

non-biting midge, and biting midge. These guidelines are concerned with product performance testing for evaluation of pesticides used to repel biting flies, fleas, chiggers and ticks from human skin and outdoor premises. Commercial pesticide formulations used to repel mosquitoes, fleas, chiggers and ticks from human skin include, but are not limited to, liquid or pressurized spray products, impregnated material or articles with the repellent, lotions, coils, candles, or vaporizing mats.

The recommendations contained within these guidelines address the conduct of product performance testing of insect repellents. Because they are guidelines, mandatory requirements are not imposed. However, they do reflect the considered judgment of the Agency and recognized experts as to what minimum steps are necessary to produce reliable data on product performance. Accordingly, EPA advises that any deviations from final guidelines be fully explained and justified.

#### *B. Pesticide Regulation Notice*

Inconsistencies have developed in product performance testing and labeling of insect repellents. In order to minimize this variance, EPA is developing product performance testing guidelines and recommended label language. The label language proposed by the Agency is intended to standardize and improve the information provided to the consumer.

EPA intends to use the data from the guideline studies to help determine the adequacy of the labeling of insect repellent products. EPA will review label statements as products are initially registered as well as for previously registered products.

#### **VI. Specific Areas For Comment**

Please comment on all aspects of the guidelines and PR Notice. The Agency is particularly looking for comments to the following questions:

1. Do you agree with the Agency's proposed decision to recommend that data be evaluated based upon the mean time to the first bite or a 95% reduction in bites rather than relying on the first confirmed bite test?

2. Is the Agency's recommended biting pressure adequate to verify the insect is being repelled by the pesticide?

3. Are 5 treated test subjects for a label claim of 4 hours of repellency and 10 treated test subjects for a label claim of 5 or more hours of repellency enough test subjects for statistically credible results? (For more information reference: Rutledge, L.C., and R.K. Gupta, 1999. Variation in the protection periods of repellents on individual

human subjects: an analytical review. *J. Am. Mosq. Cont. Ass.* 15(3) 348-355.)

4. Although it is preferred, the Agency did not think it was feasible to expect an equal number of male and female test subjects. Do you agree?

5. Do the proposed application rates correlate to typical consumer use?

6. The Agency did not believe it was feasible to recommend all treated test subjects leave an untreated limb exposed to bites. Is it acceptable to allow one untreated test subject? Why or why not?

7. Is a 50% reduction in bites an acceptable level of efficacy for candles, coils, and vaporizing mats? Can this be justified statistically?

8. The Agency acquired several different methods to test repellency of fleas and ticks. Due to the high incidence of Lyme disease in the U.S., EPA did not recommend field tests for deer ticks. Due to the difficulty to find an area with adequate biting pressure, the Agency did not recommend field tests for fleas. Will the proposed laboratory tests provide adequate data to determine deer tick and flea repellency?

9. Are positive and negative controls under replicate test conditions adequate to provide a foundation against which efficacy can be assessed?

#### **VII. Are there Any Applicable Voluntary Consensus Standards that EPA Should Consider?**

This notice of availability does not involve a proposed regulatory action that would require the Agency to consider voluntary consensus standards pursuant to section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (NTTAA), Public Law 104-113, section 12(d) (15 U.S.C. 272 note). Section 12(d) directs EPA to use voluntary consensus standards in its regulatory activities unless to do so would be inconsistent with applicable law or otherwise impractical. Voluntary consensus standards are technical standards (e.g., materials specifications, test methods, sampling procedures, and business practices) that are developed or adopted by voluntary consensus standards bodies. The NTTAA requires EPA to provide an explanation to Congress, through OMB, when the Agency decides not to use available and applicable voluntary consensus standards when the NTTAA directs the Agency to do so.

These test guidelines represent an Agency effort to harmonize the test guidelines within OPPTS, as well as to harmonize the OPPTS test guidelines with those of the OECD. The process for developing and amending these test guidelines, which began in 1991,

includes public participation and the extensive involvement of the scientific community, including peer review by the SAP and the SAB and other expert scientific organizations.

