

opportunity for public comment before making a final decision.

EPA will also apply this policy regardless of the statutory mechanism EPA uses to extend the existing stocks period; thus, if EPA granted a section 18 emergency exemption, or allowed a state to issue a registration pursuant to section 24(c), to permit additional use of the existing stocks of a pesticide that falls within one of the above criteria, EPA would apply this policy. For example, if a state issued a section 24(c) registration for a voluntarily cancelled pesticide, that would effectively extend use beyond the existing stocks disposition, and the pesticide product fell within one of the categories discussed above, EPA intends to publish a notice of receipt in the Federal Register to solicit public comment, during EPA's 90-day review of the section 24(c) registration.

EPA will not publish a notice before modifying the existing stocks provision for a pesticide that falls within one of the categories described above if EPA finds that an emergency exists. For purposes of this policy, an emergency is defined to exist only when EPA determines that the four following conditions occur: (1) Either the use of the pesticide is necessary to prevent an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment, or the continued use of the pesticide would present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment; (2) there is not another feasible solution to prevent such a risk; (3) the time available to avert the risk is insufficient to permit the 30-day public comment period, and (4) the public interest requires modifying the provision in the manner described in EPA's proposal.

An example of an emergency situation would be where EPA determined that it was necessary to reduce the existing stocks period to prevent an unreasonable risk, and that the risk would occur during the period necessary for notice and comment. In such a case, EPA would publish a notice after the emergency modification, explaining its action and the rationale for it.

The statement of policy articulated here supplements, but does not replace EPA's 1991 existing stocks policy. Any decision to modify an existing stocks disposition would still be consistent with the general policies outlined in the 1991 notice. In some of the cases outlined in the policy, EPA regulations already require publication of a notice and solicitation of public comments, and the application of the policy announced today would result in minimal change to EPA practice. For

example, if EPA were to receive a section 18 request that would effectively modify an existing stocks provision, EPA's regulations require EPA to publish a notice of the receipt of an application for the exemption and to solicit public comment in many cases to which this notice would apply. But in such circumstances, EPA would typically extend the comment period from the 15 days required by 40 CFR 166.24(c) to the 30 days specified in this policy. Nor would EPA waive the comment period except in the emergency circumstances outlined above.

IV. Comments

The Agency is requesting comments and suggestions on the circumstances in which an opportunity for notice and comment would be provided. The Agency is also seeking comment on whether 30 days is an appropriate amount of time. Comments must bear a notation indicating the document control number [OPP-38512].

A record has been established for this action under docket number "OPP-38512" (including comments and data submitted electronically as described below). A public version of this record, including printed, paper versions of electronic comments, which does not include any information claimed as CBI, is available for inspection from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The public record is located in Rm. 1132 of the Public Response and Program Resources Branch, Field Operations Division (7506C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Crystal Mall #2, 1921 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA.

Electronic comments can be sent directly to EPA at:

opp-docket@epamail.epa.gov

Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption.

The official record for the action as well as the public version, as described above will be kept in paper form. Accordingly, EPA will transfer all comments received electronically into printed, paper form as they are received and will place the paper copies in the official record which will also include all comments submitted directly in writing. The official rulemaking record is the paper record maintained at the address in ADDRESSES at the beginning of this document.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection.

Dated: April 10, 1996.

Daniel Barolo,

Director, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. 96-9353 Filed 4-11-96; 2:57 pm]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Sunshine Act Meeting; Notice of Agency Meeting

Pursuant to the provisions of the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (5 U.S.C. 552b), notice is hereby given that at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 9, 1996, the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation met in closed session to consider (1) reports of the Office of Inspector General, and (2) matters relating to the Corporation's supervisory activities.

In calling the meeting, the Board determined, on motion of Vice Chairman Andrew C. Hove, Jr., seconded by Director Joseph H. Neely (Appointive), concurred in by Director Jonathan L. Fiechter (Acting Director, Office of Thrift Supervision), Director Eugene A. Ludwig (Comptroller of the Currency), and Chairman Ricki Helfer, that Corporation business required its consideration of the matters on less than seven days' notice to the public; that no earlier notice of the meeting was practicable; that the public interest did not require consideration of the matters in a meeting open to public observation; and that the matters could be considered in a closed meeting by authority of subsections (c)(2), (c)(4), (c)(6), (c)(8) and (c)(9)(A)(ii) of the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(2), (c)(4), (c)(6), (c)(8) and (c)(9)(A)(ii)).

The meeting was held in the Board Room of the FDIC Building located at 550 17th Street, NW., Washington, D.C.

