solicits information about copyright owners' current registration practices and how alternative fee structures might affect those practices. The Office will use the information provided to study the potential economic impact of alternative fee structures, which in turn will inform plans for further development of ECS Registration and funding strategies to be considered in future fee studies.

I. Background

A. The Office's Fee-Setting Authority

The Copyright Act requires the Office to collect fees to cover the costs of certain services, including registration of copyright claims. The Register may ''adjust fees'' by regulation ''to not more than that necessary to cover the

[1] *See* U.S. Copyright Office, Strategic Plan 2022–2026 Fostering Creativity and Enriching Culture 4 (2022) (''Strategic Plan 2022''), *https://www.copyright.gov/reports/strategic-plan/USCO-strategic2022-2026.pdf*.

[2] *See, e.g.,* Group Registration of a Two-Dimensional Artwork, 90 FR 59383, 59387 (Dec. 19, 2025) (noting that group registration of 2D artwork will ''effectively reduce[ ] the per-work cost of registration by half''); *see also* 37 CFR 202.3(b)(5), 202.4(c)–(k), (m), (o) (group registration options for unpublished works, news websites, newspapers, newsletters and serials, unpublished and published photographs, contributions to periodicals, secure test items, works on an album of music, short online literary works, and database updates).

[3] *See* Group Registration of Photographs, 83 FR 2542, 2545 (Jan. 18, 2018) (explaining that in response to proposals for ''a tiered filing fee'' or ''a sliding-scale subscription model'' that ''the current registration system is not capable of supporting th[ese] type[s] of [ ] fee structure[s]'').

[4] *See* Copyright Office Fees, 91 FR 13529, 13532 (Mar. 20, 2026).

reasonable costs incurred by the Copyright Office for [its] services.'' [5] The process for modifying fees entails studying the costs that the Office incurs in providing services and submitting a proposed fee schedule, along with an economic analysis, to Congress.[6] As part of this process, the Office recently published a notice of proposed rulemaking seeking public comment on proposed adjustments to its fee schedule for certain fee-based services.[7]

Section 708 of the Act requires that registration fees ''be fair and equitable and give due consideration to the objectives of the copyright system.'' [8] One such objective is to ''encourage the production of original literary, artistic, and musical expression for the good of the public.'' [9] The Office also seeks to encourage the public's use of our services. One way that the Office promotes these objectives is by charging higher fees for some services—albeit less than the actual costs incurred—in order to offer lower fees for other services to promote participation in the copyright system.[10] While the Register has broad discretion to set fees,[11] she cannot waive them except in limited circumstances.[12]

In sum, the Act requires that any proposed fee changes balance reasonable cost recovery against the effect on the use of the registration system. Economic analysis is therefore critical in setting fee schedules, including any potential changes to accommodate alternative fee structures.

B. Past Consideration of Alternative Fee Structures

While the Office has not previously conducted a comprehensive analysis of alternative fee structures, we have received comments on such structures in prior proceedings. In 2018, the Office published a notice of inquiry seeking input on registration topics, including whether we should implement a ''dynamic pricing model'' or offer a subscription service.[13] In response, some commenters suggested that the Office consider an annual subscription option for high-volume creators to register works in bulk.[14] Some supported tiered registration fee structures based on the number of works.[15] Another proposal was to introduce tiered registration fees that would distinguish between individual authors, small businesses, and large corporate rightsholders.[16] Commenters repeated these proposals in 2022 in comments for the Office's deferred examination study,[17] in which we considered the potential effect of a deferred examination option that would permit partial registration applications at a significantly discounted fee.[18]

The Office previously expressed the intent to study these proposals further.[19] In order to do so, additional information is essential to perform the necessary economic analysis for sound, data-driven policy decisions.[20] This inquiry therefore seeks empirical evidence about how different fee structures would influence applicants' registration practices and affect the Office's costs. Because any new fee structure would be implemented in ECS Registration once it is in production, we are initiating this process now to plan for development of whatever additional system functionality may be required.

II. Alternative Fee Structures

As the Office explores alternative fee structures, our statutory lodestars are that fees be ''fair and equitable'' and ''give due consideration to the objectives of the copyright system.'' [21] Economic analysis of these fee structures requires consideration of how they would impact Office operations, and how they would affect applicants' registration decisions. In addition, because fees do not cover the full cost of the Office's services, any net increase in filing volume would likely entail increasing fees, additional congressional appropriations, or both, to sustain Office operations.[22] With these considerations in mind, this notice broadly outlines four types of alternative fee structures that have been proposed, along with some of the potential benefits and risks of each.

A. Fees Differentiated by Type of Work

The vast majority of applicants submit their claims using the Standard Application. The Office currently charges a uniform fee of $65 for processing these claims, regardless of

[5] 17 U.S.C. 708(b)(2).

[6] *Id.* at 708(b)(5).

[7] 91 FR 13529.

[8] 17 U.S.C. 708(b)(4).

[9] *Fogerty* v. *Fantasy, Inc.,* 510 U.S. 517, 524 (1994); *see also* Strategic Plan 2022 at 4 (''The Office's core services of registration, recordation, and statutory licensing play an important role in expanding culture and knowledge, supporting the ability to protect and exploit creative works while facilitating their dissemination through licensing and other lawful uses, here and abroad.'').

[10] *See* H.R. Rep. No. 105–25, at 8 (1997).

[11] *See* Public Law 105–80, 111 Stat. 1529, 1532 (1997); H.R. Rep. No. 105–25, at 16.

[12] *See* 17 U.S.C. 708(c) (permitting fee waiver for federal agencies and employees ''in occasional or isolated cases involving relatively small amounts''); *id.* at 708(e) (establishing fee waiver mechanism for winners of high school art competition sponsored by the Congressional Institute).

[13] *See* Registration Modernization, 83 FR 52336, 52339 (Oct. 17, 2018).

[14] Coalition of Visual Artists, Comments Submitted in Response to U.S. Copyright Office's Oct. 17, 2018, Registration Modernization Notice of Inquiry (''2018 Registration Modernization NOI'') at 23 (Jan. 15, 2019); ImageRights 2018 Registration Modernization NOI Comments at 4 (Jan. 15, 2019); Shaftel & Schmelzer 2018 Registration Modernization NOI Comments at 8–9 (Jan. 11, 2019).

[15] *See* Coalition of Visual Artists 2018 Registration Modernization NOI Comments at 23 (Jan. 15, 2019) (proposing ''[t]iered pricing [that] could be set at different levels (*e.g.* 1–50. 51–500, 501–1,000, 1,000+, etc.)'' as ''lower fees for creators registering fewer works would help many creators keep their registration cost-per-work more reasonable and encourage more registrations''); *see also* Coalition of Visual Artists, Comments Submitted in Response to U.S. Copyright Office's Dec. 1, 2016, Group Registration of Photographs Notice of Proposed Rulemaking at 59 (Jan. 30, 2017) (''The Copyright Office could create tiered registration fees for specific quantities of images included in a group registration.'').

[16] *See* Shaftel & Schmelzer 2018 Registration Modernization NOI Comments at 9–12 (Jan. 11, 2019). The Office previously studied price differentiation between single authors and larger copyright owners, and implemented a registration option that offered lowered fees for an individual author-claimant registering a single work. *See* Single Application Option, 78 FR 38843 (June 28, 2013); U.S. Copyright Office, Proposed Schedule and Analysis of Copyright Fees to Go into Effect on or About April 1, 2014 1, 7–8 (Nov. 14, 2013); U.S. Copyright Office, Analysis and Proposed Fee Schedule to Go into Effect July 1, 1999 iv (Feb. 1, 1999). Because few copyright owners have used this option, the Office is proposing to eliminate it as part of the proposed fee schedule. *See* 91 FR 13529, 13533–34.

[17] Three comments expressed support for subscription pricing. *See* Coalition of Visual Artists, Comments in Response to U.S. Copyright Office's Dec. 10, 2021, Deferred Registration Examination Study Notice of Inquiry (''Deferred Registration Examination NOI'') Comments at 21–22 (Jan 24, 2022); Shaftel & Schmelzer Deferred Registration Examination NOI Comments at 21–22 (Jan. 22, 2022); Copyright Alliance Deferred Registration Examination NOI Comments at 3, 5–6, 32 (Jan. 24, 2022). Five comments supported tiered pricing that differentiates between individuals, small businesses, and large corporations. *See* Copyright Alliance Deferred Registration Examination NOI Comments at 3, 31; Shaftel & Schmelzer Deferred Registration Examination NOI Comments at 22–25; AIPLA Deferred Registration Examination NOI Comments at 6 (Jan. 24, 2022); Assoc. of Med. Illustrators Deferred Registration Examination NOI Comments at 6, 8 (Jan. 24, 2022); Coalition of Visual Artists Deferred Registration Examination NOI Comments at 20.

[18] *See* U.S. Copyright Office, Deferred Registration Examination Study 10, 18–21 (Aug. 1, 2022) (''Deferred Registration Examination Study''), *https://www.copyright.gov/policy/deferred-examination/Letter-on-Deferred-Registration-Examination-2022.08.01.pdf.*

[19] *See* 91 FR 13529, 13535; Group Registration of Two-Dimensional Artwork, 89 FR 11789, 11791 (Feb. 15, 2024); Deferred Registration Examination Study at 22–23; Registration Modernization, 85 FR 12704, 12706 (Mar. 3, 2020); Proposed Schedule and Analysis of Copyright Fees to Go into Effect in Spring 2020 34 (Oct. 16, 2019) (stating that the Office will ''examine alternative vehicles for variable fee setting, including through further solicitations for public comment'').

[20] 17 U.S.C. 708(b)(5) (requiring the Register to submit an ''economic analysis'' of proposed fee adjustments to Congress prior to implementation).

[21] *Id.* at 708(b)(4).

[22] *See* 91 FR 13529, 13532; Copyright Office Fees, 85 FR 9374, 9378–79 (Feb. 19, 2020).

the type of work involved.[23] The resources required to examine each application, however, vary substantially across work types. For example, processing an application to register a motion picture on average costs $83, whereas processing an application to register a literary work on average costs $147.[24] As a result, some applicants end up paying fees that are disproportionate to the costs borne by the Office. This misalignment effectively creates subsidies and can, over time, distort applicant behavior.[25]

One possibility to address the differences in cost recovery would be to charge different fees for different types of works, based on the resources required to process claims. Under a differentiated fee model, applicants would pay fees more closely tied to the actual cost of examining their claims. This fee structure would reduce the existing cross-subsidies from applicants who submit inexpensive-to-process works to those submitting works that require the Office to expend more resources.[26]

Because the Office already organizes examination operations into divisions corresponding to the major categories of works, and currently differentiates application forms and deposit requirements along similar lines, a differentiated fee system could align with the existing institutional structure.[27] Still, some outlays would be necessary to update electronic systems, public guidance, and intake procedures.

There are also circumstances where differential pricing based on the type of work could be inefficient and counterproductive. Because the Office's administrative classifications do not have legal significance,[28] if fees differ across categories, applicants may intentionally or inadvertently misclassify works, thereby triggering examiner review, correspondence, and supplemental fee collection, resulting in a later effective date of registration based on when the correct fee is received. Further, misclassification increases processing time, imposes administrative costs, and may degrade the quality of the public record.

B. Differential Fees for Individuals and Organizations

A second approach to fee differentiation would be to vary fees depending on whether the author, claimant, and/or applicant is an individual or an organization.[29] This structure is what is known to economists as third-degree price discrimination, in which a seller charges different prices to distinct groups that exhibit different levels of price sensitivity.[30] It does not necessarily cost the Office more to process a registration application from an organization than it does to process an application from an individual, so charging organizations more than individuals would make the fees paid by organizations disproportionately high relative to the costs they impose on the Office, and fees paid by individuals disproportionately low.[31]

Two conditions for this sort of pricing structure to be effective are: (1) a substantial difference in demand elasticity between groups, and (2) an ability to efficiently distinguish between the groups.[32] With respect to the first condition, it is plausible that individuals and organizations exhibit markedly different demand elasticities for registration services.[33] As for the second condition, from an administrative perspective, distinguishing between individuals and organizations may be relatively straightforward, since applicants are asked to indicate whether each author and claimant is an individual or organization.[34] However, introducing differential fees would create incentives for organizations to misclassify themselves as individuals, which could result in additional costs to process applications with these errors.[35] Ultimately, if these two economic conditions are met, this type of fee differentiation could make registration more affordable for individuals, and, in theory, increase the overall number of applications.

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[23] 37 CFR 201.3(c)(1)(i)(B).

[24] *See* Federal Research Division, U.S. Copyright Office FY2024 Fee Study: Cost Assessment Report 19–20 (2025) (''FRD 2025 USCO Cost Report'') (Table 4), *https://www.copyright.gov/rulemaking/feestudy2026/Cost%20Assessment%20Report.pdf*. For more information about the Office's costs for providing services, see generally Copyright Office Fees, 91 FR 13529, 13533–40.

[25] *See* Yongmin Chen & Marius Schwartz, *Differential Pricing When Costs Differ: A Welfare Analysis,* 46 RAND J. Econ. 442, 443 (2015) (explaining that uniform pricing across services with different marginal costs misallocates output by encouraging excessive consumption of subsidized services and insufficient consumption of higher-cost services). *See also* Gerald R. Faulhaber, *Cross-Subsidization: Pricing in Public Enterprises,* 65 Am. Econ. Rev. 966 (1975) (discussing how cross subsidies can arise from the structure of costs and pricing); Dennis W. Carlton & Jeffrey M. Perloff, Modern Industrial Organization 712 (4th ed. 2015) (discussing cross-subsidization arising from differentiated prices).

[26] When fees reflect true resource demands, users are more likely to make more efficient decisions about the costs and benefits of consuming the service, and the Office will be better able to allocate its limited examination resources in a way that more closely matches stakeholder value. *See* Chen & Schwartz, *supra* note 25, at 443 (''Differential pricing obviously has the potential to increase total welfare when marginal costs differ: uniform pricing will misallocate output, so a small output reallocation to the low-cost market will raise total welfare.''). *See also* Faulhaber, *supra* note 25 (discussing how cross subsidies can arise from the structure of costs and pricing). *See also* Carlton & Perloff, *supra* note 25, at 712 (discussing cross-subsidization arising from differentiated prices).

[27] Currently, the Office of Registration Policy & Practice is organized into three different divisions—Literary, Performing Arts, and Visual Arts—that examine applications for different types of works. *See* 37 CFR 203.3(e).

[28] *See* 17 U.S.C. 408(c)(1).

[29] *See* U.S. Copyright Office, Compendium of U.S. Copyright Office Practices secs. 402, 404, 613.1 (3d ed. 2021).

[30] Price sensitivity refers to how consumer demand for a good or service is affected by price changes. Higher price sensitivity means that a consumer is more likely to forgo a good or service if the price increases or purchase more if the price decreases. In contrast, price insensitivity exists where demand remains the same regardless of any change in price. *See* Hal R. Varian, Intermediate Microeconomics: A Modern Approach ch. 24 (4th ed. 1992) (defining third-degree price discrimination as the practice of charging different prices to distinct consumer groups with different demand elasticities).

[31] In some circumstances, the Office already effectively subsidizes applications from certain types of authors. For example, the fees for group registration of photographs are set low because many applicants are individuals and/or small businesses. *See* 91 FR 13529, 13534. These lower fees are partly subsidized by charging higher fees to register works in certain categories of services where the applicants or requesters are more likely to be corporate entities, including databases and news website updates, vessel hulls, special handling, and litigation statements. *See id.* at 13534–35.

[32] *See* Carlton & Perloff, *supra* note 25, at ch. 9 (explaining that third-degree price discrimination requires identifiable consumer groups with different demand elasticities and that firms must be able to separate those groups at low cost for price discrimination to be effective).

[33] When one group is much more responsive to price than another, there may be efficiency and revenue advantages to charging the more elastic group a lower fee and the less elastic group a higher one. *See* Michael A. Crew & Paul R. Kleindorfer, The Economics of Public Utility Regulation ch. 6 (MIT Press 1986) (discussing Ramsey pricing and explaining that efficiency and revenue objectives are advanced when prices deviate from marginal cost inversely to demand elasticity, with lower prices charged to more elastic customer groups and higher prices to less elastic groups).

[34] *See generally* U.S. Copyright Office, Copyright Registration Toolkit (Jan. 2026), *https://www.copyright.gov/intellectual-property-toolkits/copyright-registration-toolkit.pdf; Standard Application Registration Tutorial,* U.S. Copyright Office, *https://copyright.gov/eco/standard.mp4.* The Office intends to continue the practice of asking applicants to specify whether authors and claimants are individuals or organizations in ECS Registration.

[35] Preventing misclassification may require the Office to adopt verification measures, causing additional costs. *See* Jean-Jacques Laffont & Jean Tirole, A Theory of Incentives in Procurement and Regulation chs. 1–2 (MIT Press 1993) (explaining that when regulated parties have incentives to misrepresent their type, differentiated pricing or regulatory schemes require verification and enforcement mechanisms whose administrative and informational costs can offset or exceed the efficiency gains from differentiation).

C. Reduced Fees for Small Entities

Another approach could be for the Office to offer lower or discounted fees for smaller entities—small businesses and non-profit organizations that fall below a certain employee headcount or revenue level. This approach would provide benefits similar to our cost-effective group registration options, which we implemented to make registration more accessible to individual creators and small businesses.[36]

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (''USPTO''), following congressional legislation, has offered small entity fee discounts for patent applicants for several years. Under the America Invents Act, the USPTO is statutorily required to discount various patent application fees for small and micro entities, by 60 to 80 percent, respectively.[37] To deter misuse of these options, the USPTO requires that small and micro-entity patent applicants certify that they meet income and filing-history thresholds; and civil penalties, and, in some cases, criminal liability, are available to deter misrepresentations.[38]

Discounting copyright registration fees for smaller entities would operate on similar economic logic as differentiating between individuals and organizations. The presumption is that smaller entities have less ability to pay fees and higher price sensitivity than larger organizations, making them more responsive to fee changes. Differential pricing could therefore improve access to registration for smaller enterprises while shifting a larger share of cost recovery onto larger, less price-sensitive entities.[39]

Because the Office does not collect data on entity size, it cannot confirm these presumed differences in demand elasticity. Moreover, the findings in one recent empirical study cast doubt on whether discounted fees for smaller entities meaningfully increase patent filings.[40] If similar dynamics apply to copyright registration, fee discounts for smaller entities could reduce Office revenue without meaningfully increasing registration activity.