In the future, these test guidelines could be incorporated into regulatory actions taken by EPA under TSCA, i.e., with regard to the section 4 testing program. Although the NTTAA requirements do not specifically apply to the issuance of these particular test guidelines today, EPA invites your comment on whether or not there are any voluntary consensus standards that should be considered during the development of the final test guidelines or any future regulatory action that may be taken under TSCA. Future regulatory actions under TSCA section 4 may involve notice and comment rulemaking or negotiated voluntary testing enforcement consent agreements/orders/decrees. Nevertheless, the Agency is interested in whether or not there are any voluntary consensus standards that EPA should consider either as part of the development of the test guidelines themselves or in lieu of these test guidelines when the Agency develops any future regulatory action that incorporates these test guidelines. Any comments provided will assist the Agency in complying with the NTTAA by facilitating the Agency's identification of voluntary consensus standards that should be addressed in the test guideline or considered during the development of a proposed regulatory action that incorporates any standards included in the final test guidelines. Please submit your comments as directed in Unit III. of the "SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION."

#### **List of Subjects**

Environmental protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Agricultural commodities, Chemical testing, Pesticides and pests, Test guideline.

Dated: December 7, 1999.

**Marcia E. Mulkey,**

*Director, Office of Pesticide Programs.*

[FR Doc. 99-32385 Filed 12-14-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-F

#### **FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

#### **Public Information Collections Approved by Office of Management and Budget**

December 6, 1999.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has received Office

of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the following public information collections pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. 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 control number. For further information contact Shoko B. Hair, Federal Communications Commission, (202) 418-1379.

#### **Federal Communications Commission**

*OMB Control No.:* 3060-0894.

*Expiration Date:* 05/31/2000.

*Title:* Certification Letter Account for Receipt of Federal Support—CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 96-262.

*Form No.:* N/A.

*Respondents:* State, Local or Tribal Government.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 51 respondents; 3 hours per response (avg.); 153 total annual burden hours for all collections.

*Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden:* \$0.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion; Annually.

*Description:* States that desire non-rural incumbent local exchange carriers (LECs) and/or eligible telecommunications carriers serving lines in the service area of a non-rural incumbent LEC within their jurisdiction to receive support pursuant to 47 CFR sections 54.309 and/or 54.311 must file an annual certification with the Administrator and the Commission stating that all federal high-cost support provided to such carriers within that state will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. A certification may be filed in the form of a letter and must be filed with both the Office of Secretary of the Commission and with the Administrator on or before the deadlines set forth in 47 CFR 54.313(c)(1)–(3). The annual certification must identify which carriers in the State are eligible to receive federal support during the applicable 12 month period and must certify that those carriers will only use the support for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. A state may file a supplemental certification for carriers not subject to the State's annual certification. See 47 CFR section 54.313. This information will be used to show that federal high-cost support is being provided to the carrier to assist in keeping rates affordable in those subscribers' area. Further, the collection of information will be used to verify that

the carriers have accounted for its receipt of federal support in its rates or otherwise used the support for the "provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended" in accordance with section 254(e). Obligation to respond: required to obtain or retain benefits.

*OMB Control No.:* 3060-0233.

*Expiration Date:* 05/31/2000.

*Title:* Separations—Part 36.

*Form No.:* N/A.

*Respondents:* Business or other for-profit.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 1500 respondents; 104.75 hours per response (avg.); 157,125 total annual burden hours for all collections.

*Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden:* \$0.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion; quarterly; annually; third party disclosures.

*Description:* Telephone companies are required to identify investment, expenses and revenues attributable to intrastate and interstate operations pursuant to a court decision. These procedures are found in 47 CFR Part 36. In the Communications Act of 1934, as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Congress codified the Commission's historical policy of promoting universal service to ensure that consumers in all regions of the nation have access to telecommunications service. In 47 USC section 254, Congress instructed the Commission to establish specific, predictable, and sufficient mechanisms to preserve and advance universal service. 47 CFR Sections 36.601–36.741 contain the following procedures and collections for the Universal Service Fund Program. a. 47 CFR Sections 36.611 and 36.612—In order to allow determination of the study areas that are entitled to an expense adjustment, and the wire centers that are entitled to support pursuant to 47 CFR Part 54, each incumbent local exchange carrier must provide the National Exchange Carrier Association (NECA) with the information required by 47 CFR section 36.611 for each of its study areas, with the exception of the information listed in subsection (h), which must be provided for each study area and, if applicable, for each wire center as that term is defined in 47 CFR Part 54. This information is to be filed with NECA by July 31st of each year, and must be updated pursuant to 47 CFR section 36.612. The information filed on July 31st of each year will be used in the jurisdictional allocations underlying the cost support data for the access charge tariffs to be filed the following October.