Dated: April 9, 1996.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Valerie J. Best,

Assistant Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-9508 Filed 4-12-96; 3:52 am]

BILLING CODE 6714-01-M

FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE

Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces that three information collection requests contained in FMCS agency forms are coming up for renewal and FMCS is requesting extension of these currently approved collections. These forms are: FMCS Arbitrator's Report and Fee Statement (FMCS Form R-19), the FMCS Arbitrator's Personal Data Questionnaire (FMCS Form R-22), and the FMCS Request for Arbitration Services (FMCS Form R-43). Before submitting the renewal packages to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), FMCS is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the collections as described below.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before June 15, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments identified by the appropriate agency form number by mail to Office of the General Counsel, FMCS, 2100 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20427, Room 603, ATTN: Tammi Strozier, Public Response Section. Copies of the complete agency forms may be obtained from the Office of the General Counsel at the above address or by contacting the person whose name appears under the section headed, **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.**

Comments and data may also be submitted by fax at (202) 606-4253 or electronically by sending electronic mail (e-mail) to fmcs02@erols.com. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the appropriate agency form number. No confidential business information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail.

Information submitted as a comment concerning this document may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of the information as "CBI". Information so marked will not be disclosed but a copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential may be disclosed publicly by FMCS without prior notice. All written comments will be available for inspection in Room 600 at the Washington, DC address above from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 a.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eileen B. Hoffman, General Counsel, FMCS, 2100 K Street NW., Washington, DC 20427. Telephone: (202) 606-5444; Fax: (202) 606-4253; e-mail: fmcs02@erols.com

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Copies of each of the agency forms are available from the Office of General Counsel, Public Access Section by calling, faxing, or writing, Ms. Tammi Strozier at the

above address. Please ask for the form by title and agency form number.

1. Information Collection Requests

FMCS is seeking comments on the following information collection requests contained in an FMCS agency form.

Title: Arbitrator's Personal Data Questionnaire. FMCS Form is R-22 OMB No. 3076-0001. Expiration date 7/31/96.

Affecting entities: Parties affected by this information collection are the individuals who apply for admission to the FMCS Roster of Arbitrators.

Abstract: Title II of the Labor-Management Relations Act of 1947 (Public Law 90-101) as amended in 1959 (Public Law 86-257) and 1974 (Public Law 93-360), states that the labor policy of the United States, as follows:

The settlement of issues between employers and employees through collective bargaining may be advanced by making available full and adequate governmental facilities for conciliation, mediation, and voluntary arbitration to encourage employers and the representatives of their employees to reach and maintain rates of pay, hours, and working conditions, and to make all reasonable efforts to settle their differences by mutual agreement reached through conferences and collective bargaining or by such methods as may be provided for in any applicable agreement for the settlement of disputes.

Under its regulations at 29 C.F.R. Part 1404, FMCS has established policies, function, and procedures for its arbitration functions, including for dealing with all arbitrators listed on the FMCS Roster of Arbitrators, all applicants for listing on the Roster, and all persons or parties seeking to obtain from FMCS either names or panels of names of arbitrators listed on the Roster in connection with disputes which are to be submitted to arbitration or fact-finding.

FMCS strives to maintain the highest quality of dispute resolvers on its roster. To ensure that purpose, it asks all candidates to complete an application form. This procedure allows FMCS to select highly qualified candidates for the arbitrator roster. The respondents are private citizens who make application for appointment to the FMCS roster. This obligation is pursuant to 29 U.S.C. 171(b), 29 C.F.R. Part 1404. This notice is a request to extend the existing form without any change in the substance or method of collection.

Burden Statement: The number of respondents is approximately 250 individuals per year, the approximate number of individuals who request

membership on the FMCS Roster. The time required to complete this questionnaire is approximately one and one-half hour. Each respondent is required to respond only once per application, and once per year for updating their biographical sketch.

Title: Request for Arbitration Services. FMCS Form No. R-43, OMB No. 3076-0002; Expiration date: July 31, 1996.

Affected Entities: Employers and their representatives, employees, labor unions and their representatives who request arbitration services.

Abstract: Pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 171(b) and 29 C.F.R. Part 1404, FMCS offers panels of arbitrators for selection by labor and management to resolve grievances and disagreements arising under their collective bargaining agreements and to deal with fact-finding and interest arbitration issues as well. The need for this form is to obtain information, such as name, address, type of assistance desired, so that the FMCS can respond to requests efficiently and effectively to provide various arbitration services (e.g. furnishing lists of seven arbitrators to parties). The purpose of this information collection is to facilitate the processing of the party's request for arbitration assistance. No third party notification or public disclosure burden is associated with this collection. This notice for comments is to extend the current form without any change in the substance or method of collection.

Burden Statement: The current total annual respondent burden estimate is that FMCS will receive requests from approximately 27,000 respondents per year. In most instances, the form is completed only once and takes about ten minutes to complete. Thus, the frequency of request for an arbitration panel is usually only once.

Title: Arbitrator's Report and Fee Statement. FMCS Form R-19; OMB No. 3076-0003. Expiration date: July 31, 1996.

Affected Entities: Individual arbitrators who render awards under appointment by the FMCS procedures.