But distinctions between the copyright and patent systems may lead to a different outcome if the Office were to discount fees for small entities. Most fundamentally, an application is necessary to secure patent rights; no protection exists until the patent is granted by the USPTO.[41] In contrast, copyright subsists automatically upon fixation of a work of authorship.[42] Although copyright owners have meaningful incentives to register,[43] they need not do so to enjoy legal rights.

A related distinction is the cost of services: copyright registration fees are considerably lower than patent filing and maintenance fees.[44] Further, filing fees often represent a relatively small share of total costs in developing and securing a patent for an invention, including the cost of paying an attorney to prosecute the patent, such that the amount of fees may not be a significant factor influencing smaller entities' application decisions.[45] This may be a more significant factor for small entities that rely on copyright protection, like a freelance photographer's limited liability company.[46] Moreover, copyright owners are often individuals who are not engaged in business activity, who may register simply to make a record of their claims and protect against infringement without intending to commercialize their works.

In addition to potentially affecting application volume, offering discounts for smaller entities may require the Office to incur additional operating costs. Like the proposal to differentiate fees based on the type of work, a system that conditions eligibility for lower fees based on income, size, or filing history could invite strategic behavior, entailing greater burdens in identifying and correcting miscategorized applications. Nevertheless, if reduced fees for small entities leads to increased use of the copyright registration system, that may justify some additional administrative costs.

D. Subscription Pricing

Subscription pricing is a model in which users pay a fixed periodic fee—usually monthly or annually—in exchange for access to a service during that period.[47] Instead of charging users each time they apply to register a work, the Office could charge a fixed subscription fee that entitles them to file up to a certain number of applications within a prescribed period (subject to any volume constraints imposed by the

[36] *See* 91 FR 13529, 13534; 90 FR 59383, 59387 (Dec. 19, 2025) (noting that the Office tailored the proposed group registration option ''to address the challenges facing individual artists and small businesses in registering two-dimensional artwork one work at a time, in light of concerns that these claimants often lack the time and resources required to register works individually'').

[37] *See* Unleashing American Innovators Act of 2022, Public Law 117–328, sec. 107, 136 Stat. 4459, 5521–22 (2022).

[38] *See id.;* Leahy-Smith America Invents Act, Public Law 112–29, sec. 10(b), 125 Stat. 284 (2011), *amended by* the SUCCESS Act, Public Law 115–273, 132 Stat. 4158 (2018); 37 CFR 1.27, 1.29. A ''small entity'' is defined as a person, small business concern (*i.e.,* 500 or fewer employees), or nonprofit organization (*e.g.,* university, 501(c)(3) organization, state nonprofit scientific and educational organizations, foreign nonprofit that, if located in the U.S., would qualify as a nonprofit under federal or state law). 37 CFR 1.27(a); 13 CFR 121.802. A ''micro entity'' is an application that qualifies as a ''small entity'' under USPTO rules, has not been named as an inventor on more than four previously filed patent applications, did not earn more than three times the median household income and did not convey an interest to an entity that exceeded the triple median gross income limit. 35 U.S.C. 123.

[39] *See* Carlton & Perloff, *supra* note 25, at ch. 9 (explaining that under third-degree price discrimination, charging lower prices to more price-elastic groups and higher prices to less price-elastic groups can expand participation by the elastic group while allowing greater cost recovery from the inelastic group).

[40] Gaétan de Rassenfosse & Adam B. Jaffe, *The Effect of Application Fees on Entry into Patenting* (Nat'l Bureau of Econ. Rsch., Working Paper No. 33492, 2025), *https://www.nber.org/papers/w33492* (finding that the USPTO's fee reductions for small and micro entities had no measurable effect on small-entity patenting activity).

[41] *See* 35 U.S.C. 100–105, 111, 131, 151, 154 (specifying that a patent, and the exclusive rights that it provides, can only be ''obtain[ed]'' by submitting an application that complies with the relevant statutory and regulatory provisions to the USPTO, which examines and issues the patent).

[42] *See* 17 U.S.C. 408(a) (''[R]egistration is not a condition of copyright protection.'').

[43] These incentives include that a registration determination by the Office is a precondition to instituting litigation in federal court and for seeking statutory damages and fees for infringement. *See id.* at 411(a); *Fourth Estate Public Benefit Corp.* v. *Wall-Street.com, LLC,* 586 U.S. 296, 309 (2019).

[44] *Compare* 37 CFR 201.3 (copyright fee schedule, including a fee of $65 for a Standard Application filed online), *with id.* at 1.16–1.21 (patent fee schedule, including a basic application filing fee of $350, search fee of $770, and examination fee of $880). Unlike fees for copyright registration that are paid only when the application is filed, patent owners must also periodically pay fees after a patent is granted to maintain protection for the entire term. *See id.* at 1.20(e)–(g) (fees for maintaining a patent due at 3.5 years ($2150), 7.5 years ($4040), and 11.5 years ($8280)).

[45] Based on a survey of intellectual property firms and individual practitioners about professional service fees charged in FY2024, the AIPLA reported median fees of $8,000 for preparing a patent application of ''minimal complexity'' and median fees of up to $12,000 for a ''relatively complex'' application. *See* AIPLA, Report of the Economic Survey 22–25 (2025). In addition to the costs of preparing a patent application, inventors may incur costs for related professional services such as to amend or argue the patent application, appeal a denial, conduct a novelty search, provide a validity opinion, and issue an approved patent. *See id.*

[46] Even where an author engages a third-party service to assist with a copyright registration, however, those fees, including the fee charged by the Office, generally amount to less than $1000. *See id.* at 31 (reporting median professional fees of $525 to prepare and file an application for copyright registration). This cost, while not insignificant to an individual or small business, is relatively modest compared to the legal fees and costs of retaining an attorney to prosecute a patent, which on average start at $8000 and can far exceed that. *See id.* at 22–25.

[47] Liran Einav et al., *Selling Subscriptions,* 115 a.m. Econ. Rev. 1650, 1650–51 (2025) (''A growing number of retail products are now sold as subscriptions, which are typically billed on a monthly basis and automatically renewed unless a consumer actively cancels.'').

system). While adopting any of the proposed alternative fee structures would require modifications to the application fee calculator in ECS Registration, because the Office does not currently offer subscription pricing for any of its services, doing so would require more substantial development work.[48]

A subscription model is common in certain commercial markets where the cost of providing one additional unit of the service is close to zero, for example, markets for software, digital media, or cloud services.[49] In economics terms, subscription pricing converts what would otherwise be a per-use transaction into a flat-rate system in which the marginal price of the next use is effectively zero. Such a model is economically efficient under a specific set of conditions, including high fixed costs, high switching costs, low marginal costs, and a high variance of usage intensity across subscribers. If all these economic conditions are met, subscription pricing could benefit applicants and the Office, and ultimately the public, by reducing transaction costs, taking advantage of economies of scale, and smoothing revenue. Otherwise subscription pricing becomes inefficient and potentially costly.

Such inefficiencies would be particularly acute for a public-sector agency like the Office. The marginal cost of examining a registration application is not close to zero; rather, the per-unit cost of examining standard applications ranges from $83.46 to $194.46.[50] The Office does not experience economies of scale in the examination process—each claim requires examiner review, including time-consuming correspondence in some cases, as well as system resources. Neither would subscription pricing meaningfully reduce transaction costs. Applicants would still need to submit individual deposit copies and complete all required information for each registration application, which constitute most of the transaction costs for the user. The only obvious reduction would come from avoiding repeated payment entry—a benefit already achieved through deposit accounts in the current registration system.[51]

Further, a subscription system may introduce inequity among claimants by severing the link between usage and cost, encouraging high-volume applicants, including large organizations and third-party registration services, to file even more frequently while paying far less per claim. Meanwhile, low-volume users, including individual creators and small entities, would pay relatively more per claim. This would constitute a cross-subsidy from small or infrequent users to large or high-volume users.

Finally, allowing applicants to file additional claims for no additional fee might lead to speculative, low-quality, or borderline claims, which would strain examination resources. An influx of low-quality claims could overwhelm Office capacity, lengthen processing times, and degrade the quality of the public record. To mitigate such harms, the subscription fee would likely need to be set high and the number of applications would need to be limited.[52] While subscription pricing might be feasible under those conditions—where the fee is sufficiently high and volume is appropriately limited—they may eliminate the utility of a subscription for the applicants who would be inclined to use it.

III. Subjects of Inquiry

This notice builds on previous public comments proposing various alternative registration fee structures by providing an opportunity to expand on those proposals and explain in greater detail how they could be structured and implemented. We also seek to elicit information—in particular, quantitative data about stakeholder registration practices and price sensitivity—that can be used for a robust economic analysis.[53] The resulting analysis will be a predicate for developing the functionality that would be needed for any alternative fee structures in ECS Registration.

Accordingly, the Office is requesting public comment on the subjects of inquiry below. A party choosing to respond to this notice of inquiry need not address every subject, but we request that responding parties clearly identify and separately address each subject for which a response is submitted. The Office also requests that commenters explain their interest in the topic and, with respect to each answer, the basis for their knowledge.

A. Alternative Fee Structure Details

1. Please describe, in detail, mechanisms for how the Office could implement the four proposed alternative fee structures and explain how they would support the objectives of promoting equity among authors of different work types, sustaining Office operations, and encouraging registration to create a reliable public record of copyright ownership. In doing so, consider the following:

(a) Where an alternative fee structure would be limited to certain types of claims or applicants, how should those categories be defined and why? Describe any proposed fee tiers based on the type of claim or applicant, including how fees should be set for each tier relative to other tiers, and explain why these tiers would be consistent with the statutory requirement that fees charged by the Office be ''fair and equitable.''

(b) If the Office were to charge different fees for individuals and for organizations, should the fee be based on the person who created the work (the author), the person who owns the copyright in the work (the claimant), and/or the person who is submitting the claim (the applicant)?

(i) Should fees vary depending on whether the work was created by an individual author (*i.e.,* not a work made for hire) or corporate authors (*i.e.,* works made for hire)?

(ii) Should fees vary depending on whether the copyright in the work is owned by an individual claimant or a corporate claimant (which may have

[48] *See* 89 FR 11789, 11797 (explaining that the Office ''will not be able to offer alternate fee structures for high volume creators,'' including subscription pricing, ''until after the ECS system is fully operational''); 83 FR 2542, 2545 (explaining that currently the Office does not have the ability to charge a flat fee that would allow applicants to submit a set number of applications or register a set number of works over a given time period).

[49] Einav et al., *supra* note 47, at 1650–52 (explaining that subscription pricing is most attractive in markets with low marginal costs and where consumer behavior—such as inattention or switching costs—supports flat-rate pricing, and that absent these conditions firms must rely on substantially higher fixed fees or experience reduced revenue, making the subscription model inefficient or unsustainable).

[50] *See* FRD 2025 USCO Cost Report at 32.

[51] *See* 37 CFR 201.6(b). In the future, some of applicants' other transaction costs may be reduced if they submit claims, upload deposits, and pay subscription fees through an application programming interface (''API'')—an option that the Office is planning to develop in ECS Registration.

[52] *See* Crew & Kleindorfer, *supra* note 33, at ch. 7 (explaining that when services are priced at zero or near-zero marginal cost, excessive or low-value usage can strain system capacity and degrade service quality, requiring either higher fixed charges or quantity restrictions to preserve cost recovery and system performance).

[53] In order to be considered, data must meet professional standards of quality and transparency, and submitters should include a statement detailing what the data is and how it was collected. For guidelines, see for example, Office of Mgmt. & Budget, Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality, Objectivity, Utility, and Integrity of Information Disseminated by Federal Agencies, 67 FR 8452, 8452–55 (Feb. 22, 2002) (establishing government-wide standards for data quality, including requirements that information used in agency analysis be accurate, reliable, unbiased, transparent as to sources and methods, and suitable for its intended analytical use, particularly where data are used to support economic and policy decisions).

obtained the copyright from an individual author)?

(iii) Should fees vary depending on whether the claim is being submitted by an individual (*e.g.,* an individual author/claimant submitting the claim on their own behalf) or a corporate entity (*e.g.,* a person submitting a claim on behalf of their corporate employer, a person who works for a law firm, or a person who works for a copyright registration service)?

(c) If the Office were to discount fees for smaller entities, how should entity size be determined—based on annual revenue, employee headcount, non-profit status, and/or another metric?

(d) Under a subscription model, what would be reasonable limits on the number of works that an applicant could register and/or the number of applications they could file within a particular time period? Should there be different limits for different work types and, if so, how should the Office set these limits? How should fees be set given that the Office incurs similar costs when examining each individual work?

(e) What should be the consequence(s) for applicant filing errors (*e.g.,* misclassifying a work, misrepresenting the applicant as an individual or small entity)? In order to help recoup costs and deter this behavior, should the Office refuse registration and require the applicant to refile with a later effective date, charge additional administrative processing fees (in addition to the fee difference), or some other option?

(f) Please identify any current legal or regulatory constraints on adopting alternative fee structures and explain what changes to statutory or regulatory language would remove these impediments.

2. Other than the four alternative fee structures identified in this notice, are there any others that the Office should consider (*e.g.,* tiered fees based on the number of works being registered)? If so, please describe them in detail while considering the above questions.

B. Business and Registration Practices

3. Please describe your or your organization's current practices with respect to registration, providing information about filing volume and costs incurred (*e.g.,* application fees, personnel costs, third-party service and legal fees) for different types of works where available. In addition, please specify whether you are an individual or organization; and if an organization, please provide the entity's approximate staff headcount and annual revenue.

4. Please describe the extent to which any alternative fee structure, if implemented by the Office, is likely to affect your practices with respect to registration, including any quantitative projections about the effect on filing volume and registration-related expenses.

5. Are you aware of any potential applicants that are not fully participating in the current registration system and would be incentivized to register works if the Office implemented one or more alternative fee structures? If so, describe the potential applicant(s), identify the fee structure(s), and explain the projected change(s) in registration activity, providing quantitative data where available.

6. Would implementing any of the alternative fee structures deter any potential applicants from seeking registration or otherwise lead them to modify their registration practices? If so, describe the potential applicant(s), identify the fee structure(s), and explain the projected change(s) in registration activity, providing quantitative data and analysis where available.

C. Processing Costs and Feasibility

7. The Office has traditionally recovered approximately 50 to 60% of our costs through fees; and the remainder is provided through appropriations from Congress. If alternative fee structures were to increase costs for providing registration services—for example, by increasing registration volume and requiring more examiners—how should the Office recover these additional costs? If the Office were to increase fees to make up for any budgetary shortfall, please identify which service fees should be increased and explain why those increases would be ''fair and equitable.''

8. The adoption of any alternative fee structure is subject to technical feasibility within ECS Registration, currently in development, and would require developing additional system capabilities. To assess usage and costs before expanding access to more applicants, should the Office adopt any alternative fee structures on a limited or temporary basis? Should these fee structures be limited to certain types of works or applications? Please identify any appropriate limitations and explain why certain applications should be given higher priority.

9. Are there other process changes that could be implemented through development of ECS Registration—*i.e.,* in-process technological upgrades to make application processing easier for internal and external users—that would incentivize registration and improve cost recovery? Would the Office's planned development of API functionality, once implemented, diminish the need for any of the proposed alternative fee structures?

10. The Office periodically evaluates, including in our fee studies, how often various registration options are used by applicants and the costs associated with providing each of them. If we were to adopt any alternative fee structures, would that obviate the need for any existing application options, such as current group registration applications? Conversely, would more or expanded group registration options obviate the need for any of the alternative fee structures? Should the Office ''sunset'' or discontinue any group registration options or alternative fee structures if they are infrequently used or duplicative of other options?

Dated: March 24, 2026.

Emily L. Chapuis,

General Counsel and Associate Register of Copyrights.

[FR Doc. 2026–05886 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 1410–30–P

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. CP2024–545]

New Postal Products

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission is noticing a recent Postal Service filing for the Commission's consideration concerning a negotiated service agreement. This notice informs the public of the filing, invites public comment, and takes other administrative steps.

DATES: *Comments are due:* March 31, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system at *https://www.prc.gov.* Those who cannot submit comments electronically should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section by telephone for advice on filing alternatives.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David A. Trissell, General Counsel, at 202–789–6820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Table of Contents

I. Introduction

Pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.405, the Commission gives notice that the Postal Service filed request(s) for the

Commission to consider matters related to Competitive negotiated service agreement(s). The request(s) may propose the addition of a negotiated service agreement from the Competitive product list or the modification of an existing product currently appearing on the Competitive product list.

The public portions of the Postal Service's request(s) can be accessed via the Commission's website (*http://www.prc.gov*). Non-public portions of the Postal Service's request(s), if any, can be accessed through compliance with the requirements of 39 CFR 3011.301.[1]

Section II identifies the docket number(s) associated with each Postal Service request, if any, that will be reviewed in a public proceeding as defined by 39 CFR 3010.101(p), the title of each such request, the request's acceptance date, and the authority cited by the Postal Service for each request. For each such request, the Commission appoints an officer of the Commission to represent the interests of the general public in the proceeding, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505 and 39 CFR 3000.114 (Public Representative). The Public Representative does not represent any individual person, entity or particular point of view, and, when Commission attorneys are appointed, no attorney-client relationship is established. Section II also establishes comment deadline(s) pertaining to each such request.