(No. of respondents: 1431; hours per response: 22 total annual burden: 125,928). b. 47 CFR sections 36.701–36.741—State or local carriers must submit copies of their lifeline plans to demonstrate that their plans meet certain minimum federal guidelines to qualify for federal assistance. 47 CFR section 36.721 requires state or local telephone companies who want to participate in the "Link-Up America" Program to file data with the Commission demonstrating eligibility pursuant to the criteria contained in 47 CFR section 36.721(a)(1)–(4). (No. of respondents: 50; hours per response: 20 hours; total annual burden: 1000 hours). c. 47 CFR section 36.731 requires local telephone companies participating in the lifeline programs to file information with NECA for each of their study areas, on a yearly basis, on June 30th. Information to be filed with NECA includes: estimate of the number of eligible households which will receive assistance under both parts of the "Link-Up America" programs; estimate of the average discount on service commencement to be provided to each subscriber; and estimate of the average deferred interest cost for each subscriber. Carriers must submit the foregoing information to the Commission, as well as to NECA for those study areas in which the additional interstate expense allocation is to be in effect for less than a full calendar year. See also 47 CFR section 36.741. (No. of respondents: 1500; hours per response: 20 hours; total annual burden: 30,000 hours). d. In a NPRM issued in CC Docket No. 80-286, released 10/7/97, the Commission sought comment on a proposed rule allowing incumbent LECs to separate joint and common costs on an individual basis should be contingent upon an ILECs showing that competition exists in the local markets for which they seek relaxed separations rules. (No. of respondents: 100; hours per response: 2 hours; total annual burden: 200 hours). The requirements contained herein are necessary to implement the congressional mandate for universal service. The reporting requirements are necessary to verify that non-rural local exchange carriers are eligible to receive universal service support. Information filed with NECA pursuant to section 36.611 is used in the jurisdictional allocations underlying the cost support data for the access charge tariffs every April. Without this information, NECA would not be able to prepare and file the necessary tariffs. Information submitted to the Commission pursuant to Section 36.721

is required to maintain the integrity of the Federal Lifeline Assistance programs. Certification is necessary to ensure that the targeted group is the beneficiary of the program. The authorities for imposing the collections of information are found at: 47 USC Sections 151, 154(i) and (j), 221(c) and 410(c). Obligation to respond: Mandatory.

*OMB Control No.:* 3060-0774.

*Expiration Date:* 05/31/2000.

*Title:* Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service—CC Docket No. 96-45, 47 CFR Part 54.

*Form No.:* N/A.

*Respondents:* Business or other for-profit; State, Local or Tribal government.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 5,565,451 respondents; .32 hours per response (avg.); 1,787,278 total annual burden hours for all collections.

*Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden:* \$0.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion; quarterly; annually; recordkeeping.

*Description:* In the Ninth Report and Order and Eighteenth Order on Reconsideration in CC Docket No. 96-45, released November 2, 1999, the Commission modified 47 CFR Part 54 by adopting several amendments to the current data reporting requirements to ensure that cost and loop count data submitted by non-rural carriers under 47 CFR Part 36 conforms with loop count data submitted under Part 54 for forwarding looking support. The amended sections containing information collections are as follows. a. 47 CFR Section 54.307—In order to receive support, a competitive eligible telecommunications carrier must report to the Administrator on July 31 of each year the number of working loops it serves in a service area as of December 31 of the preceding year, subject to updates specified in 47 CFR 54.307(c). For a competitive eligible telecommunications carrier service loops in the service area of a rural telephone company, the carrier must report the number of working loops it serves in the service area. For a competitive eligible telecommunications carrier serving loops in the service area of a non-rural telephone company, the carrier must report the number of working loops it serves in the service area and the number of working loops it serves in each wire center in the service area. A competitive eligible telecommunications carrier serving loops in the service area of a non-rural carrier telephone company, the carrier must update the information submitted