Abstract: Pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 171(b) and 29 C.F.R. Part 1404, FMCS assumes a responsibility to monitor the work of the arbitrators who serve on its roster. This is satisfied through the requirement of a completion of a report and fee statement which indicates when the arbitration award was rendered, the file number, the company and union, the issues, whether briefs were filed and transcripts taken, and the fees and days for services as an arbitrator. This information is then contained in the agency's annual report to indicate the types of arbitration issues, the average

or median arbitration fees and days spent on cases, and the timeliness of the awards rendered. This notice request is for extension of this form with no change in the substance or method of collection.

Burden Statement: FMCS receives approximately 5,000 responses per year. The form is only filled out once and the time required is approximately ten minutes. FMCS uses this form to review arbitrator conformance with its fee and expense reporting requirements. This data is compiled under the individual arbitrator's name and is used to provide requesting parties with a panel of arbitrators to meet their needs.

II. Request for Comments

FMCS solicits comments to:

(i) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(ii) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(iii) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(iv) 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, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

III. The Public Docket

The official record is the paper record maintained at the address in **ADDRESSES** at the beginning of this document. FMCS will transfer all electronically received comments into printed paper form as they are received. This record is available for inspection from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

List of Subjects

Arbitration, Information collection requests.

Dated: April 9, 1996.

Wilma Liebman,
Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. 96-9321 Filed 4-15-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6372-01-M

Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces that the major information collection form for FMCS mediation services, FMCS F-7 form, "Notice to Mediation Agencies," OMB No. 3076-0004, which expires on November 11, 1996, is coming up for renewal. Before submitting this renewal package to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), FMCS is soliciting comments on specific aspects of the collection as described below, mainly its request for a three-year extension of this currently approved form with the one revision—to produce a form without three attached copies—to save printing and postal costs.

COMMENTS: Comments must be submitted on or before July 1, 1996

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments identified by the FMCS F-7 by mail to: Office of General Counsel, FMCS, 2100 K Street NW., Washington, D.C. 20427, Room 603, ATTN: Tammi Strozier, Public Response Section. Copies of the complete F-7 form may be obtained from the Office of General Counsel at the above address or by contacting the person whose name appears under the section headed **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Comments and data may also be submitted by fax at (202) 606-4253 or electronically by sending electronic mail (E-mail) to fmcs02@eros.com. All comments and data in electronic form must have the F-7 number on them. No confidential business information (CBI) should be submitted through E-mail.

All written comments will be available for inspection in Room 600 at the Washington, D.C. address above from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eileen B. Hoffman, General Counsel, FMCS, 2100 K Street NW., Washington, D.C. 20427. Telephone: (202) 606-5444, fax (202) 606-4253, E-mail: fmcs02@erols.com.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Copies of the F-7 form are available from the Office of General Counsel, Public Access Section, by calling, faxing, or writing to Ms. Tammi Strozier, Office Manager at the above address. Please ask for the form by its number and title.

1. Information Collection Request

FMCS is seeking comments on the following information collection request:

Title: Notice to Mediation Agencies. FMCS Form F-7. OMB No. 3076-0004. Expiration date: November 30, 1996.

Affected Entities: Parties affected by this information collection are private

sector employers and labor unions involved in interstate commerce who file notices for mediation services to the FMCS and state, local, and territorial agencies, who receive copies of these notices filed.

Abstract: Under the National Labor Management Relations Act, 1947, 29 U.S.C. § 158 (d)(3), Congress listed specific notice provisions creating a duty to bargain collectively so that no party to a collective bargaining agreement could terminate or modify that contract, unless the party wishing to terminate or modify the contract sent a written notice to the other party, sixty days prior to the expiration date (Section 8(d)(1), and offered to meet and confer with the other party for the purpose of negotiating a new or modified contract (Section 8(d)(2)). Furthermore, the Act requires that the party notify the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service within thirty days after such notice of the existence of a dispute and simultaneously notify any State or Territorial agency established to mediate and conciliate disputes within the State or Territory where the dispute occurred (Section 8(d)(3)). The 1974 amendments to the NLRA, which extended coverage to nonprofit health care institutions, also created a notification procedure in the health care industry requiring the parties to notify each other 90 days in advance of termination and 60 days to the mediation service. This amendment also required notification of initial bargaining situations (notification of the existence of a dispute) to the FMCS, within 30 days.

To facilitate handling of more than 85,000 such notices a year, FMCS has created a specific information collection form. The purpose of this information collection activity is for FMC's Notice Processing Unit (NPU) to comply with FMCS's statutory duty to receive these notices, to facilitate assignment of mediators to assist in labor disputes, and to assist the parties in knowing whether or not proper notice was given. The information from these notices is sent to the five regional offices and field offices to inform mediators so they may contact labor and management quickly, efficiently, and offer their dispute resolution services, where applicable.

Either party to the contract may make a request in writing for a copy of the notice filed with FMCS. These notices are critical to the function of FMCS and fulfill a statutory purpose as well.

The F-7 form was created to establish conformity throughout interstate commerce and to allow FMCS to gather desired information in a uniform manner. The collection of such