The Commission invites comments on whether the Postal Service's request(s) identified in Section II, if any, are consistent with the policies of title 39. Applicable statutory and regulatory requirements include 39 U.S.C. 3632, 39 U.S.C. 3633, 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR part 3035, and 39 CFR part 3041. Comment deadline(s) for each such request, if any, appear in Section II.

Section III identifies the docket number(s) associated with each Postal Service request, if any, to add a standardized distinct product to the Competitive product list or to amend a standardized distinct product, the title of each such request, the request's acceptance date, and the authority cited by the Postal Service for each request. Standardized distinct products are negotiated service agreements that are variations of one or more Competitive products, and for which financial models, minimum rates, and classification criteria have undergone advance Commission review. *See* 39 CFR 3041.110(n); 39 CFR 3041.205(a). Such requests are reviewed in summary proceedings pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.325(c)(2) and 39 CFR 3041.505(f)(1). Pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.405(c)–(d), the Commission does not appoint a Public Representative or request public comment in proceedings to review such requests.

II. Public Proceeding(s)

1. *Docket No(s).:* CP2024–545; *Filing Title:* USPS Request Concerning Amendment One to Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 236, with Materials Filed Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* March 23, 2026; *Filing Authority:* 39 CFR 3035.105 and 39 CFR 3041.505; *Public Representative:* Kenneth Moeller; *Comments Due:* March 31, 2026.

III. Summary Proceeding(s)

None. See Section II for public proceedings.

This Notice will be published in the **Federal Register**.

Danielle LeFlore,

Legal Assistant.

[FR Doc. 2026–05878 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710–FW–P

[1] *See* Docket No. RM2018–3, Order Adopting Final Rules Relating to Non-Public Information, June 27, 2018, Attachment A at 19–22 (Order No. 4679).

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–105063 File No. SR–CBOE–2025–079]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Designation of a Longer Period for Commission Action on a Proposed Rule Change To Allow for Extended Trading of Multi-Listed Equity Options

March 23, 2026.

On September 30, 2025, Cboe Exchange, Inc. filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (''Commission''), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (''Act'')[1] and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,[2] a proposed rule change to amend Cboe Rule 5.1(c) (Global Trading Hours) to allow for extended trading sessions of multi-listed equity options that meet certain eligibility criteria. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on October 3, 2025.[3] On November 3, 2025, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,[4] the Commission designated a longer period within which to approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change.[5] On December 23, 2025, the Commission instituted proceedings pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act[6] to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change.[7] The Commission received one comment letter regarding the proposed rule change.[8]

Section 19(b)(2) of the Act[9] provides that, after initiating disapproval proceedings, the Commission shall issue an order approving or disapproving the proposed rule change not later than 180 days after the date of publication of notice of filing of the proposed rule change. The Commission may extend the period for issuing an order approving or disapproving the proposed rule change, however, by not more than 60 days if the Commission determines that a longer period is appropriate and publishes the reasons for such determination. The proposed rule change was published for notice and comment in the **Federal Register** on October 3, 2025.[10] April 1, 2026, is 180 days from that date. The Commission is extending the time period for approving or disapproving the proposed rule change for an additional 60 days. The Commission finds it appropriate to designate a longer period within which to issue an order approving or disapproving the proposed rule change so that it has sufficient time to consider the proposed rule change and the issues raised therein. Accordingly, the Commission, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,[11] designates May 31, 2026, as the date by which the Commission shall either approve or disapprove the proposed rule change (File No. SR–CBOE–2025–079).

[1] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

[2] 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

[3] *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 104160 (Sep. 30, 2025), 90 FR 48091.

[4] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

[5] *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 104173, 90 FR 51424 (Nov. 17, 2025). The Commission designated January 1, 2026, as the date by which the Commission shall approve or disapprove, or institute proceedings to determine whether to approve or disapprove, the proposed rule change.

[6] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

[7] *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 104509, 90 FR 61454 (Dec. 31, 2025).

[8] Comment letters on the proposed rule change are available at *https://www.sec.gov/rules-regulations/public-comments/sr-cboe-2025-079.*

[9] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

[10] *See supra* note 3.

[11] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.[12]

Vanessa A. Countryman,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–05844 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[OMB Control No. 3235–0316]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Extension: Form N–3

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of FOIA Services, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549–2736

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission (the ''Commission'') has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget a request for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

The title for the collection of information is ''Form N–3 (17 CFR 239.17a and 274.11b) under the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77) and under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a), Registration Statement of Separate Accounts Organized as Management Investment Companies.'' Form N–3 is the form used by separate accounts offering variable annuity contracts which are organized as management investment companies to register under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (''Investment Company Act'') and/or to register their securities under the Securities Act of 1933 (''Securities Act''). Form N–3 is also the form used to file a registration statement under the Securities Act (and any amendments thereto) for variable annuity contracts funded by separate accounts which would be required to be registered under the Investment Company Act as management investment companies except for the exclusion provided by Section 3(c)(11) of the Investment Company Act (15 U.S.C. 80a–3(c)(11)). Section 5 of the Securities Act (15 U.S.C. 77e) requires the filing of a registration statement prior to the offer of securities to the public and that the statement be effective before any securities are sold, and Section 8 of the Investment Company Act (15 U.S.C. 80a–8) requires a separate account to register as an investment company.

Form N–3 also permits separate accounts offering variable annuity contracts which are organized as investment companies to provide investors with a prospectus and a statement of additional information covering essential information about the separate account when it makes an initial or additional offering of its securities. Section 5(b) of the Securities Act requires that investors be provided with a prospectus containing the information required in a registration statement prior to the sale or at the time of confirmation or delivery of the securities. The form also may be used by the Commission in its regulatory review, inspection, and policy-making roles.

We estimate that the hour burden for the initial registration statement on Form N–3 is 926.4 hours per initial registration statement filings. We estimate that 1 initial registration statement will be filed on Form N–3 in the next 3 years, resulting in a 309 annual hour burden for initial registration statement filings (926.4 hours ÷ 3 years = 309 annual hour burden). In addition, we estimate that there are currently 3 insurer separate accounts that file post-effective amendments on Form N–3 per year, with an average of 3 investment options per post-effective amendment). We estimate that the current hour burden per post-effective amendment is 157.55 hours, resulting in an hour burden of 1,418 for post effective-amendments on Form N–3 (that is, 157.55 × 4 investment options per post-effective amendment × 3 post-effective amendments = 1,418 hours). In total, we estimate an aggregate hour burden of 1,727 hours (309 hours for the initial registration statement + 1,418 hours for the post-effective amendments = 1,727 hours). Respondents may rely on outside counsel or auditors in connection with the preparation and filing of Form N–3. Commission staff estimates that the annual cost burden associated with preparing and filing Form N–3 is $125,376.

The information collection requirements imposed by Form N–3 are mandatory. Responses to the collection of information will not be kept confidential.

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 OMB Control Number.

The public may view and comment on this information collection request at: *https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewICR?ref_nbr=202601-3235-007* or email comment to *MBX.OMB.OIRA.SEC_desk_officer@omb.eop.gov* within 30 days of the day after publication of this notice, by April 27, 2026.

Dated: March 24, 2026.

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–05892 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

[12] 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(57).

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–105066; File No. SR–LCH SA–2026–002]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; LCH SA; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change Relating to the CDS Clearing Rules (AMF Outsourcing; EMIR SITG; EU CCPRR)

March 23, 2026.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (''Act''),[1] and Rule 19b–4,[2] notice is hereby given that on March 10, 2026, Banque Centrale de Compensation, which conducts business under the name LCH SA (''LCH SA''), filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (''Commission'') the proposed rule change, as described in Items I, II and III below, which Items have been prepared by the clearing agency. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Clearing Agency's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

LCH SA is proposing to amend its CDS Clearing Rule Book (''Rule Book'') to: (i) modify the conditions under which a Clearing Member may outsource its clearing operations pursuant to regulations of the French Financial Markets Authority, the *Autorité des Marchés Financiers* (''AMF''); (ii) amend the Rule Book's definition of LCH SA Contribution in order to comply with relevant requirements under Article 45(4) of Regulation (EU) No 648/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2012 on OTC derivatives, central counterparties and trade repositories (''EMIR'') [3] and Article 35 of

[1] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

[2] 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

[3] The latest consolidated version can be found at: *https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:02012R0648-20250117&qid=1763483367377.*

the European Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 153/2013;[4] and (iii) make changes necessary to implement certain provisions of Regulation (EU) 2021/23 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2020 (''CCP Recovery and Resolution Regulation'')[5] that are applicable to central counterparties (''CCPs'') authorized under EMIR (the ''Proposed Rule Change'').[6]

The text of the Proposed Rule Change has been annexed as Exhibit 5.[7]

The implementation of the Proposed Rule Change will be contingent on LCH SA's receipt of all necessary regulatory approvals.[8]

II. Clearing Agency's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, LCH SA included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the Risk Policies and discussed any comments it received on the Risk Policies. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. LCH SA has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

LCH SA is proposing to amend Articles 2.2.5.2 and 2.2.5.3 of the Rule Book and incorporate new Articles 2.2.5.4 and 2.2.5.5 to modify the requirements and conditions under which a Clearing Member may outsource its clearing operations in order to comply with new requirements to which LCH SA is subject pursuant to Article 541–21 of the general regulations of the AMF,[9] pursuant to which an outsourcing of clearing operations to a third party entity may be permitted subject to requirements to be met by the relevant Clearing Member and its subcontractor.

Further, LCH SA is proposing to amend the Rule Book's definition of LCH SA Contribution, which is an amount contributed by a Clearing Member that LCH SA may use to offset Damage incurred by LCH SA as a result of a declaration of an Event of Default by a Clearing Member, in order to remove the cap on this amount and also make an express reference to the amount calculated in accordance with EMIR.

LCH SA is also proposing to amend the Rule Book to comply with certain requirements of the CCP Recovery and Resolution Regulation. For this purpose, LCH SA is proposing to create a new Chapter 4 (*Recovery and Resolution*) in Title I (*General Provisions & Legal Framework*) of the Rule Book and to add new related defined terms, as further described below.

A. Proposed Revisions to the Rule Book

i. Outsourcing by Clearing Members

LCH SA proposes to amend Article 2.2.5.2 of the Rule Book to provide a definition of ''outsourcing of clearing operations'' and specify that outsourcing providers can be other Clearing Members, a legal entity controlled by or controlling the Clearing Member, or any other third-party legal entity, in view of applying certain outsourcing conditions to a provider that is not a Clearing Member.

LCH SA proposes to amend Article 2.2.5.3 of the Rule Book to provide that: (i) the outsourcing of clearing operations is subject to the prior authorization of LCH SA; (ii) such authorization may be denied or withdrawn if the conditions of or a failure in such arrangement could be such as to threaten or no longer ensure the proper compliance by the Clearing Member with its obligations pursuant to the Clearing Rules; (iii) the authorization request must provide details as to the clearing activities to be outsourced and the means of control and supervision available to the Clearing Member; and (iv) if the outsourcing provider is not a Clearing Member, the Clearing Member must ensure that the relevant risks have been assessed, a written agreement has been entered into with respect to the outsourcing, and a formalized policy for control over the third-party outsourcing provider and an outsourcing register have been put in place.

LCH SA proposes a new Article 2.2.5.4 which will provide that a Clearing Member outsourcing all or part of its clearing operations shall not be relieved of its liabilities or responsibilities as a Clearing Member with respect to the outsourced activities or modify its relationship with, or obligations to, Clients.

LCH SA proposes a new Article 2.2.5.5, which will provide that, in connection with applying for a prior authorization for the outsourcing arrangement, the Clearing Member and its outsourcing provider must sign a letter of undertakings pursuant to the terms of a template provided by LCH SA and that Clearing Member must ensure that the outsourcing provider has formally agreed that the AMF, the *Autorité de Contrôle Prudentiel et de Résolution,* or any other equivalent foreign authority as that term is defined under the French Monetary and Financial Code, have access, including on site, to information regarding outsourced activities as necessary for the fulfilment of their mission. The proposed new Article 2.2.5.5 will also provide that where the outsourcing provider is not a Clearing Member, the Clearing Member shall ensure that the outsourcing service provider: (i) has the capacity, authorization, systems and control framework, expertise, and back-up mechanisms to provide the outsourcing services; (ii) commits to service quality comparable with the normal functioning of the service; (iii) protects the confidentiality of information pertaining to the Clearing Member, its clients, and LCH SA; (iv) informs the Clearing Member regarding any event that may have material impact on the service provider's capacity to perform the outsourced services and does not substantially modify the service without the Clearing Member's prior approval; (v) provides the Clearing Member with effective access to data related to the outsourced activities and to its business premisses and is able to provide access to LCH SA as would apply to the Clearing Member under the CDS Clearing Documentation; and (vi) complies with procedures set out by the Clearing Member to monitor the provision of outsourced services.

ii. LCH SA Contribution Amount

LCH SA proposes to amend the definition of the term ''LCH SA Contribution'' from a fixed amount of Euro 20 million to an amount determined by LCH SA from time to time in accordance with the requirements relating to the calculation

[4] The latest consolidated version can be found at: *https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:02013R0153-20240307&qid=1763483974839.*

[5] The latest consolidated version can be found at: *https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32021R0023.*

[6] All capitalized terms not defined herein have the same meaning as in the Rule Book in its version as available on LCH SA's website: *https://www.lseg.com/en/post-trade/clearing/clearing-resources/rulebooks/lch-sa#t-over-the-counter-credit-default-swaps.*

[7] All capitalized terms not defined herein have the same definition as in the Rule Book or Procedures, as applicable.

[8] The Proposed Rule Change was already approved by the French competent authorities/AMF Décision relative à diverses modifications des règles de fonctionnement de la chambre de compensation LCH SA pour les services RepoClear, CDSClear et DigitalAssetClear | AMF/decision-et-regles.pdf.

[9] The latest version can be found at: *https://www.amf-france.org/en/eli/fr/aai/amf/rg/article/541-21/20210923/notes.*

and the setting aside of dedicated own resources under Article 45(4) of EMIR and Article 35 of the European Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No. 153/2013 with regard to regulatory technical standards on requirements for central counterparties, which shall not be less than a floor amount of Euro 20 million. The LCH SA Contribution is an amount contributed by a LCH SA that LCH SA may use to offset Damage incurred by LCH SA as a result of a declaration of an Event of Default by a Clearing Member.

iii. Recovery and Resolution Related Amendments

First, LCH SA is proposing to add new definitions used in the new Articles of the Rule Book described below. The new defined term 'Non-Default Event', which is proposed to be used in the new Article 1.4.2.1, will be defined in accordance with article 2(9) of the CCP Recovery and Resolution Regulation as a scenario in which losses are incurred by LCH SA for any reason other than an Event of Default, including but not limited to, business, custody, investment, legal or operational failures or fraud, including failures resulting from cyber-attacks. LCH SA proposes to specify that the 'Resolution Authority' is the *Autorité de contrôle prudentiel et de résolution* and any successor organization, being the competent resolution authority for LCH SA under French law in accordance with Article L. 612–1 of the French Monetary and Financial Code. The term 'Resolution Measure', which is proposed to be used in the new Article 1.4.2.7, is intended to be defined as the application of any resolution tool by the Resolution Authority as set out in Articles 27 (1), 29, 30, 31, 33, 40 and 41 of CCP Recovery and Resolution Regulation or the exercise by the Resolution Authority of a resolution power pursuant to Articles 48 to 58 of CCP Recovery and Resolution Regulation. Finally, LCH SA proposes to make some editorial amendments consisting in updating: (i) the definition of 'website' to provide the updated link to the website of LSEG; and (ii) the automatic cross-reference included in the definitions of 'Weekly Backloading Start Day' and 'Weekly Backloading Novation Day'.

With respect to the new Chapter 4 (*Recovery and Resolution*) in Title I (*General Provisions & Legal Framework*) of the Rule Book, LCH SA proposes to create a new Article 1.4.1.1 of the Rule Book which provides, pursuant to Article 9 of the CCP Recovery and Resolution Regulation, that LCH SA establishes and maintains a recovery plan. In addition, LCH SA proposes to move to this new Article 1.4.1.1 the content of the former Section 2.4.4 of the Rule Book, which specifies the conditions under which LCH SA may deviate from its recovery plan measures and that in such case LCH SA shall notify the Competent Authority.

LCH SA proposes to create a new Article 1.4.2.1 of the Rule Book which describes the conditions under which the Resolution Authority may require Non-Defaulting Clearing Members to make a contribution in cash to LCH SA of an amount determined by the Resolution Authority in proportion to its Contribution and up to twice the amount equivalent to their Contribution. This contribution in cash may be applied to address: (i) an Event of Default, in which case the amount of the contribution shall refer to the Contribution of the Clearing Member; or (ii) a Non-Default Event, in which case the amount of the contribution shall refer to the sum of the Contribution of the Clearing Member and any contribution to the default funds of LCH SA relating to clearing services other than the CDS Clearing Service. Non-Defaulting Clearing Members can be requested by the Resolution Authority to make a contribution in cash even though all contractual obligations requiring cash contributions from them have not been exhausted. Under Article 26 of the CCP Recovery and Resolution Regulation, this contribution in cash can be applied on the basis of a provisional valuation (the ''Provisional Valuation''). In this case, the Resolution Authority shall ensure that a definitive valuation is carried out as soon as possible (the ''Definitive Valuation''). The new Article 1.4.2.1 of the Rule Book will provide that the Resolution Authority may require LCH SA to reimburse to Clearing Members the possible excess amount of the contribution in cash arising after the calculation of the Definitive Valuation. Finally, where a Non-Defaulting Clearing Member would not pay the required contribution in cash, LCH SA could be required by the Resolution Authority to notify the occurrence of an Event of Default to that Non-Defaulting Clearing Member and use its Initial Margin and Contribution up to the required amount of the contribution in cash.