to the Administrator pursuant to 47 CFR 54.307(c)(1)–(3). Because the interim hold-harmless provision provides support based on the existing 47 CFR Part 36 support mechanism, which relies on book costs, non-rural incumbent LECs will be required to file cost data, in addition to loop-count data, in order to receive interim hold-harmless support. (No. of respondents: 1300; 4.1 hours per response: total annual burden: 5400 hours). 47 CFR Section 54.309—Any state may file a petition for a waiver to ask the Commission to distribute support calculated to a geographic area different than the wire center. Such petition must contain a description of the particular geographic level to which the state desires support to be distributed, and an explanation of how waiver will further the preservation and advancement of universal service within the state. (No. of respondents: 51; hours per response: 4 hours; total annual burden: 204 hours). c. 47 CFR Section 54.311—A state may file a petition for a waiver asking the Commission to distribute interim hold-harmless support to a geographic area different than the wire center. Such petition must contain a description of the particular geographic level to which the State desires interim hold-harmless support to be distributed, and an explanation of how waiver will further the preservation and advancement of universal service within the state. (No. of respondents: 51; hours per response: 4; total annual burden: 204 hours). The information will be used to show that federal high-cost support is being provided to the carrier to assist in keeping rates affordable in those subscribers' area. Further, the collection of information will be used to verify that the carriers have accounted for its receipt of federal support in its rates or otherwise used the support for the "provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended" in accordance with 47 USC Section 254(e). Obligation to respond: Mandatory.

*OMB Control No.:* 3060-0874.

*Expiration Date:*

*Title:* Consumer Complaint Forms.

*Form No.:* FCC Forms 475 and 476.

*Respondents:* Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; Federal Government.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 80,000 respondents; .50 hours per response (avg.); 40,000 total annual burden hours for all collections.

*Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden:* \$0.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Description:* Pursuant to 47 USC Section 208 and 47 CFR Sections 1.711 and 1.716, consumers may file complaints against common carriers with the Commission. Section 208(a) authorizes complaints by any person "complaining of anything done or omitted to be done by any common carrier" subject to the provisions of the Act. Section 208(a) specifically states that "it shall be the duty of the Commission to investigate the matters complained of in such manner and by such means as it shall deem proper." Once an informal complaint is determined to involve a dispute within the Commission's jurisdiction, it is forwarded to the carrier(s) involved. The data provided by consumers not only assists the carriers to adequately address consumers' issues, but also provides the commission with baseline data required to monitor and assess the practices of common carriers. This assessment facilitates enforcement of the Communications Act and Commission rules; and helps to identify where rulemakings are required to further protect the interests of consumers. The Complaint Form, FCC Form 475, will provide consumers a concise structured approach to communicate critical information required by the Commission to facilitate complaint resolution and enhance the collection of data related to unjust and unreasonable practices of common carriers. (No. of respondents: 40,000; hours per response: .50 hours; total annual burden: 40,000. The Give Us the Scoop form, FCC Form 476, will provide consumers a concise structured approach to communicate information required by the Commission to monitor the practices of common carriers. In many instances, consumers who have experienced problems with carriers are able to resolve their problem directly with the carriers. As a result, they do not understand that there is still a need to report the incident to the regulating agency or agencies. In such cases, the Commission has lost access to critical data that can be used to identify unlawful or unethical carrier practices. To address specific issues before they become a significant problem, the Commission has to collect data that leads to proactive enforcement and rulemaking. (No. of respondents; 40,000; hours per response: .50 hours; total annual burden; 40,000 hours). Consumers can currently use FCC Forms 475 and 476 via the Internet ([www.fcc.gov](http://www.fcc.gov)) or through the FCC's toll-free number to file a complaint or provide information. However, since a large number of consumers may not

have access to the Internet or be able to call the toll-free number during the workday, a consumer form has been developed which can be mailed or faxed to consumers upon request. The information will be used by Commission staff to assist in the resolution of complaints and as a part of the investigation work done by Federal and state law enforcement agencies to monitor carrier practices. The data ultimately becomes the foundation for enforcement actions. (Obligation to respond: Voluntary).

Public reporting burden for the collections of information is as noted above. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of the collections of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden to Performance Evaluation and Records Management, Washington, D.C. 20554.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Magalie Roman Salas,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 99-32408 Filed 12-14-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[DA 99-2733]

### NGSO FSS Results From the Conference Preparatory Meeting on Technical, Operational and Regulatory/Procedural Matters

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This document seek comments on Non-geostationary Satellite Orbit (NGSO), Geostationary Satellite Orbit (GSO), Fixed Satellite Service (FSS) results from the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) on Technical, Operational and Regulatory/Procedural Matters to be considered by the 2000 World Radiocommunication Conference. These spectrum sharing issues are currently being addressed in ET Docket 98-206. To ensure that our decisions in the docket are based on a comprehensive technical record, we are seeking additional comments pertaining to any relevant issues identified in Chapter 3 of the CPM Report.

**DATES:** Comments are due December 20, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tom Derenge (202) 418-2451, email: [tderenge@fcc.gov](mailto:tderenge@fcc.gov), Office of Engineering and Technology or Harry Ng (202) 418-0752, email: [hng@fcc.gov](mailto:hng@fcc.gov), International Bureau.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is the text of the Commission's *Public Notice*, DA 99-2733, released December 6, 1999. This document is available for inspection and copying during regular business hours in the FCC Reference Information Center, Room CY-A257, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC, and is available on the FCC's Internet site at [www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Engineering-Technology/Public-Notices/1999/](http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Engineering-Technology/Public-Notices/1999/).

This document may also be purchased from the Commission's duplication contractor, International Transcription Service, Inc., (202) 857-3800, 1231 20th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036.

### Summary of Public Notice

1. On December 3, 1999, Skybridge LLC filed *ex parte* comments in ET Docket 98-206 reflecting the conclusions reached at the November 19, 1999, Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) in Geneva, Switzerland pertaining to spectrum sharing between Non-geostationary Satellite Orbit (NGSO) and Geostationary Satellite Orbit (GSO) Fixed Satellite Service (FSS) operations. Panamsat Corporation also filed comments on the CPM Report on December 6, 1999.

2. These NGSO/GSO FSS spectrum sharing issues are also currently being addressed in ET Docket No. 98-206. The CPM Report also addresses results concerning spectrum sharing between NGSO FSS and GSO Broadcast Satellite Services (BSS), another issue in ET Docket No. 98-206. To ensure that our decisions in the docket are based on a comprehensive technical record, the Office of Engineering and Technology and the International Bureau seek additional comments pertaining to any relevant issues identified in Chapter 3 of the CPM Report. In particular, we would like commenters to address the compromise solutions for NGSO/GSO FSS operations, including validation EPFD limits; additional operational limits; and operational limits contained in Sections 3.1.2.1.2—Protection Criteria; 3.1.2.1.3—Methodologies used to assess the adequacy of the limits to protect GSO FSS; 3.1.2.1.4—Results of studies relating to the review/revision of the provisional power limits appearing in Section II of Article S22; 3.1.2.4.7—Operational limits to the EPFD by non-GSO systems in certain frequency bands; and 3.1.2.4.8—Additional EPFD down limits to protect GSO FSS in the bands 10.7–11.7 GHz (in all Regions), 11.7–12.2 GHz (Region 2), 12.2–12.5 GHz (Region 3), and 12.5–12.75 GHz (Regions 1 and 3), as well as all relevant annexes to Chapter 3. NGSO FSS/GSO BSS sharing issues are addressed in

Section 3.1.3. In addition, we are submitting the entire text of Chapter 3 of the CPM Report in this docket.

3. For *ex parte* purposes this proceeding, as well as any additional comments filed, continues to be a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding, in accordance with § 1.1200(a) of the Commission's rules, and is subject to the requirements under § 1.1206(b) of the rules.

4. Pursuant to 47 CFR, §§ 1.415 and 1.419, interested parties are invited to file comments no later than December 20, 1999. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). See *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceeding*, 63 Fed. Reg. 24121 (1998). Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via Internet to <http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>. In completing the transmittal screen, parties responding should include their full name, mailing address, and the applicable docket number, ET Docket 98-206.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Shirley S. Suggs,**

*Chief, Publications Branch.*

[FR Doc. 99-32248 Filed 12-14-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Report No. 2374

### Correction; Petitions for Reconsideration and Clarification of Action in Rulemaking Proceeding

December 3, 1999.

Petitions for Reconsideration and Clarification have been filed in the Commission's rulemaking proceedings listed in this Public Notice and published pursuant to 47 CFR Section 1.429(e). The full text of these documents are available for viewing and copying in Room CY-A257, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC or may be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, ITS, Inc. (202) 857-3800. Oppositions to these petitions must be filed on or before January 11, 2000. Replies to an opposition must be filed on or before January 21, 2000. Generally, the time for filing oppositions and replies are established in accordance with Section 1.4(b)(1) of the Commission's rules (47 CFR 1.4(b)(1)), based on the **Federal Register** publication of the public notice. However, in this case we are hereby indicating in this public notice the established deadlines for filing oppositions and replies.