LCH SA proposes to create a new Article 1.4.2.2 of the Rule Book to provide the conditions under which the Resolution Authority can reduce LCH SA's payment obligations to Non-Defaulting Clearing Members where such obligations arise from gains due in accordance with LCH SA's processes for paying Variation Margin, NPV Amount or a payment that has the same economic effect (the ''VM Haircut Tool''). The Resolution Authority shall calculate any such reduction using an equitable allocation mechanism in accordance with the CCP Recovery and Resolution Regulation which shall be communicated to Clearing Members and the total net gains to be reduced shall be proportional to the amounts due from LCH SA. Clearing Members shall themselves inform their Clients of the application of the VM Haircut Tool and its consequences. LCH SA proposes to expressly provide in this new Article 1.4.2.2 of the Rule Book that the application of the VM Haircut Tool shall take effect and be immediately binding on LCH SA and affected Clearing Members from the moment at which the Resolution Authority takes such resolution action. Non-Defaulting Clearing Members would not have any claim against LCH SA or its successor entity arising from the reduction in payment obligations, save in the event the Resolution Authority requires LCH SA to reimburse Clearing Members partly when such Resolution Authority finds that the level of reduction based on the Provisional Valuation exceeds the level of reduction required based on the Definitive Valuation. Finally, LCH SA proposes explicitly to specify in the same new Article 1.4.2.2 of the Rule Book that any residual outstanding payable amount that would not be subject to the VM Haircut Tool will remain owed to the Non-Defaulting Clearing Member.

LCH SA proposes to create a new Article 1.4.2.3 of the Rule Book to indicate that the Resolution Authority may suspend any payment or delivery obligations of LCH SA if it is placed under resolution from the publication of the notice provided for in Article 72 of the CCP Recovery and Resolution Regulation (the ''Notice'') until the end of the working day following that publication. Any payment or delivery that would have been due during this suspension period will be due immediately upon expiry of the same suspension period.

LCH SA is proposing to create a new Article 1.4.2.4 of the Rule Book which would provide that the Resolution Authority may suspend the termination rights of any party to a contract with LCH SA if LCH SA is placed under resolution from the publication of the Notice until the end of the working day which follows that publication, provided that the payment and delivery obligations and the provision of Collateral continue to be performed.

LCH SA proposes to create a new Article 1.4.2.5 of the Rule Book to

indicate that the Resolution Authority has the power to reduce, including to reduce to zero, the principal amount of or outstanding amount due in respect of debt instruments or other unsecured liabilities of LCH SA if it is placed under resolution.

LCH SA is proposing to create a new Article 1.4.2.6 of the Rule Book to list the following other tools that the Resolution Authority may implement under the CCP Recovery and Resolution Regulation, individually or in any combination: (i) the position and loss allocation tools; (ii) the write-down and conversion tools; (iii) the sale of business tool; and (iv) the bridge tool. LCH SA proposes that the same new Article 1.4.2.6 of the Rule Book specifies that, prior to the application of these tools, the Resolution Authority shall enforce any existing and outstanding rights of LCH SA or parties other than Clearing Members that would result in the provision of financial support to LCH SA.

LCH SA proposes to create a new Article 1.4.2.7 of the Rule Book under which each Clearing Member agrees to be bound by the application of any resolution tool by the Resolution Authority as set out in articles 27(1), 29, 30, 31, 33, 40 and 41 of CCP Recovery and Resolution Regulation or the exercise by the Resolution Authority of a resolution power pursuant to articles 48 to 58 of CCP Recovery and Resolution Regulation (a ''Resolution Measure'') in respect of its assets, rights, obligations and liabilities. Further, each Clearing Member would acknowledge that, pursuant to article 54 of CCP Recovery and Resolution Regulation, any Resolution Measure taken by the Resolution Authority with respect to LCH SA does not constitute an LCH Default, provided that the substantive obligations under the contract, including payment and delivery obligations, and the provision of collateral, continue to be performed.

B. Technical Amendments

The amendments to the Rule Book also contain the following technical clean-up changes:

(i) in Article 2.3.3.3 a technical change would be made conforming to the proposed amendments to Articles 2.2.5.2 and 2.2.5.3 regarding outsourcing by Clearing Members; and (ii) in Articles 4.3.3.1 and 4.4.3.6 technical changes would be made conforming to the proposed amendment to the definition of the term ''LCH SA Contribution.''

2. Statutory Basis

LCH SA believes that the Proposed Rule Change is consistent with the requirements of Section 17A of the Exchange Act [10] and the regulations thereunder, including the standards under Exchange Act Rule 17ad–22.[11] Exchange Act Section 17A(b)(3)(A) [12] requires, among other things, that a clearing agency must have the capacity to be able to facilitate the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions and derivative agreements, contracts, and transactions for which it is responsible, to safeguard securities and funds in its custody or control or for which it is responsible, and to comply with the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations thereunder. By establishing a relevant and compliant framework allowing any Clearing Member, when necessary, to outsource any clearing activity in order to be more operationally efficient, this will definitely contribute to the prompt and accurate clearance of the relevant transactions in accordance with the provisions of Exchange Act Section 17A(b)(3)(A).

Rule 17Ad–22(e)(3) requires a covered clearing agency to establish, implement, maintain and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to maintain a sound risk management framework for comprehensively managing legal, credit, liquidity, operational, general business, investment, custody, and other risks that arise in or are borne by the covered clearing agency. Through the proposed implementation of a number of provisions required by the AMF or EU regulations (EMIR, CCP and Recovery Resolution . . .), LCH SA is definitely trying to maintain a sound risk management framework for the CCP and its market participants that is contributing to manage regulatory, legal and operational risks which is consistent with the requirements of Rule 17Ad–22(e)(3).

Further, Exchange Act Section 17A(b)(4)(B) provides that a registered clearing agency may deny participation to, or condition the participation of, any person if such person does not meet such standards of financial responsibility, operational capability, experience, and competence as are prescribed by the rules of the clearing agency.[13] By specifying that any clearing operations partially or fully outsourced externally by the Clearing Member will have to be duly authorised by LCH SA and also, by ensuring that such Clearing Member would not be discharged of its responsibilities with respect to the outsourced activities, the Proposed Rule Change remains consistent with the provisions of Exchange Act Section 17A(b)(4)(B) especially on the operational capability required for any Clearing Agency participant.

Exchange Act Rule 17ad–22(e)(4)(i) [14] provides that a clearing agency must establish, implement, maintain, and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to, among other things, effectively identify, measure, monitor, and manage its credit exposures to participants and those arising from its payment, clearing, and settlement processes, including by maintaining sufficient financial resources to cover its credit exposure to each participant fully with a high degree of confidence, including collateral requirements and limits to cover the clearing agency's credit exposure to each participant family fully.[15] A covered clearing agency's written policies and procedures must also be reasonably designed to manage the covered clearing agency's operational risks by identifying the plausible sources of operational risk, both internal and external, and mitigating their impact through the use of appropriate systems, policies, procedures, and controls.[16] LCH SA believes that the Proposed Rule Change is consistent with the provisions of Exchange Act Section 17A and Commission regulations thereunder referenced above as the Proposed Rule Change would ensure LCH SA's ability to comply with AMF rules regarding outsourcing of clearing functions by Clearing Members and to implement provisions of the CCP Recovery and Resolution Regulation which would strengthen the ability of LCH SA to recover losses from Clearing Members incurred by LCH SA resulting from an Event of Default and certain Non-Default Events.

The Proposed Rule Change also includes enhancements to the Rule Book's definition of LCH SA Contribution and to the Rule Book's requirements regarding outsourcing of clearing functions by Clearing Members which are consistent with provisions of Exchange Act Rule 17ad–22 referenced above with respect to limiting the clearing agency's exposure to potential losses from defaults by its participants as well as with respect to operational risk management.

[10] 15 U.S.C. 78q–1.

[11] 17 CFR 240.17ad–22.

[12] 15 U.S.C. 78q–1(b)(3)(A).

[13] 15 U.S.C. 78q–1(b)(4)(B).

[14] 17 CFR 240.17ad–22(e)(4)(i).

[15] 17 CFR 240.17ad–22(e)(4)(i).

[16] 17 CFR 240.17ad–22(e)(17).

LCH SA also believes the Proposed Rule Change is consistent with Rule 17ad–22(e)(1),[17] which requires LCH SA to establish, implement, maintain and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to provide for a well-founded, clear, transparent, and enforceable legal basis for each aspect of its activities in all relevant jurisdictions.

In addition to being registered as a Clearing Agency with the SEC, LCH SA is authorized to offer clearing services in the European Union pursuant to rules established under EMIR for CCPs. As a result of the new AMF or EU regulations LCH SA, as a CCP authorized under EMIR, is required to amend and update its rules to remain in full compliance with the adoption of these new Regulations. The Proposed Rule Change will ensure LCH SA's rules are consistent with the relevant laws and regulations applicable to CCPs authorized under EMIR, including the CCP Recovery and Resolution Regulation. LCH SA also believes that the legal basis for the Proposed Rule Change is clear and understandable to the relevant authorities, participants, and participants' customers as proposed, and the public disclosure of the amendments to the Rule Book are transparent.

For all the reasons stated above, LCH SA considers that the Proposed Rule Change is consistent with the requirements of Section 17A of the Exchange Act [18] and the regulations thereunder, including the standards under Exchange Act Rule 17ad–22.[19]

B. Clearing Agency's Statement on Burden on Competition

Exchange Act Section 17A(b)(3)(I) requires that the rules of a clearing agency not impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Exchange Act.[20] LCH SA does not believe that the Proposed Rule Change would impose burdens on competition that are not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Exchange Act. The Proposed Rule Change would ensure LCH SA's ability to comply with AMF rules regarding outsourcing of clearing functions by Clearing Members, EMIR regarding LCH SA's Contribution and CCP Recovery and Resolution Regulation regarding the implementation of the required changes to the Rule Book, but would not significantly affect the ability of Clearing Members or other market participants generally to engage in cleared transactions or to access LCH SA's clearing services. First, the Proposed Rule Change in respect of the outsourcing framework applicable to the clearing activities of a Clearing Member and in respect of the implementation of the provisions of the CCP Recovery and Resolution Regulation shall apply equally to all Clearing Members, irrespective of their membership category hence do not permit unfair discrimination among the participants. The new outsourcing framework aims to replicate a framework which already applies to the banks and investment firms established in the European Union, in respect of their banking and investment services activities; thus, Clearing Members already apply this regulatory outsourcing framework to their outsourced banking and investment services activities and will simply need to extend these arrangements to their clearing activities. There will be no effect on the open access model operated by LCH SA. The Proposed Rule Change in respect of the implementation of the provisions of the CCP Recovery and Resolution Regulation aim to facilitate the enforcement of resolution cash calls and of the reduction of the amount of any gain payable to a non-defaulting Clearing Member provided by such regulation and to which LCH SA is subject, as any other European central counterparty. Therefore, LCH SA does not believe that the Proposed Rule Change would impose a burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Exchange Act.

C. Clearing Agency's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants or Others

Written comments were not and are not intended to be solicited with respect to the Proposed Rule Change and none have been received by LCH SA.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change

Within 45 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period up to 90 days (i) as the Commission may designate if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will: (A) by order approve or disapprove such proposed rule change, or (B) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.P

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (*https://www.sec.gov/rules-regulations/self-regulatory-organization-rulemaking*); or
- Send an email to *rule-comments@sec.gov.* Please include file number SR–LCH SA–2026–002 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549–1090.

All submissions should refer to file number SR–LCH SA–2026–002. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (*http://www.sec.gov/rules-regulations/self-regulatory-organization-rulemaking*). Copies of such filing will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of LCH SA and on LCH SA's website at *http://www.lch.com/resources/rules-and-regulations/proposed-rule-changes-0.*

Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection.

All submissions should refer to file number SR–LCH SA–2026–002 and should be submitted on or before April 16, 2026.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.[21]

Vanessa A. Countryman,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–05851 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

[17] 17 CFR 240.17ad–22(e)(1).

[18] 15 U.S.C. 78q–1.

[19] 17 CFR 240.17ad–22.

[20] 15 U.S.C. 78q–1(b)(3)(I).

[21] 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[OMB Control No. 3235–0214]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension: Rule 17a–7—Exemption of Certain Purchase or Sale Transactions Between an Investment Company and Certain Affiliated Persons Thereof

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of FOIA Services, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549–2736

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC or ''Commission'') is soliciting comments on the proposed collection of information under rule 17a–7 [17 CFR 270.17a–7].[1] Rule 17a–7, as subsequently amended on several occasions, provides an exemption from section 17(a) of the Act for purchases and sales of securities between funds that are affiliated persons[2] (''first-tier affiliate'') of a registered investment company (''fund'') or an affiliated person of that first-tier affiliate (''second-tier affiliate''), or between a fund and a first- or second-tier affiliate other than another fund, when the affiliation arises solely because of a common investment adviser (or advisers that are affiliated persons of each other), director, or officer. The exemption is subject to conditions intended to eliminate the likelihood of overreaching. The rule permits funds and other companies under common management to trade securities with each other and thus to avoid brokerage commissions.[3] The rule also limits the prices at which purchase and sale transactions may occur, to prevent inequitable pricing practices that could harm a participating fund.[4]

Rule 17a–7(e) requires the board of directors of a fund to make, adopt, and approve changes to procedures reasonably designed to ensure that the conditions of the rule have been satisfied for purchases and sales effected in reliance on the rule. In addition, the rule requires that the fund maintain and preserve permanently a written copy of the procedures adopted by the board. Under the rule, the board is required to determine, at least on a quarterly basis, that all affiliated transactions effected during the preceding quarter in reliance on the rule were made in compliance with these established procedures. The rule requires the fund to maintain written records of this board determination and each rule 17a–7 transaction for a period of not less than six years.[5] The Commission's examination staff uses these records to evaluate for compliance with the rule. Compliance with rule 17a–7 is required to obtain or retain benefits.

We estimate that approximately 446 funds use rule 17a–7 to make cross trades annually.[6] Based on conversations with fund representatives and the Commission's experience with the use of rule 17a–7, we estimate that the recordkeeping burden of compliance with rule 17a–7 is approximately 5 hours per respondent. This time is spent, for example, maintaining various records of rule 17a–7 transactions and materials connected to the board's determination of compliance. Accordingly, we calculate the total estimated annual internal burden of complying with rule 17a–7 to be approximately 2,230 hours. We estimate the annual external costs to be $1,659,120.

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 OMB Control Number.

Written comments are invited on: (a) whether this proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the SEC, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the SEC's estimate of the burden imposed by the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and the assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated, electronic collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please direct your written comments on this 60-Day Collection Notice to Austin Gerig, Director/Chief Data Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Tanya Ruttenberg via email to *PaperworkReductionAct@sec.gov* by May 26, 2026. There will be a second opportunity to comment on this SEC request following the **Federal Register** publishing a 30-Day Submission Notice.

Dated: March 24, 2026.

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–05891 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

[1] *See* Exemption of Certain Purchase or Sale Transactions Between Affiliated Registered Investment Companies; Investment Company Act Release No. 4697 (Sept. 8, 1966) [31 FR 12092 (Sept. 16, 1966)].

[2] Under section 2(a)(3) of the Act, ''affiliated person'' of another person means:

''(A) any person directly or indirectly owning, controlling, or holding with power to vote, 5 per centum or more of the outstanding voting securities of such other person; (B) any person 5 per centum or more of whose outstanding voting securities are directly or indirectly owned, controlled, or held with power to vote, by such other person; (C) any person directly or indirectly controlling, controlled by, or under common control with, such other person; (D) any officer, director, partner, copartner, or employee of such other person; (E) if such other person is an investment company, any investment adviser thereof or any member of an advisory board thereof; and (F) if such other person is an unincorporated investment company not having a board of directors, the depositor thereof.''

[3] *See* rule 17a–7(d).

[4] *See* rule 17a–7(b).

[5] Rule 17a–7(g) requires the written record of the affiliated transaction to include the following information: a description of the security purchased or sold, the identity of the person on the other side of the transaction, the terms of the purchase or sale transaction, and the information or materials upon which the board determined that the purchase or sale complied with the procedures set by the board.

[6] This estimate is based on the average of the number of active registrants/trusts as of December 2023, 2024, and 2025 that indicated on Form N–CEN filings received through March 15, 2026 that at least one of their funds/series rely on rule 17a–7.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–105064; File No. SR–CBOE–2026–024]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change To Amend Certain of Its Rules Regarding Complex Orders and Complex Order Auctions To Accommodate Stop-Limit Complex Orders and Establish Stop Complex Order Auctions (''SCOA'') as a New Type of Auction Mechanism

March 23, 2026.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (''Act''),[1] and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,[2] notice is hereby given that on March 9, 2026, Cboe Exchange, Inc. (''Exchange'' or ''Cboe Options'') filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (''SEC'' or ''Commission'') the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III, below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

[1] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

[2] 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

Cboe Exchange, Inc. (the ''Exchange'' or ''Cboe Options'') proposes to amend certain of its rules regarding complex orders and complex order auctions to accommodate stop-limit complex orders and establish Stop Complex Order Auctions (''SCOA'') as a new type of auction mechanism. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Commission's website (*https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml*), the Exchange's website (*https://www.cboe.com/us/options/regulation/rule_filings/bzx/*), and at the principal office of the Exchange.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend certain Exchange rules regarding complex orders and complex order auctions to establish stop-limit complex orders as a type of complex order and SCOA as a type of auction mechanism that will facilitate auctions for stop-limit complex orders. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to amend Rule 5.33 to (1) define stop-limit complex orders and SCOA, as well as additional terms needed to support stop-limit complex orders and SCOA, (2) describe SCOA processing as a new type of auction for complex orders, and (3) broaden the existing naming convention for auction communications to include SCOA while also updating certain auction references throughout to include SCOA. Additionally, the Exchange proposed to amend Rule 5.21(b), Rule 5.25(c), and Rule 5.34(c) to include SCOA in certain references with other types of auctions, thereby applying certain existing safeguards to SCOA. The Exchange also proposes an administrative change to Rule 5.33(b) to make a grammatical correction.

A ''complex order'' is an order or quote involving the concurrent execution of two or more different series in the same underlying equity security or index (the ''legs'' or ''components'' of the complex order), for the same account, occurring at or near the same time and for the purpose of executing a particular investment strategy with no more than the applicable number of legs.[3] A ''Stop-Limit'' order is an order to buy (sell) that becomes a limit order[4] when the consolidated last sale price (excluding prices from complex order trades if outside the NBBO) or NBB (NBO) for a particular option contract is equal to or above (below) the specified stop price.[5] Currently, the Exchange offers stop-limit functionality for simple orders only. The Exchange proposes to extend this functionality to complex orders, thereby creating stop-limit complex orders for options.

Taking into consideration the growth of daily expiring options, the Exchange believes that market participants will use stop-limit complex orders to more efficiently manage the short side of a complex order. The Exchange understands market participants currently may enter a stop-limit order on the short leg of a complex order while managing the long leg separately. A stop-limit complex order will provide market participants with the ability to manage both the long and short legs simultaneously.

To establish stop-limit complex orders, the Exchange proposes to add ''stop-limit complex order'' in Rule 5.33(b) as a new instruction type that the System[6] will accept as a complex order and ''Market-Maker SBBO'' as a new term in Rule 5.33(a). As a new type of complex order, a stop-limit complex order means a complex order to buy or sell, as the case may be, two or more different series in the same underlying equity security or index, which are the ''legs'' or ''components'' of the complex order, for the same account, occurring at or near the same time and for the purpose of executing a particular investment strategy with no more than the applicable number of legs. Stop-limit complex orders will become limit orders when certain trigger conditions are met, one of which involves Market-Maker quotes in the individual legs of a complex order. Therefore, the Exchange proposes to adopt the new term ''Market-Maker SBBO'' to mean the best bid and offer on the Exchange calculated using only appointed Market-Maker quotes in the individual legs of a complex order. The Exchange believes that the use of the Market-Maker SBBO is preferable because it insulates stop-limit complex orders from inappropriate triggering events that could otherwise be caused by including non-Market-Maker single-leg limit orders into the SBBO. Specifically, using the Market-Maker SBBO will help avoid cascading events where a customer enters a single-leg order with a limit price that is higher than the current best Market-Maker bid. Using the SBBO inclusive of single-leg customer orders could cause resting complex stop limit orders to trigger on SBBOs that are not reflective of liquidity provider price levels, which could harm complex stop limit customers. Further, the execution of the first stop-limit complex order(s) that are inappropriately triggered by inclusion of a non-Market-Maker order into the SBBO may in turn trigger a second investor's stop limit order with a more aggressive stop price, and so on, thereby creating a cascading event of inappropriately-triggered customer stop-limit orders. The Exchange believes that limiting the trigger condition, as described below, to quotes from Market-Makers will be more reflective of the market value and provide a more authentic market valuation to determine if a stop-limit complex order should be triggered.

A stop-limit complex order will become a limit order when either (i) the Market-Maker SBBO or a trade price for a trade that occurs in the same complex strategy is equal to or higher (lower) than the stop-limit price, or (ii) the same side bid (ask) of the underlying equity security or the underlying index level, as the case may be, is equal to or higher (lower) than the designated stop-limit price or if a complex trade price is equal to or higher (lower) than the stop-limit price. In other words, a complex-stop limit order is a conditional order that becomes a limit order when triggered by one of two conditions. Only one of the two possible trigger conditions can be designated for a stop-limit complex order. Stop-limit complex orders may

[3] *See* Rule 1.1.

[4] *See* Rule 1.1, which states that a ''limit order'' is an order to buy or sell a stated number of option contracts at a specified price or better.

[5] *See* Rule 5.6(c).

[6] *See* Rule 1.1, which states that the term ''System'' means the Exchange's hybrid trading platform that integrates electronic and open outcry trading of option contracts on the Exchange, and includes any connectivity to the foregoing trading platform that is administered by or on behalf of the Exchange, such as a communications hub.

not be designated for bulk messages or as orders Direct to PAR.[7]

To facilitate order processing for stop-limit complex orders, the Exchange proposes to establish SCOA as a new type of auction mechanism. The Exchange currently offers a variety of auction mechanisms which provide price improvement opportunities for eligible orders but only one type of auction mechanism for complex orders, Complex Order Auction (''COA'').[8] The Exchange proposes SCOA as a second type of auction mechanism for complex orders, specifically stop-limit complex orders, that is similar to COA. Like COA, SCOA is intended to provide opportunities for price improvements, but it is also designed to maximize execution quantity, particularly given that one event may trigger multiple complex stop-limit orders. SCOA is the auction mechanism for stop-limit complex orders, and stop-limit complex orders are only eligible for SCOA processing (in other words, all triggered stop-limit complex orders will be processed in a SCOA). Consequently, Rule 5.33(b)(5)(A) is amended to state that a stop-limit complex order is not COA-eligible.

To add SCOA to Rule 5.33 as a new type of auction mechanism for stop-limit complex orders, the Exchange proposes to add the term ''Stop Complex Order Auction'' or ''SCOA'' as a new definition in Rule 5.33(a) and detail SCOA and SCOA processing in Rule 5.33(d). Rule 5.33(d) currently details COA and COA processing. Since both COA and SCOA are auction mechanisms for complex orders, the Exchange proposes to rename Rule 5.33(d) from ''Complex Order Auctions (COAs)'' to ''Auction Types for Complex Orders'' and relocate all existing COA provisions currently in Rule 5.33(d) to Rule 5.33(d)(1). Additionally, SCOA will utilize the same system functionality for order entry and messaging as COA. Consequently, the existing naming convention found in Rule 5.33 for order entry, including transaction ID, and auction messaging that currently reference COA (*e.g.,* COA messages) is broadened by replacing the existing ''COA'' designation with ''auction'' throughout Rule 5.33. For example, instances of ''COA messages'' throughout Rule 5.33 are replaced with ''auction messages'' so as to apply to both COA and SCOA messages within Rule 5.33. Also, language in existing Rule 5.33(d)(3)—*Response Time Interval* is updated to Rule 5.33(d)(1)(C)—*Response Time Interval for COA* to clarify that occurrences of Response Time Interval in that subparagraph are applicable to COA whereas occurrences of Response Time Interval in new Rule 5.33(d)(2)(D) are applicable to SCOA.

The Exchange proposes to further amend Rule 5.33(d) by adding ''*Stop Complex Order Auction (SCOAs)*'' as the second action [sic] type of auction mechanism for complex orders, specifically (and solely) for stop-limit complex orders, as new subparagraph (d)(2). New Rule 5.33(d)(2)(A) establishes that a SCOA is triggered when the trigger condition designated for a stop-limit complex order has been met. There are two possible trigger conditions for a stop-limit complex order: the SBBO/trade price trigger condition and the underlying price trigger condition. However, only one of the two possible types of trigger conditions may apply to a stop-limit complex, and the trigger condition type is determined when a stop-limit complex order is submitted by the User.[9] If no trigger condition type is designated when a stop-limit complex order is submitted, the default trigger condition will be applied, as described below.

For a stop-limit complex order with the SBBO/trade price trigger condition, the trigger condition is met when either (i) the same side Market-Maker SBBO is equal to or higher (lower) than the stop-limit price or (ii) a trade occurs in the same complex instrument at a price equal to or higher (lower) than the stop-limit price. The SBBO/trade price trigger condition will be the trigger condition for a SCOA if the SBBO/trade price trigger condition is designated as such when an order is submitted or if no trigger condition is designated at the time of order submission since the SBBO/trade price trigger condition functions as the default trigger condition. Stop-limit complex orders comprised of legs in different groups of series in a class that designate the SBBO/Trade Price trigger condition will only trigger a SCOA if a trade occurs at or better than the stop price. As an example, for stop-limit complex orders with both SPX and SPXW leg components that have the SBBO/Trade Price trigger condition, the SCOA will only trigger if a trade occurs at or better than the stop price.

For a stop-limit complex order with an underlying price designated as the trigger condition, the order must be submitted with instructions that designate the price threshold of the underlying security or index as either (i) at or above the underlying price or index level or (ii) at or below the underlying price or index level. If the underlying security is an equity, the SCOA is triggered when the same side bid (ask) of the underlying security is equal to or higher (lower) than the designated stop-limit price or if a last-sale eligible trade price is equal to or higher (lower) than the stop-limit price. If the underlying security is an index, the SCOA is triggered when the underlying index level is equal to or higher (lower) than the designated threshold price. The price threshold must be designated at a price that is higher (lower) than the current value of the underlying security.

Once the trigger condition designated for a stop-limit complex order is met, a SCOA will be initiated, and the System will send an auction message to all subscribers that receive auction messages. An auction message will identify the auction ID, instrument ID, quantity, and side of the market of the stop-limit complex order. If a single stop-limit complex order is triggered, the SCOA starting auction price will be the less aggressive of the order's limit price or the opposite side SBBO. In addition to addressing a single stop-limit complex order, SCOA is an auction mechanism designed to effectively manage order handling in the event that multiple stop-limit complex orders with the same trigger event are elected simultaneously, which has been observed for simple complex [sic] orders. If multiple stop-limit complex orders in the same complex instrument are triggered by the same trigger event, such orders are bundled into the same SCOA, as stated in new Rule 5.33(d)(2)(B). For multiple stop-limit complex orders in the same SCOA with the same trigger event, the SCOA starting auction price will be the less aggressive of either the most aggressive limit price of the orders in the SCOA or the opposite side SBBO.

If multiple stop-limit complex orders are received for the same complex strategy but with different trigger conditions, such orders will not be bundled into the same SCOA. Instead, multiple stop-limit complex orders in the same complex strategy but with different trigger events will be processed as separate SCOAs. SCOAs may process concurrently, and the System may initiate a SCOA in a complex strategy

[7] *See* Rule 5.6(b), which defines a ''Direct to PAR'' order as an order a User designates to be routed directly to a specified PAR workstation for manual handling. A PAR workstation is an Exchange-provided order management tool for use on the Exchange's trading floor.

[8] *See* Rule 5.33.

[9] *See* Rule 1.1, which states that the term ''User'' means any TPH or Sponsored User who is authorized to obtain access to the System pursuant to Rule 5.5.

even though another SCOA in that complex strategy is ongoing.

Proposed Rule 5.33(b)(2)(D) defines ''Response Time Interval'' for SCOA as the period of time during which Users may submit responses to the auction message. The Exchange will establish the Response Time Intervals for SCOA on a class-by-class basis, and as provided in new Rule, the duration of the response time interval may not exceed 1000 milliseconds. Auction Responses to SCOA will be substantially similar to Auction Responses to COA, and consequently, the process of submitting Auction Responses for SCOA in Rule 5.33(b)(2)(E) is substantially similar to the process of submitting Auction Responses for COA in Rule 5.33(b)(1)(D). As is the case for COA, the Exchange will determine on a class-by-class basis if all Users are eligible to submit Auction Response(s) or if only Marker-Makers with an appointment in the class and TPHs acting as agent for orders resting at the top of the COB [10] in the relevant complex strategy may submit Auction Response(s). An Auction Response must specify the price, size, side of the market and auction ID for the SCOA that the Auction Response is in response to. Auction Response(s) with a permissible Capacity in the applicable minimum increment during the Response Time Interval will be accepted by the System. Auction Responses may be for a quantity that is more than the SCOA order. The System will aggregate the size of Auction Responses submitted at the same price for an EFID [11] and cap the size of the aggregated Auction Responses at the size of the SCOA order. During the Response Time Interval, Auction Responses are not firm and can be modified or withdrawn at any time prior to the end of the Response Time Interval. However, any modified Auction Response will be given a new timestamp by the System, resulting in a loss of priority unless the modification was to decrease the size in the Auction Response. At the end of the Response Time Interval, Auction Responses are firm, and their price and size are guaranteed. Auction Responses are not displayed and may only execute against the SCOA order for which an Auction Response is submitted. The System will cancel or reject any unexecuted Auction Responses or unexecuted portions at the conclusion of the SCOA. In certain circumstances, the System will terminate a SCOA prior to end of the Response Time Interval.

Similar to COA,[12] a SCOA may be terminated early if orders are received in a leg of the stop-limit complex order that would improve the SBBO on the same side as the SCOA order to a price better than the limit price of any of the orders in the SCOA. A SCOA may also be terminated early if an order is received in a leg of the stop-limit complex order that would join or improve the SBBO on the same side of the SCOA order to a price equal to the limit price of any of the orders in the SCOA and cause any component of the SBBO to be represented by a Priority Customer.[13] In either case of early termination, the SCOA will be terminated by the System and any unexecuted orders resulting from the termination will be entered into the COB, if eligible, in accordance with new Rule 5.33(d)(2)(E)(iii).

Since other orders received in a leg of the complex order may result in early termination of a SCOA as described above, the Exchange recognizes it is possible that market activity may be used to interfere with SCOA processing in a way that is contrary to just and equitable principles of trade in the markets. Consequently, the Exchange proposes to amend Interpretations and Policies .03 to Rule 5.33 to include SCOA so that if the Exchange identifies a pattern or practice of order submissions by a TPH that results in early termination of a SCOA(s) because such orders cause one of the conditions for early SCOA termination to be met, the actions of the TPH will be deemed conduct inconsistent with just and equitable principles of trade and a violation of Rule 8.1, as is currently the case for COA.

New Rule 5.33(d)(2)(F) establishes the processing of SCOA orders. Once the Response Time Interval has ended, the System will execute a SCOA order, in whole or in part, against complex contra-side interest by using an allocation algorithm that will allocate Auction Responses and unrelated orders resting in the COB to maximize executed volume. The SCOA allocation algorithm maximizes execution quantity while optimizing price-improvement opportunity for stop-limit complex order customers. The Exchange notes that SCOA does not allow legging because the SCOA allocation algorithm considers all available liquidity and has multiple rounds. The complexity is compounded if legging is included and is further compounded if any of the legging events trip risk control limits for the single-leg book participants (particularly for Market-Makers who rely heavily on risk controls). The Exchange notes if the SCOA orders aren't filled in the auction, then they will be added to the COB in sequence and individually eligible for legging at that point (as they are ultimately just complex limit orders at that point). If there are any unfilled order(s) in a SCOA after allocating Auction Responses and unrelated orders resting in the COB, the System will use an iteration process to attempt to fill the remaining orders of the initial SCOA. Upon completion of the initial SCOA, unfilled order(s) will iterate through additional SCOAs at incrementally more aggressive starting prices, as stated in the Exchange's technical specifications, until all orders are filled, their limit price has been reached, or the current opposite side SBBO price has been used as the last auction start price. The System enters any unexecuted portion of a SCOA order that does not execute at the end of the SCOA iterations into the COB, if eligible for entry, and applies a timestamp based on the time it enters the COB. The System cancels or rejects any unexecuted portion of a SCOA order that does not execute at the end of the SCOA iterations if not eligible for entry into the COB, in accordance with the instructions for the stop-limit complex order.

The Exchange proposes additional amendments to Rule 5.33 to apply certain existing provisions of the rule to SCOA or add SCOA as an auction mechanism applicable to existing rule provisions. Specifically, the definition of ''Regular Trading'' in Rule 5.33(a) is amended to add SCOA to the existing COA reference, thereby excluding complex orders processed through COA or SCOA from the definition of regular trading since complex orders processed during the COA or SCOA process are not part of regular trading of complex orders. The Exchange also proposes to amend Rule 5.33(b) to add SCOA to references of COA since SCOA is treated in the same manner as COA regarding the Exchange's determination of terms and Capacities.[14] The instruction type of Stock-Option Order as provided in Rule 5.33(b)(5) is amended to state that, like COA and other auction mechanisms, a nonconforming stock-option order is not eligible for SCOA

[10] *See* Rule 5.33(a), which defines ''Complex Order Book'' or ''COB'' as the Exchange's electronic book of complex orders used for all trading sessions.

[11] *See* Rule 1.1, which state that the term ''EFID'' means an Executing Firm ID.

[12] *See* existing Rule 5.33(d)(3)

[13] *See* Rule 1.1 which states that the term ''Priority Customer'' means a person or entity that is a Public Customer and is not a Professional.

[14] *See* Rule 1.1 which states that ''Capacity'' means the capacity in which a User submits an order, such as an order for the account of a Market-Maker or Public Customer.

processing. SCOA is added to COA references in Rule 5.33(k) so that a SCOA will end if any component or underlying security of a SCOA order is halted.

The Exchange also proposes to add SCOA to Rules 5.21, 5.25, and 5.34 to include SCOA with COA references regarding order handling, message traffic mitigation, and protection mechanisms and risk controls for complex orders. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to amend Rule 5.21(b)(3) to remove language limiting response auctions for complex orders and add SCOA to electronic order handling during a limit up-limit down state. The proposed amendment to Rule 5.25(c) adds SCOA to the list of the Exchange's auction mechanisms, thereby applying the message traffic mitigation requirements for auction response processing to SCOA. The Exchange also proposes to amend Rule 5.34(b) and (c) to include SCOA with existing references to COA to extend existing order and quote price protection mechanisms and risk controls for complex order to SCOA communications and processing. Under proposed 5.34(c)(4)(B)(i), a User may specify whether volume or executions in SCOA, in addition to existing auction mechanisms named in the rule, will count toward the User's class, EFID, or EFID Group limit. Option volume resulting from SCOA processing may be excluded from certain risk monitor mechanism risk parameters, namely the volume parameter in Rule 5.34(c)(4)(A)(i) and the count parameter in Rule 5.34(c)(4)(A)(iii). Additionally, under proposed rule 5.34(c)(4)(F), SCOA is named as a type of complex order within the rule so that individual trades executed as part of a complex order response may be counted when determining that the volume, notional, count, or risk trips limit as well as percentage limit have been reached. Use of this functionality is optional, and a User may continue to include executions resulting from these exchange auctions in their risk parameters.

The Exchange also proposes to make a grammatical correction to Rule 5.33(d)(1)(D) to update ''appointed'' to ''appointment'' when referencing the appointment of a Market-Maker.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the ''Act'') and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.[15] Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)[16] requirements that the rules of an exchange be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)[17] requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

In particular, the Exchange believes the proposed change would remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and protect investors and the public interest by making available to investors a type of complex order that incorporates the functionality of a stop-limit order. A stop-limit complex order can effectively be used by a market participant to replace manual monitoring and management a market participant must currently engage in to gain the benefits of stop-limit functionality. Market participants may choose to execute a transaction once certain market conditions are met as a way to help manage and reduce the risk of extreme loss. Stop-limit complex orders provide investors an execution and risk management tool to execute transactions without the manual monitoring needed today. The addition of a stop-limit complex order gives market participants who wish to utilize this order type an automated way of monitoring for conditions in which they desire an execution to occur, thereby creating operational efficiencies for the market. The Exchange believes the proposed rules are appropriate in that complex orders are recognized by market participants as useful, both as an investment and a risk management strategy, and adding stop-limit order functionality to complex orders provides even greater utility. The proposed rules will provide an efficient mechanism for carrying out investor strategies.

The Exchange also believes auctioning triggered stop-limit complex orders through a SCOA will provide those orders with additional opportunities for price improvement and executions, particularly given that multiple stop-limit complex orders may be triggered by the same event. SCOA is necessary as a new auction mechanism to accommodate stop-limit complex order auctions because SCOA functionality that bundles multiple orders is unique to the SCOA auction mechanism. The Exchange believes that when multiple stop-limit complex orders are triggered by the same event, bundling into a single SCOA will have better execution outcomes than processing multiple individual orders in separate auctions. Pursuant to the proposed trigger process, the System will initiate the SCOA process for all stop-limit complex orders once designated conditions are met. Through the SCOA process, the Exchange intends to allocate resting interest against auctioned stop-limit orders to maximize executed volume, thereby filling stop-limit complex orders to the extent possible based on the auction responses received for the SCOA and resting interest in the COB. The Exchange believes this allocation method will benefit investors because it will result in execution of as many contracts of the auctioned order(s) as possible. The Exchange believes that the proposal to initiate a SCOA once the designated trigger condition for a stop-limit complex order has been met removes impediments to, and perfects the mechanisms of, a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, protects investors and the public interest because the Exchange will initiate a SCOA for a stop-limit complex order in accordance with the user's instructions. Additionally, through the SCOA functionality that bundles multiple stop-limit complex orders with the same trigger condition into the same SCOA, SCOA processing will pursue price improvement through its allocation algorithm that is designed to maximize execution quantity while optimizing price-improvement opportunity for customers. The proposed execution of SCOA orders following the conclusion of a SCOA is consistent with general principles of customer priority and protects the leg markets. While SCOA orders may execute against complex contra-side interest only, the prices of these executions must improve the SBBO if there is a Priority Customer representing any leg on the Simple Book as required by Rule 5.33(f)(2)(A)(iv). The proposed

[15] 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

[16] 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

[17] *Id.*

stop-limit complex order rules also promote equal access by providing recipients of the Exchange's data feeds that include auction notifications with the opportunity to interact with orders in a SCOA.

The Exchange again notes that the communication functionality for SCOA is the same as the existing functionality for COA, providing Users with the ability to place a stop-limit complex order if they so choose. When utilizing a stop-limit complex order, Users also have the choice to select the trigger condition for the order. Market participants who wish to place a stop-limit complex order have the flexibility to choose one of two types of trigger conditions which, if met, would execute the stop-limit complex order for SCOA processing. The trigger conditions rely on certain option or underlying prices, or index levels. The Exchange believes it is appropriate to use the Market-Maker SBBO for one of the trigger conditions because it will help insulate a stop-limit complex order from being triggered by an inappropriate trigger event (such as one or more customer orders placed at an extreme price) that could otherwise be caused by including non-Market-Maker limit orders into the SBBO. Use of the Market-Maker SBBO as a triggering condition is intended to help avoid cascading triggering events that could result from customer stop-limit complex orders with limit prices that are not necessarily reflective of market valuation. Use of the Market-maker SBBO will help support greater market stability and execution and provides certain protections to market participants who wish to utilize stop-limit complex orders. The Exchange believes the proposed changes to add stop-limit complex orders and SCOA are not unfairly discriminatory, as the abilities to place a stop-limit order and respond to a SCOA auction message are generally available to all Users. The proposed rule change provides the Exchange with the authority to determine if all Users or only Market-Makers and certain TPHs may respond to auction messages in alignment with Exchange authority for responses to auction messages for COA,[18] and the Exchange believes is appropriate to limit responses to Market-Makers and certain TPHs if it is necessary to incentivize those Market-Makers or TPHs to provide liquidity and further encourage competition. If the Exchange were to limit responses to only Market-Makers and designated TPHs, the Exchange would do so to encourage more competitive responses because such responses will have a greater likelihood of fulfillment in larger quantities when such responses are at more competitive prices.

Additionally, regarding risk controls and price protection mechanisms, the Exchange believes the proposed change would remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and protect investors and the public interest by providing market participants with enhanced abilities to manage their risk with respect to stop-limit complex orders on the Exchange. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change will protect investors and the public interest because the proposed extension of reasonability checks and the inclusion of SCOA processing with drill-through protection as a risk monitoring mechanism will assist Users in minimizing their risk exposure, thereby reducing the potential for disruptive, market-wide events. The Exchange also notes that the proposed amendment to Rule 5.33(k) to cancel or reject all auction responses to a SCOA in the event that any component or underlying security to a stop-limit complex order is halted provides an addition layer of protection to market participants by eliminating SCOA processing when trading in underlying securities is not available. SCOA will function in a similar manner as COA with respect to these protection and risk mechanisms, as well as trading halts, and the proposed amendments are consistent with Cboe Rules as applicable to COA.

Proposed amendments to Rules 5.34(b) and (c) specifically include SCOA with safeguards that exist for COA. The Exchange believes the proposed change to include SCOA in the auction mechanism types that allow Users to specify whethervolume orexecutions in the various named auction mechanisms will count toward the User's class, EFID, or EFID Group limitis reasonable because orders executed through these auction mechanisms are subject to different protections, such as price improvement requirements, as compared to other order types. As a result, these orders have different risk considerations. The Exchange notes that this functionality is optional, and Users may continue to include executions resulting from these exchange auctions in their risk parameters (as is the case today) if they prefer. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed changes are not unfairly discriminatory, as the risk controls and protection mechanisms that will be applied to SCOA are currently available for other auction types. Additionally, the risk controls and protection mechanisms are available to all Users and applied uniformly to all Users who may choose to utilize enhanced risk parameter settings.

Last, the Exchange believes correcting a grammatical error by replacing ''appointed'' with ''appointment'' in Rule 5.33(d)(1)(D) will eliminate confusion in this provision of the rule.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed rule change is intended to provide market participants with new voluntary functionality to automate a manual monitoring process to determine when to execute an order in the event that a specific condition has been met. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on intramarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, because stop-limit complex orders will be available to all Users and processed in the same manner. A stop-limit complex order is a type of complex order that is intended to achieve the execution of a complex order that Users can achieve today through manual monitoring and order submissions. Stop-limit complex orders offer market participants an automated alternative to this manual process. The proposed rule change provides all Users with the ability to submit a stop-limit complex order, which will be processed through SCOA once the trigger condition for the order has been met. Use of a stop-limit complex order (as well as the trigger condition) will be voluntary and within the discretion of a User, and a User may continue to manage complex orders to achieve an execution of a complex order under certain conditions in the same manner they do today. Additionally, SCOA messaging for an order will be sent to all Users who are recipients of auction messaging data, and all Users generally may submit responses to the auction if they so choose.

The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change will impose any burden on intermarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as the proposed rule changes apply only to a permissible User order instruction regarding how the Exchange will handle and then execute an order. Stop-limit complex orders extend functionality that is available today on the Exchange

[18] *See* Rule 5.33(d)(1)(D).

in stop-limit orders for simple orders to complex orders, and SCOA will utilize certain COA functionality that is currently used on the Exchange. Additionally, to the extent that the proposed changes may make the Exchange a more attractive trading venue for market participants on other exchanges, such market participants may elect to become Exchange market participants.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

The Exchange neither solicited nor received written comments on the proposed rule change.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within 45 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the Exchange consents, the Commission shall: (a) by order approve or disapprove such proposed rule change, or (b) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (*https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml*); or
- Send an email to *rule-comments@sec.gov*. Please include file number SR–CBOE–2026–024 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549–1090.

All submissions should refer to file number SR–CBOE–2026–024. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (*https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml*). Copies of the filing will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR–CBOE–2026–024 and should be submitted on or before April 16, 2026.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.[19]

Vanessa A. Countryman,

Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–105065; File No. SR–FICC–2026–006]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Fixed Income Clearing Corporation; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Make Corrections, Clarifications and Certain Other Changes to the GSD Rules, MBSD Rules, and EPN Rules

March 23, 2026.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (''Act'')[1] and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,[2] notice is hereby given that on March 17, 2026, Fixed Income Clearing Corporation (''FICC'') filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (''Commission'') the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II and III below, which Items have been prepared by the clearing agency. FICC filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act[3] and Rule 19b–4(f)(4) thereunder.[4] The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Clearing Agency's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

FICC is proposing to (i) make certain corrections and clarifications in the Government Securities Division (''GSD'') Rulebook (the ''GSD Rules''), Mortgage-Backed Securities Division (''MBSD'') Clearing Rules (the ''MBSD Rules'') and MBSD EPN Rules (the ''EPN Rules,'' and collectively with the GSD Rules and the MBSD Rules, the ''Rules'')[5] and (ii) make certain changes to harmonize the language in the GSD Rules, MBSD Rules and the EPN Rules with each other and with the rules of FICC's two clearing agency affiliates, The Depository Trust Company (''DTC'') and National Securities Clearing Corporation (''NSCC'').

II. Clearing Agency's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the clearing agency included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The clearing agency has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

(A) Clearing Agency's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

FICC is proposing to (i) make certain corrections and clarifications in the Rules and (ii) make certain changes to harmonize the language in the GSD Rules, MBSD Rules and the EPN Rules with each other and with the rules of FICC's two clearing agency affiliates, DTC and NSCC.

FICC has conducted a review of its Rules to improve transparency and consistency and to harmonize language in its Rules with similar language in the Rules, By-Laws and Organization Certificate of DTC (''DTC Rules'') and the NSCC Rules & Procedures (''NSCC Rules'').[6] DTC and NSCC have also conducted similar reviews of their respective rulebooks. As a result of the reviews, FICC is proposing the following changes to the Rules.

[19] 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

[1] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

[2] 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

[3] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

[4] 17 CFR 240.19b–4(f)(4).

[5] Each capitalized term used herein and not otherwise defined shall have the meaning set forth in the GSD Rules, MBSD Clearing Rules or the EPN Rules, as applicable, *available at www.dtcc.com/legal/rules-and-procedures.*

[6] Each capitalized term used herein and not otherwise defined shall have the meaning set forth in the DTC Rules or the NSCC Rules, as applicable, *available at www.dtcc.com/legal/rules-and-procedures.*

PROPOSED CHANGES TO GSD RULES

Rule	Proposed changes
GSD Rule 1	Add the following defined terms to Rule 1 (Definitions) of the Rules which are used in the Rules but are defined elsewhere in the Rules: *Excess Capital Premium.* *VaR Floor.* *VaR Floor Percentage Amount.* Correct a link to the SIFMA MRA in the definition of ''SIFMA MRA''. Change the definition of ''Watch List'' to reflect an expanded scale used for the Credit Risk Rating Matrix (''CRRM''). The CRRM is currently based on a scale of 1 through 7. The CRRM is also currently calculated internally using a more granular scale of 1 through 18 which corresponds to the current 1 through 7 scale (*e.g.,* credit rating 6 on the current scale is equivalent to credit ratings 12 and 13 on the more granular scale). The proposed changes would not change how Members are analyzed with respect to the Watch List.
GSD Rule 3A	Correct duplicative section reference, remove a reference to GSD Rule 31 (Distribution Facilities) which Rule no longer references Distribution Facilities and correct the title of GSD Rule 42 (Extension, Waiver or Suspension of Rules).
GSD Rule 3B	Remove the references to the Enforceability Opinion and Insolvency Opinion to add a more general reference to opinions required by FICC for CCIT Members similar to the more general descriptions of opinion requirements for other GSD membership types. FICC reviews its opinion requirements for membership periodically and may not always require an enforceability or insolvency opinion and may require other opinions that are not listed in the GSD Rule. Correct the name of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act of 1991, remove a reference to Rule 31 (Distribution Facilities) which Rule no longer references Distribution Facilities and correct the title of GSD Rule 42 (Extension, Waiver or Suspension of Rules).
GSD Rule 4	Remove ''Registered'' from ''Registered Broker'' and ''Registered Dealer'' to reflect the current defined terms for Broker and Dealer.
GSD Rule 5	Add ''Customer'' to ''Executing Firm'' in two places to reflect that the provision is referencing Executing Firm Customers.
GSD Rule 8	Clarify that Agent Clearing Members provide a representation that the Executing Firm Customer has authorized the Agent Clearing Member to submit trade data rather than providing a copy of the written authorization.
GSD Rule 13	Remove a reference to Section 3 which Section had been previously removed and correct the title of GSD Rule 42 (Extension, Waiver or Suspension of Rules).
GSD Rule 22A	Change the phrase ''Schedule for Deletion of Trade Data Submitted to the Comparison System'' to ''Schedule for Deletion of Trade Data From the Comparison System'' to match the proposed changes to the name of that schedule referenced below.
GSD Rule 22B	Add a provision clarifying that in accordance with Section 17 of Rule 3A (Sponsoring Members and Sponsored Members), Sponsored Members, in their capacities as such, are Members for purposes of Rule 22B (Corporation Default).
GSD Rule 22C	Correct the name of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act of 1991.
GSD Rule 33	Remove the provision that Members shall be given 10 Business Days' notice of any proposed amendment to the Procedures to harmonize the language with a similar provision in NSCC Rule 33 (Procedures) and DTC Rule 27 (Procedures). The Procedures referenced in GSD Rule 33 (Procedures) are subject to the rule change process applicable to FICC in its capacity as a registered clearing agency under Section 17A of the Act,[a] and self-regulatory organization subject to Section 19 of the Act.[b] FICC believes that a separate 10-Business Day notice requirement is neither necessary nor practical because Members already receive adequate notice of any changes or proposed changes to such Procedures through the Act's rule change process. In this context, the Procedures referenced in GSD Rule 33 constitute ''rules'' of FICC for purposes of the Act that would require following the rule change process under the Act to change.
GSD Rule 35	Revise the language to clarify the process used by FICC relating to financial reports and to harmonize with similar language in MBSD Rule 26 (Financial Reports and Internal Accounting Reports), EPN Article V Rule 5 (Financial Reports), DTC Rule 15 (Reports) and NSCC Rule 35 (Financial Reports). These proposed changes are consistent with certain changes being proposed to MBSD Rule 26 and EPN Article V Rule 5 described below as FICC uses the same processes for GSD, MBSD and EPN. In addition, the changes will be consistent with language in NSCC Rule 35[c] and changes that DTC is in the process of making to DTC Rule 15 as the same processes are used by FICC, NSCC and DTC with respect to financial reports.
GSD Rule 36	Revise to reflect that Funds-Only Settling Bank Members are entitled to the notification and comment provisions in the Rule in addition to Members.
GSD Rule 38	Remove unnecessary references to Sponsoring Member, Sponsored Member and CCIT Members as those members are covered by the reference to ''Member.''

PROPOSED CHANGES TO GSD RULES—Continued

Rule	Proposed changes
GSD Rule 39	Revise the Rule to clarify and to conform to harmonize similar language in DTC Rule 6 (Services), NSCC Rule 39 (Reliance on Instructions), NSCC Rule 58 (Limitations on Liability), and MBSD Rule 30 (Limitations of Liability) to reflect that the Cross Guaranty Agreements contain obligations between GSD and MBSD. The proposed changes include (i) removing specific references to the methods that are used to provide information or instructions to FICC, some of which are outdated, and (ii) adding a provision stating that, with respect to instructions given to FICC by a Member or its Agent, FICC is not responsible for the completeness or accuracy and shall have no liability for errors in the course of transmissions or recording of any transmissions or which may exist in any document or other media delivered to FICC, which changes are consistent with changes being proposed to MBSD Rule 30 as described below and consistent with language in DTC Rule 6, NSCC Rule 39, and NSCC Rule 58. The proposed changes also include (a) adding a reference to the Cross Guaranty Agreements with respect to liability between the GSD and MBSD divisions and (b) adding a provision stating that no Member shall be entitled to set off against any liability to FICC any liability FICC may have to such Member pursuant to GSD Rule 39, which proposed changes are consistent with provisions currently in MBSD Rule 30 and provisions relating to set off in NSCC Rule 58.
GSD Rule 40	Capitalize ''transactions'' to reflect the defined term.
GSD Rule 44	Use the correct title for the President and Chief Executive Officer and remove ''of'' for improved readability.
GSD Rule 45	Revise the language to clarify the process used by FICC relating to notices, remove outdated language, harmonize to similar language in MBSD Rule 35 (Notices) consistent with changes being proposed to MBSD Rule 35 (Notices) as described below as FICC uses the same processes for GSD and MBSD. Correct reference relating to notices from GSD Rule 22 (Insolvency of a Member) to GSD Rule 22A (Procedures for When the Corporation Ceases to Act) which contains notice provisions.
GSD Schedule of Timeframes	Add reference to A.M. Clearing Fund call to reflect the commonly used name for the deadline referenced.
GSD Schedule of GCF Repo Timeframes	Separate out the line item for the beginning of the collateral allocation process and provide a further description of that process and separate out the line item for the deadline for Net Funds Payors to satisfy their cash obligations for clarity.
GSD Schedule of Sponsored GC Trade Timeframes.	Create separate line items for times by which settlement output and margining output is made available to Sponsoring Members and clarify the descriptions of those line items and remove ''requirements'' to be consistent with similar language in the GSD Schedule of Timeframes.
GSD Schedule for the Deletion of Trade Data.	Change the title to clarify that the data is being deleted from the Comparison System. Revise the language to clarify that trade data (including Yield Comparison Trades) that have been compared but are not eligible for netting shall be deleted during the same processing cycle which such comparison has occurred. Remove the sentence relating to notice of changes as the schedule is subject to notice provisions relating to rule changes (GSD Rule 36 (Rule Changes)) and to conform to other schedules which do not have separate notice provisions for changes.
GSD Schedule of Required Match Data	Capitalize titles of items in schedule for consistency.
GSD Schedule of Required Data Submission Items.	Capitalize titles of items in schedule for consistency.
GSD Schedule of Required and Other Data Submission Items for GCF Repo Transactions.	Change title of schedule to reflect that the schedule refers to CCIT items to reflect proposed language regarding CCIT Transactions. Remove language that no longer describes the GCF Repo Transactions process and add language relating to CCIT Transactions.
GSD Schedule of Money Tolerances	Add ''and at the end of the day'' and ''applicable at end of day'' to clarify that the line items are applicable at the end of the day. Move the language relating to Rule 10 (Enhanced Comparison Processes Presumed Match Data) at the end of the schedule to clarify it applies to the entire schedule and clarify that the schedule does not apply to Netting-Eligible Auction Purchases, GCF Repo Transactions, CCIT Transactions and Sponsored GC Trades.
GSD Schedule of GC Comparable Securities.	Make ''Federal Home Loan Bank'' plural to reflect that there are multiple banks and add the word ''Agent'' in footnote to reflect the correct defined term for a Sponsored GC Clearing Agent Bank.
GSD Fee Structure	Change ''Non-Member'' to lower case to reflect that it is not a defined term.
GSD Interpretive Guidance With Respect To Settlement Finality.	Add quotation marks around ''Master Account'' in two footnotes, remove a duplicative reference link to location of Operating Circular 1 in a footnote and clarify that ''Transfer'' has the meaning referenced in Operating Circular 7 for clarity and to harmonize language with MBSD Interpretive Guidance With Respect To Settlement Finality consistent with certain changes being proposed to the MBSD Interpretive Guidance with Respect to Settlement Finality described below.

[a] 15 U.S.C. 78q–1.
[b] 15 U.S.C. 78s.
[c] *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 104831 (Feb. 12, 2026), 91 FR 7567 (Feb. 18, 2026) (SR–NSCC–2026–002) (describes proposed changes to NSCC Rules that have now been implemented including changes to NSCC Rule 35).

PROPOSED CHANGES TO MBSD RULES

Rule	Proposed changes
MBSD Rule 1	Revise definition of ''Intraday Mark-to-Market Charge'' to remove a reference to subsection (c) of the definition which subsection no longer contains parameter adjustments. Clarify the definitions of ''SBO'' and ''SBON'' and remove the definition of ''SBO Net Open Position'' to clarify the meaning of those terms and to reflect proposed changes being made to those terms in MBSD Rule 6 (TBA Netting). Change the definition of ''Watch List'' to reflect an expanded scale used for the CRRM. The CRRM is currently based on a scale of 1 through 7. The CRRM is also currently calculated internally using a more granular scale of 1 through 18 which corresponds to the current 1 through 7 scale (*e.g.,* a credit rating of 6 on the current scale is equivalent to the credit ratings 12 and 13 on the more granular scale). The proposed changes would not change how Members are analyzed with respect to the Watch List.
MBSD Rule 6	Clarify the language for the process relating to SBO-Destined Trades that cannot be offset.
MBSD Rule 14	Add ''or'' to ''fine other charge'' as a grammatical correction.
MBSD Rule 19	Add dashes in ''time to time'' and add a comma after ''Members'' for improved readability.
MBSD Rule 22	Replace the phrase ''The foregoing notwithstanding'' with ''Notwithstanding the foregoing'' for improved readability.
MBSD Rule 26	Revise the language to clarify the process used by FICC relating to financial reports and internal accounting control reports and to harmonize with similar language in GSD Rule 35 (Financial Reports), EPN Article V Rule 5 (Financial Reports), DTC Rule 15 (Reports) and NSCC Rule 35 (Financial Reports). These proposed changes are consistent with certain changes being proposed to GSD Rule 35 described above and EPN Article V Rule 5 described below as FICC uses the same processes for GSD, MBSD and EPN. In addition, the changes will be consistent with language in NSCC Rule 35* and changes that DTC is in the process of making to DTC Rule 15 as the same processes are used by FICC, NSCC and DTC with respect to financial reports.
MBSD Rule 27	Add comma after ''proposal'' to improve readability.
MBSD Rule 29	Replace ''from'' with ''by'' in the phrase ''delivered to or from the Corporation'' to improve readability.
MBSD Rule 30	Revise the Rule to clarify and to conform to harmonize similar language in DTC Rule 6 (Services), NSCC Rule 39 (Reliance on Instructions), NSCC Rule 58 (Limitations on Liability) and GSD Rule 39 (Limitations of Liability). The proposed changes include (i) removing specific references to the methods that are used to provide information or instructions to FICC, some of which are outdated, and (ii) adding a provision stating that, with respect to instructions given to FICC by a Member or its Agent, FICC is not responsible for the completeness or accuracy and shall have no liability for errors in the course of transmissions or recording of any transmissions or which may exist in any document or other media delivered to FICC, which changes are consistent with changes being proposed to GSD Rule 39 described above and consistent with language in DTC Rule 6, NSCC Rule 39 and NSCC Rule 58.
MBSD Rule 34	Use the correct title for the President and Chief Executive Officer, add a comma and remove ''or'' for improved readability.
MBSD Rule 35	Revise the language to clarify the process used by FICC relating to notices, remove outdated language and to conform to similar language in GSD Rule 45 (Notices) consistent with changes being proposed to GSD Rule 45 as described above as FICC uses the same processes for GSD and MBSD.
MBSD Rule 36	Revise the language to conform to similar language in GSD Rule 46 (Interpretation of Terms) as FICC uses the same processes for GSD and MBSD.
MBSD Interpretative Guidance With Respect to Settlement Finality.	Revise the language to clarify the meaning of certain defined terms and to harmonize with similar language in GSD Interpretive Guidance with Respect to Settlement Finality consistent with certain changes being proposed to the GSD Interpretive Guidance with Respect to Settlement Finality described above.

* *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 104831 (Feb. 12, 2026), 91 FR 7567 (Feb. 18, 2026) (SR–NSCC–2026–002) (describes proposed changes to NSCC Rules that have now been implemented including changes to NSCC Rule 35).

PROPOSED CHANGES TO EPN RULES

Rule	Proposed changes
EPN Article 1 Rule 1	Add defined term ''SEC'' as that term is used in the EPN Rules elsewhere and not currently defined.
EPN Article III Rule 1	Revise language relating to qualification and approval of applicants to clarify the approval process and requirements.
EPN Article V Rule 1	Use the correct title for the President and Chief Executive Officer.
EPN Article V Rule 5	Revise the language to clarify the process used by FICC relating to financial reports and to conform to similar language in GSD Rule 35 (Financial Reports), MBSD Rule 26 (Financial Reports and Internal Accounting Control Reports), DTC Rule 15 (Reports) and NSCC Rule 35 (Financial Reports). These proposed changes are consistent with certain changes being proposed to the GSD Rule 35 and MBSD Rule 26 described above as FICC uses the same processes for GSD, MBSD and EPN. In addition, the changes will be consistent with language in NSCC Rule 35t and changes that DTC is in the process of making to DTC Rule 15 as the same processes are used by FICC, NSCC and DTC with respect to financial reports.
EPN Article V Rule 6	Use the defined term ''SEC'' proposed to be added in EPN Article 1, Rule 1 (Definitions) for Securities and Exchange Commission.
EPN Article V Rule 9	Replace ''from'' with ''by'' in the phrase ''delivered to or from the Corporation'' to improve readability.
EPN Article V Rule 10	Use the defined term ''SEC'' proposed to be added in EPN Article 1, Rule 1 (Definitions) for Securities and Exchange Commission.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO EPN RULES—Continued

Rule	Proposed changes
EPN Article V Rule 16	Revise the language to clarify the process used by FICC relating to notices, remove outdated language, and to conform to similar language in GSD Rule 45 (Notices) and MBSD Rule 35 (Notices) as FICC uses the same processes for EPN, GSD and MBSD.

[t] *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 104831 (Feb. 12, 2026), 91 FR 7567 (Feb. 18, 2026) (SR–NSCC–2026–002) (describes proposed changes to NSCC Rules that have now been implemented including changes to NSCC Rule 35).

2. Statutory Basis

Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Act requires, in part, that the Rules be designed to promote the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions.[7]

FICC believes that the proposed changes to (i) correct or clarify language in the Rules, and (ii) harmonize the language in the GSD Rules, MBSD Rules and the EPN Rules with each other and with the rulebooks of FICC's two clearing agency affiliates, DTC and NSCC, are consistent with Section 17(A)(b)(3)(F) of the Act[8] because such changes would enhance the clarity and transparency of the Rules. By enhancing the clarity and transparency of the Rules, the proposed changes would allow Members to more efficiently and effectively conduct their business in accordance with the Rules, which FICC believes would promote the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions. As such, FICC believes that the proposed changes would be consistent with Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Act.[9]

(B) Clearing Agency's Statement on Burden on Competition

FICC does not believe the proposed rule changes would impact competition. The proposed rule changes described above would merely enhance the clarity and transparency of the Rules and would not significantly affect FICC's operations or the rights and obligations of the membership. As such, FICC believes the proposed rule changes would not have any impact on competition and would be consistent with Section 17A(b)(3)(I) of the Act.[10]

(C) Clearing Agency's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

FICC has not received or solicited any written comments relating to this proposal. If any written comments are received by FICC, they will be publicly filed as an Exhibit 2 to this filing, as required by Form 19b–4 and the General Instructions thereto.

Persons submitting comments are cautioned that, according to Section IV (Solicitation of Comments) of the Exhibit 1A in the General Instructions to Form 19b–4, the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. Commenters should submit only information that they wish to make available publicly, including their name, email address, and any other identifying information.

All prospective commenters should follow the Commission's instructions on how to submit comments, *available at www.sec.gov/rules-regulations/how-submit-comment.* General questions regarding the rule filing process or logistical questions regarding this filing should be directed to the Main Office of the Commission's Division of Trading and Markets at *tradingandmarkets@sec.gov* or 202–551–5777.

FICC reserves the right to not respond to any comments received.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change, and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)[11] of the Act and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b–4 thereunder.[12] At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission will institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (*https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml*); or
- Send an email to *rule-comments@sec.gov.* Please include File Number SR–FICC–2026–006 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR–FICC–2026–006. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (*www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml*). Copies of the filing will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of FICC and on DTCC's website (*www.dtcc.com/legal/sec-rule-filings*). Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to File Number SR–FICC–2026–006 and should be submitted on or before April 16, 2026.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.[13]

Vanessa A. Countryman,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–05846 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

[7] 15 U.S.C. 78q–1(b)(3)(F).

[8] *Id.*

[9] *Id.*

[10] 15 U.S.C. 78q–1(b)(3)(I).

[11] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

[12] 17 CFR 240.19b–4(f).

[13] 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Invitation for Applications for Inclusion on the Facility-Specific Rapid Response Labor Mechanism Dispute Settlement Roster for the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice requesting applications.

SUMMARY: The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) requires the maintenance of a roster of individuals who would be available to serve as panelists for specialized labor panels. The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) invites applications from eligible individuals wishing to be included on this roster.

DATES: To ensure consideration, USTR must receive your application by April 27, 2026.

ADDRESSES: You should submit your application through the Federal eRulemaking Portal: *http://www.regulations.gov* (*Regulations.gov*), using docket number USTR–2026–0100. Follow the submission instructions below. For alternatives to online submissions, please contact Sandy McKinzy at (202) 395–9483 before transmitting your application and in advance of the deadline.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information about the application process, contact Sandy McKinzy, Paralegal Specialist, Office of Monitoring and Enforcement, at (202) 395–9483. For all other inquiries, contact Deputy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Monitoring & Enforcement Catherine Gibson at (202) 395–5725.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: USTR is seeking applications from U.S. citizens and nationals of other countries who are interested in serving as panelists for labor dispute settlement panels established under the USMCA. You can find the text of the USMCA on the USTR website: *https://ustr.gov/trade-agreements/free-trade-agreements/united-states-mexico-canada-agreement.*

I. Facility-Specific Rapid Response Labor Mechanism Under USMCA Annex 31–A

USMCA is a trilateral trade agreement between the United States, Mexico, and Canada (the Parties). Annex 31–A establishes a facility-specific rapid response labor mechanism (the RRM), as between the United States and Mexico, which can be used whenever either Party believes that workers at a Covered Facility (as defined in Article 31–A.15) are being denied the right of free association and collective bargaining under the laws necessary to fulfill the obligations of the other Party under the USMCA (a Denial of Rights). A Party may ask a labor panel under the RRM to request that the respondent Party allow it an opportunity to verify the Covered Facility's compliance with the law in question and to determine whether there has been a Denial of Rights. *See* USMCA Article 31–A.5. Labor panelists submit a report to the Parties commenting on the functioning of the RRM at the conclusion of the first four-year term and every four years thereafter. *See* USMCA Article 31–A.3.6.

USMCA requires the Parties to establish and maintain three lists of panelists who are willing to commit to being generally available to serve as labor panelists for the RRM. By the date of entry into force of USMCA, each Party was required to appoint three individuals to one list potentially comprised of its own nationals and appoint, by consensus, three individuals to a joint list. The individuals on the joint list may not be nationals of either the United States or Mexico. By six months from entry into force of USMCA, the Parties were required to expand the lists to at least five individuals, respectively. Individuals on the lists were appointed for a minimum term of four years or until the Parties constitute new lists. *See* Article 31–A.3.

To qualify for inclusion on the RRM lists, an applicant must:

- Have expertise and experience in labor law and practice, and with the application of standards and rights as recognized by the International Labor Organization;
- Be objective, reliable, and possess sound judgment;
- Be independent of, and not be affiliated with or take instructions from, a Party; and
- Comply with the Code of Conduct adopted by the Free Trade Commission established under Article 30.1. You can find the text of the Code of Conduct on USTR's website: *https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/files/agreements/usmca/AnnexIIIUSMCACodeConduct.pdf.*

II. Request for Applications

USTR invites eligible individuals who wish to be considered for inclusion on the RRM lists to submit applications through *Regulations.gov,* using docket number USTR–2026–0100. In order to be assured of consideration, USTR must receive your application by April 27, 2026. Applicants must file all submissions electronically via *Regulations.gov.* For technical questions on submitting comments on *Regulations.gov,* please contact the *Regulations.gov* help desk at *regulationshelpdesk@gsa.gov* or 1 (866) 498–2945. For alternatives to online submissions, please contact Sandy McKinzy at (202) 395–9483 before transmitting your application and in advance of the deadline.

To submit an application via *Regulations.gov,* enter docket number USTR–2026–0100 on the *Regulations.gov* home page and click 'search.' The site will provide a search-results page listing all documents associated with this docket. Find a reference to this notice by selecting 'notice' under 'document type' on the left side of the search-results page, and click on the 'comment' link. For further information on using the *www.regulations.gov* website, please consult the resources provided on the website by clicking on 'FAQ' at the bottom of the page.

The *Regulations.gov* website allows users to provide comments by filling in a 'comment' field, or by attaching a document using an 'attach files' field. USTR prefers that candidates submit applications in an attached document. All submissions must be typewritten in English and be prepared in (or be compatible with) Microsoft Word (.doc) or Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) formats. Include any data attachments to the submission in the same file as the submission itself, and not as separate files.

Applications should include the following information, and should number each section of the application as indicated:

1. Name of the applicant.
2. Business address, telephone number, fax number, and email address.
3. Citizenship(s).
4. Current employment, including title, description of responsibility, and name and address of employer.
5. Relevant education and professional training.
6. Fluency in any relevant language other than English, written and spoken.
7. Post-education employment history, including the dates and addresses of each prior position, a summary of responsibilities, and a list of clients represented in the prior five years.
8. Relevant professional affiliations and certifications, including, if any, current bar memberships in good standing.
9. A list and copies of publications, testimony, and speeches, if any, concerning the relevant area(s) of expertise. Judges or former judges should list relevant judicial decisions.

Submit only one copy of publications, testimony, speeches, and decisions.

10. A list of international trade proceedings or domestic proceedings relating to labor law or other relevant matters in which the applicant has provided advice to a party or otherwise participated.

11. Summary of any current and past employment by, or consulting or other work for, the Governments of the United States, Mexico, or Canada.

12. The names and nationalities of all foreign principals for whom the applicant is currently or has previously been registered pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act, 22 U.S.C. 611 *et seq.,* and the dates of all registration periods.

13. A short statement of qualifications and availability for service, including information relevant to the applicant's familiarity with labor law, and willingness and ability to make time commitments necessary for service on panels.

14. On a separate page, the names, addresses, telephone and fax numbers of three individuals willing to provide information concerning the applicant's qualifications for service, including the applicant's character, reputation, reliability, judgment, and familiarity with labor law.

III. Public Disclosure

Applications are covered by a Privacy Act System of Records Notice (*https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2016-12-22/pdf/2016-30496.pdf*). They are not subject to public disclosure, and USTR will not post applications publicly on *Regulations.gov.* USTR may share applications with other federal agencies, advisory committees, the House Committee on Ways and Means, the Senate Committee on Finance, and the Government of Mexico (for joint list applicants) prior to determining whether to appoint persons to the relevant list.

IV. False Statements

False statements by an applicant regarding their personal or professional qualifications, or financial or other relevant interests that bear on the applicant's suitability for placement on a list or appointment to a panel are subject to criminal sanctions under 18 U.S.C. 1001.

Jennifer Thornton,

General Counsel, Office of the United States Trade Representative.

[FR Doc. 2026–05898 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3390–F4–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

[FTA Docket No. FTA 2026–0041]

Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: State of Good Repair Program

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation.

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 approve a request for an extension without change to an existing information collection: State of Good Repair Program.

DATES: Comments must be submitted before May 26, 2026.

ADDRESSES: To ensure that your comments are not entered more than once into the docket, submit comments identified by the docket number by only one of the following methods:

1. *Website: https://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments on the U.S. Government electronic docket site. All electronic submissions must be made to the U.S. Government electronic docket site at *https://www.regulations.gov.* Commenters should follow the directions below for mailed and hand-delivered comments.

2. *Fax:* 202–366–7951.

3. *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

4. *Hand Delivery:* U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: You must include the agency name and docket number for this notice at the beginning of your comments. Submit two copies of your comments if you submit them by mail. For confirmation that FTA has received your comments, include a self-addressed stamped postcard. Note that all comments received, including any personal information, will be posted and will be available to internet users, without change, to *https://www.regulations.gov.* You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published April 11, 2000, (65 FR 19477), or you may visit *https://www.regulations.gov.*

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents and comments received, go to *https://www.regulations.gov* at any time. Background documents and comments received may also be viewed at the U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Amy Volz 202–366–7484 or *amy.volz@dot.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Interested parties are invited to send comments regarding any aspect of this information collection, 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 approval of this information collection.

Title: State of Good Repair Program.

OMB Number: 2132–0577.

Background: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is requesting Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 3-year approval of an extension without change for a currently approved collection. The State of Good Repair Grants Program is formula funding to assist state and local governmental authorities in financing capital projects to maintain public transportation systems in a state of good repair, including projects to maintain, replace, and rehabilitate rolling stock; track; equipment, structures; signals and communications; stations; maintenance facilities; and implementing Transit Asset Management (TAM) plan. The Competitive Rail Vehicle Replacement Grant program is a discretionary grant program to assist in financing the replacement of rail rolling stock. All funding granted under the State of Good Repair Program, both formula and discretionary, must be for projects in a grant recipient's Transit Asset Management (TAM) plan. The information collected under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) remains unchanged from the previous renewal.

Respondents: Eligible recipients include designated recipients that allocate funds to fixed-route bus operators, states (including territories and Washington DC) or local governmental entities that operate fixed route bus service, and Indian tribes. Eligible subrecipients include all otherwise eligible applicants and private nonprofit organizations engaged in public transportation.

Respondents: Eligible recipients are states, local government authorities, or other public entities in urbanized areas with fixed guideway and/or high-intensity motorbus systems in revenue service for at least seven full federal fiscal years prior to the beginning of the federal fiscal year of the apportionment.

Estimated Annual Number of Respondents: 68 respondents.

Estimated Annual Number of Responses: 1,097 responses.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 13,729 hours.

Frequency: Annually.

Kusum Dhyani,

Director, Office of Management Planning.

[FR Doc. 2026–05920 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–57–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

[FTA Docket No. FTA 2026–0040]

Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: Buses and Bus Facilities Formula and Competitive Programs and Low or No Emission Program

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation.

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 approve a request for an extension without change to an existing information collection: Buses and Bus Facilities Formula and Competitive Programs and Low or No Emission Program.

DATES: Comments must be submitted before May 26, 2026.

ADDRESSES: To ensure that your comments are not entered more than once into the docket, submit comments identified by the docket number by only one of the following methods:

1. *Website: https://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments on the U.S. Government electronic docket site. All electronic submissions must be made to the U.S. Government electronic docket site at *https://www.regulations.gov.* Commenters should follow the directions below for mailed and hand-delivered comments.

2. *Fax:* 202–366–7951.

3. *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

4. *Hand Delivery:* U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: You must include the agency name and docket number for this notice at the beginning of your comments. Submit two copies of your comments if you submit them by mail. For confirmation that FTA has received your comments, include a self-addressed stamped postcard. Note that all comments received, including any personal information, will be posted and will be available to internet users, without change, to *https://www.regulations.gov.* You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published April 11, 2000, (65 FR 19477), or you may visit *https://www.regulations.gov.* Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents and comments received, go to *https://www.regulations.gov* at any time. Background documents and comments received may also be viewed at the U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kirsten Wiard-Bauer at *kirsten.wiard-bauer@dot.gov* or 202–366–2053.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Interested parties are invited to send comments regarding any aspect of this information collection, 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 approval of this information collection.

Title: Buses and Bus Facilities Formula and Competitive Programs and Low or No Emission Program.

OMB Number: 2132–0576.

Background: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is requesting Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 3-year approval of an extension without change for a currently approved collection. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) administers three distinct programs under this information collection: the Buses and Bus Facilities Formula Grant Program, the Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Grant Program, and the Low or No Emission Grant Program. The *Buses and Bus Facilities Formula Grant Program* provides funding to states and transit agencies through a statutory formula for the replacement, rehabilitation, and purchase of buses and related equipment, as well as the construction of bus-related facilities. The *Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Grant Program* distributes funding to states and transit agencies through a competitive process for similar purposes, enabling agencies to modernize their fleets and improve infrastructure. The *Low or No Emission (Low-No) Grant Program* offers competitive funding to states and transit agencies for the purchase or lease of zero-emission and low-emission transit buses, along with the acquisition, construction, and leasing of the necessary supporting facilities.

Under this information collection, FTA gathers data from grantees necessary to evaluate and monitor grant activities. This includes applicant and project-level information in grant application, such as descriptions of proposed projects, anticipated benefits, and compliance with program requirements. After award, recipients report on project progress milestones and the use of funds; provide technical specifications for purchased equipment; certify compliance with environmental and accessibility standards; and submit periodic performance reports. These submissions are used by FTA to ensure program accountability, assess compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements, and measure the impact of federally funded projects on transit service and infrastructure. The information collected under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) remains unchanged from the previous renewal.

Respondents: Eligible recipients include designated recipients that

allocate funds to fixed-route bus operators, states (including territories and Washington DC) or local governmental entities that operate fixed route bus service, and Indian tribes. Eligible subrecipients include all otherwise eligible applicants and also private nonprofit organizations engaged in public transportation.

Estimated Annual Number of Respondents: 1,035 respondents.

Estimated Annual Number of Responses: 1,035 responses.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 56,734 hours.

Frequency: Annually.

Kusum Dhyani,

Director, Office of Management Planning.

[FR Doc. 2026–05918 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–57–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

[FTA Docket No. FTA 2026–0039]

Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: 49 U.S.C. 5310 Capital Assistance Program for Elderly Persons and Persons With Disabilities & Section 5311 Nonurbanized Area Formula Program

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation.

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 approve a request for an extension without change to an existing information collection: 49 U.S.C. 5310 Capital Assistance Program for Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities & Section 5311 Nonurbanized Area Formula Program.

DATES: Comments must be submitted before May 26, 2026.

ADDRESSES: To ensure that your comments are not entered more than once into the docket, submit comments identified by the docket number by only one of the following methods:

1. *Website: https://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments on the U.S. Government electronic docket site. All electronic submissions must be made to the U.S. Government electronic docket site at *https://www.regulations.gov.* Commenters should follow the directions below for mailed and hand-delivered comments.

2. *Fax:* 202–366–7951.

3. *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

4. *Hand Delivery:* U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: You must include the agency name and docket number for this notice at the beginning of your comments. Submit two copies of your comments if you submit them by mail. For confirmation that FTA has received your comments, include a self-addressed stamped postcard. Note that all comments received, including any personal information, will be posted and will be available to internet users, without change, to *https://www.regulations.gov.* You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published April 11, 2000, (65 FR 19477), or you may visit *https://www.regulations.gov.* Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents and comments received, go to *https://www.regulations.gov* at any time. Background documents and comments received may also be viewed at the U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Destiny Buchanan, Office of Program Management (202) 493–8018 or *Destiny.Buchanan@dot.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Interested parties are invited to send comments regarding any aspect of this information collection, 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 approval of this information collection.

Title: 49 U.S.C. 5310 Capital Assistance Program for Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities & Section 5311 Nonurbanized Area Formula Program.

OMB Number: 2132–0500.

Background: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is requesting Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 3-year approval of an extension without change for a currently approved collection. The 49 U.S.C. 5310 Capital Assistance Program for Elderly Persons and Persons with Disabilities & Section 5311 information collection is comprised of two programs that provide financial assistance in meeting the transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities where public transportation services are unavailable, insufficient or inappropriate. The Section 5310 program (Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities) supplements FTA's other capital assistance programs by funding transportation projects for seniors and individuals with disabilities in large urban, small urban, and rural areas. It primarily covers capital expenses such as buses and vans and, in selected cases, operating costs to remove barriers to transportation access. In addition to traditional Section 5310 funding, the FTA administers the Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility (ICAM) Pilot Program, open to Section 5310 recipients and subrecipients, which helps finance innovative projects that improve coordination of transportation and non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) services; examples include deployment of coordination technology and projects that create or expand access to community One-Call/One-Click centers. The Section 5311 program (Formula Grants for Rural Areas) provides capital, planning, and operating assistance to states, local governments, private nonprofit agencies, and public bodies for transportation services in rural areas with populations of less than 50,000. The Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP), a subsection of 5311, funds training, technical assistance, and related activities to strengthen rural public transportation. States are the direct recipients of 5311 and RTAP funds. Tribal Transit Program, also a subsection of 5311, provides public transportation funding to federally recognized Indian Tribes. Together, these programs expand transportation accessibility; 5310 by targeting seniors and individuals with disabilities and 5311 by addressing broader public transportation needs in rural communities.

Respondents: States or local governmental entities that operate a public transportation service, private

non-profit organizations, federally recognized Indian Tribes, and designated recipients.

Estimated Annual Number of Respondents: 517 respondents.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 54,133 hours.

Frequency: Every two years.

Kusum Dhyani,

Director, Office of Management Planning.

[FR Doc. 2026–05921 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–57–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

[FTA Docket No. FTA 2026–0100]

Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: National Transit Database (NTD)

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation.

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 approve a request for an extension without change to an existing information collection: National Transit Database 49 U.S.C. 5335.

DATES: Comments must be submitted before May 26, 2026.

ADDRESSES: To ensure that your comments are not entered more than once into the docket, submit comments identified by the docket number by only one of the following methods:

1. *Website: https://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments on the U.S. Government electronic docket site. All electronic submissions must be made to the U.S. Government electronic docket site at *https://www.regulations.gov.* Commenters should follow the directions below for mailed and hand-delivered comments.

2. *Fax:* 202–366–7951.

3. *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

4. *Hand Delivery:* U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: You must include the agency name and docket number for this notice at the beginning of your comments. Submit two copies of your comments if you submit them by mail. For confirmation that FTA has received your comments, include a self-addressed stamped postcard. Note that all comments received, including any personal information, will be posted and will be available to internet users, without change, to *https://www.regulations.gov.* You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published April 11, 2000, (65 FR 19477), or you may visit *https://www.regulations.gov.* Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents and comments received, go to *https://www.regulations.gov* at any time. Background documents and comments received may also be viewed at the U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chelsea Champlin, *Chelsea.Champlin@dot.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Interested parties are invited to send comments regarding any aspect of this information collection, 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 approval of this information collection.

Title: National Transit Database (NTD).

OMB Number: 2132–0008.

Background: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is requesting Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 3-year approval of an extension without change for a currently approved collection. 49 U.S.C. 5335 requires the Secretary of Transportation to maintain a reporting system, using a uniform system of accounts, to collect financial, operating, geographic service area coverage, and asset condition information from the nation's public transportation systems. Congress created the NTD to be the repository of transit data for the nation to support public transportation service planning and FTA established the NTD to meet these requirements. FTA continues to seek ways to reduce the burden of NTD reporting. The existing information collection request (ICR) is set to expire on August 31, 2026, this ICR covers the information collection activities associated with proposed changes finalized in July 2025, to include the consolidation of station and facility reporting, security reporting clarification, trip planning and geospatial data, and ensuring a state of good repair. There is no added burden from these changes.

Respondents: State or local governmental entities that operate a public transportation service.

Estimated Annual Number of Respondents: 2,914 respondents.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 456,179 hours.

Frequency: Annual.

Kusum Dhyani,

Director, Office of Management Planning.

[FR Doc. 2026–05922 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–57–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

[FTA Docket No. FTA 2026–0042]

Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: National Transit Asset Management (TAM) System

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation.

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 approve a request for an extension without change to an existing information collection: National Transit Asset Management (TAM) System.

DATES: Comments must be submitted before May 26, 2026.

ADDRESSES: To ensure that your comments are not entered more than once into the docket, submit comments identified by the docket number by only one of the following methods:

1. *Website: https://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments on the U.S. Government electronic docket site. All electronic submissions must be made to the U.S. Government electronic docket site at *https://www.regulations.gov.* Commenters

should follow the directions below for mailed and hand-delivered comments.

2. *Fax:* 202–366–7951.

3. *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

4. *Hand Delivery:* U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: You must include the agency name and docket number for this notice at the beginning of your comments. Submit two copies of your comments if you submit them by mail. For confirmation that FTA has received your comments, include a self-addressed stamped postcard. Note that all comments received, including any personal information, will be posted and will be available to internet users, without change, to *https://www.regulations.gov.* You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published April 11, 2000, (65 FR 19477), or you may visit *https://www.regulations.gov*. Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents and comments received, go to *https://www.regulations.gov* at any time. Background documents and comments received may also be viewed at the U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tamalynn Kennedy 202–366–7573 or *tamalynn.kennedy@dot.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Interested parties are invited to send comments regarding any aspect of this information collection, 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 approval of this information collection.

Title: National Transit Asset Management (TAM) System.

OMB Number: 2132–0579.

Background: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is requesting Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 3-year approval of an extension without change for a currently approved collection. The National Transit Asset Management (TAM) System establishes a uniform framework for transit agencies to monitor and manage their capital assets including vehicles, facilities, equipment, and infrastructure to maintain a State of Good Repair (SGR). Under these requirements, all recipients and subrecipients of Federal financial assistance under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53 that own, operate, or manage capital assets used for providing public transportation must develop a TAM Plan, conduct regular condition assessments of their assets, set annual performance targets, and prioritize investment decisions based on asset condition and service needs. This information collection supports FTA's oversight of the National TAM System by gathering asset inventory data, condition ratings, performance targets, and investment priorities from grantees. The collected data is used to evaluate compliance with TAM regulations, inform federal funding decisions, and provide Congress and the public with transparency regarding the condition and investment needs of the nation's transit assets. The TAM System promotes efficient use of resources, consistent performance measurement nationwide, and improved safety and reliability of public transportation services.

Respondents: All recipients and subrecipients of Federal financial assistance under 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53 that own, operate, or manage capital assets used for providing public transportation must be covered by a Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan. Tier I agencies are those operating more than 100 vehicles in revenue service, or any rail mode must develop individual plans, while Tier II agencies are those operating 100 or fewer vehicles and no rail may prepare their own plan or participate in a Group TAM Plan sponsored by a State DOT or other eligible recipient.

Estimated Annual Number of Responses: 932 responses.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 378,004 hours.

Frequency: Annually.

Kusum Dhyani,

Director, Office of Management Planning.

[FR Doc. 2026–05919 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–57–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request on Burden Related to Information Authorization and IRS Disclosure Authorization for Victims of Identity Theft

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of information collection and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the IRS is inviting comments on the information collection request outlined in this notice.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before May 26, 2026 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments and recommendations to Andrés Garcia, Internal Revenue Service, Room 6526, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20224, or by email at *pra.comments@irs.gov.* Please include, ''OMB Number: 1545–1165—Public Comment Request Notice'' in the subject line of the message.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: View the latest drafts of the tax forms related to the information collection listed in this notice at *https://www.irs.gov/draft-tax-forms.* Requests for additional information or copies of this collection should be directed to Ronald J. Durbala, (202) 317–5746 or via email at *RJoseph.Durbala@irs.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The IRS, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the IRS assess its impact and minimize the burden of its information collection requirements. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record and be viewable on relevant websites. For this reason, please do not include in your comments information of a confidential nature, such as sensitive personal information.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to

enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Title: Tax Information Authorization and IRS Disclosure Authorization for Victims of Identity Theft.

OMB Number: 1545–1165.

Form Number(s): Forms 8821 and 8821–A.

Abstract: Form 8821 is used to appoint someone to receive or inspect certain tax information. The information on the form is used to identify appointees and to ensure that confidential tax information is not disclosed to unauthorized persons. Form 8821–A is an authorization signed by a taxpayer for the IRS to disclose returns and return information to state or local law enforcement in the event of a possible identity theft.

Current Actions: There are no changes being made to the forms at this time.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, business or other for-profit organizations, not profit institutions, and farms.

Form 8821:

Estimated Number of Respondents: 3,393,083.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 1hr., 3 min.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 3,562,738.

Form 8821–A:

Estimated Number of Respondents: 182.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 9 min.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 30.

Dated: March 24, 2026.

Ronald J. Durbala,

Tax Analyst.

[FR Doc. 2026–05865 Filed 3–25–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4831–GV–P

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