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Dated: December 14, 2006.

George Alapas,

Deputy Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.

[FR Doc. E6-21970 Filed 12-21-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Toxics Release Inventory—Decision To Maintain Existing Reporting Frequency

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces EPA's decision to maintain the annual reporting requirement for the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI). This announcement is being made in follow-up to an October 4, 2005, **Federal Register** notice that stated that EPA intended to explore potential approaches for modifying the TRI reporting frequency (70 FR 57871). The Agency has decided not to pursue any changes in the TRI reporting frequency.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Suzanne Ackerman,
ackerman.suzanne@epa.gov, 202-564-4355, Office of Public Affairs.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), section 313(i), requires EPA to notify Congress of its intent to modify the TRI reporting frequency, before initiating a rulemaking. 42 U.S.C. 11023(i). The Agency must delay the initiation of the rulemaking for at least 12 months, but no more than 24 months, after the date of the notification.

On September 21, 2005, EPA notified Congress of its intent to explore potential approaches for modifying the reporting frequency for facilities that report to TRI. Alternate year reporting was one of the options that EPA mentioned in the notice. Before changing the reporting frequency,

EPCRA section 313(i)(2) requires the Agency to make a finding that such a change would be consistent with the purposes of the TRI Program as listed in EPCRA section 313(h). This finding must be based on experience from previously submitted toxic chemical release forms and three determinations, as stated in EPCRA section 313(i)(1), (2), and (3): (1) The extent to which information relating to the proposed modification provided on the toxic chemical release forms has been used by the Administrator or other agencies of the Federal Government, States, local governments, health professionals, and the public; (2) the extent to which the information is readily available to potential users from other sources, such as State reporting programs, and provided to the Administrator under another Federal law or through a State program; and (3) the extent to which the modification would impose additional and unreasonable burdens on facilities subject to the reporting requirements under this section. 42 U.S.C. 11023(i)(2) and (3).

In a November 28, 2006, letter to Senator Lautenberg, the Administrator announced that the Agency has decided against moving forward with any changes to TRI reporting frequency. While the Agency does not intend to take any further actions concerning reporting frequency, EPA will adhere to the process outlined in 42 U.S.C. 11023(i)(5) and provide 12 months advance notice to Congress should the Agency in the future decide to initiate changes to reporting frequency.

Dated: December 18, 2006.

Linda A. Travers,

Acting Assistant Administrator for the Office of Environmental Information and Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E6-21957 Filed 12-21-06; 8:45 am]

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OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

Meeting of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and summary agenda for a meeting of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST), and describes the functions of the Council. Notice of this meeting is required under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA).

DATES AND PLACE: January 9, 2007, Washington, DC. The meeting will be

held in the Congressional Ballroom at the Renaissance Hotel at 999 9th St., NW., Washington DC 20001.

TYPE OF MEETING: Open. Further details on the meeting agenda will be posted on the PCAST Web site at: <http://www.ostp.gov/PCAST/pcast.html>.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE AND AGENDA: The President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) is scheduled to meet in open session on Tuesday January 9, 2007, at approximately 9 a.m. The co-chairs of the PCAST subcommittee on networking and information technology are tentatively scheduled to provide an update on subcommittee activities and lead a discussion on the PCAST review of the Federal Networking and Information Technology Research and Development (NITRD) Program. The PCAST is tentatively scheduled to hear presentations on personalized medicine as part of the Council's study of scientific and technological advances and policy implications in this area. A presentation on advances and risk assessment related to nanotechnology is also tentatively scheduled to occur. This session will end at approximately 5 p.m. Additional information and the final agenda will be posted at the PCAST Web site at: <http://www.ostp.gov/PCAST/pcast.html>.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There will be time allocated for the public to speak on the above agenda items. This public comment time is designed for substantive commentary on PCAST's work topics, not for business marketing purposes. Please submit a request for the opportunity to make a public comment five (5) days in advance of the meeting. The time for public comments will be limited to no more than 5 minutes per person. Written comments are also welcome at any time following the meeting. Please notify Celia Merzbacher, PCAST Executive Director, at (202) 456-7116, or fax your request/comments to (202) 456-6021.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information regarding time, place and agenda, please call Celia Merzbacher at (202) 456-7116, prior to 3 p.m. on Friday, January 5, 2007. Information will also be available at the PCAST Web site at: <http://www.ostp.gov/PCAST/pcast.html>. Please note that public seating for this meeting is limited and is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology was established by Executive Order 13226, on September 30, 2001. The purpose of PCAST is to advise the President on

matters of science and technology policy, and to assist the President's National Science and Technology Council in securing private sector participation in its activities. The Council members are distinguished individuals appointed by the President from non-Federal sectors. The PCAST is co-chaired by Dr. John H. Marburger, III, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, and by E. Floyd Kvamme, a Partner at Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers.

Celia Merzbacher,

PCAST Executive Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy.

[FR Doc. E6-21984 Filed 12-21-06; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The FDIC, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35). Currently, the FDIC is soliciting comments concerning the following collections of information titled: (1) Interagency Charter and Federal Deposit Insurance Application; (2) Application for a Bank to Establish a Branch or Move its Main Office or Branch; (3) Application for Consent to Reduce or Retire Capital; (4) Appraisal Standards; (5) Activities and Investments of Savings Associations; and (6) CRA Sunshine.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before February 20, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties are invited to submit written comments to Steven F. Hanft, (202) 898-3907, Legal Division, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20429. All comments should refer to the OMB control number. Comments may be hand-delivered to the guard station at the rear of the 17th Street Building (located on F Street), on business days between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. Comments may also be Faxed to (202) 898-8788; or e-mailed to: comments@fdic.gov.

A copy of the comments may also be submitted to the OMB desk officer for the FDIC, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven F. Hanft, at the address identified above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Proposal to Renew the Following Currently Approved Collections of Information

1. *Title:* Interagency Charter and Federal Deposit Insurance Application.
OMB Number: 3064-0001.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.
Affected Public: Banks of savings associations wishing to become FDIC-insured depository institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 193.

Estimated Time per Response: 125 hours.

Total Annual Burden: 24,125 hours.

General Description of Collection: The Federal Deposit Insurance Act requires proposed financial institutions to apply to the FDIC to obtain deposit insurance. This collection provides the FDIC with the information needed to evaluate applications for deposit insurance.

2. *Title:* Application for a Bank to Establish a Branch or Move its Main Office or Branch.

OMB Number: 3064-0070.
Frequency of Response: On occasion.
Affected Public: Insured financial institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,540.

Estimated Time per Response: 5 hours.

Total Annual Burden: 7,700 hours.

General Description of Collection: Insured institutions must obtain the written consent of the FDIC before establishing or moving a main office or branch.

3. *Title:* Application for Consent to Reduce or Retire Capital.

OMB Number: 3064-0079.
Frequency of Response: On occasion.
Affected Public: Insured state nonmember banks.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 80.

Estimated Time per Response: 1 hour.

Total Annual Burden: 80 hours.

General Description of Collection: Insured state nonmember banks proposing to change their capital structure must submit an application containing information about the proposed change to obtain FDIC's consent to reduce or retire capital.

4. *Title:* Appraisal Standards.

OMB Number: 3064-0103.
Frequency of Response: On occasion.
Affected Public: Insured state nonmember banks.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 5,346.

Estimated Time per Response: 15 minutes.

Estimated Number of Responses: 328,600.

Total Annual Burden: 82,150 hours.

General Description of Collection: FIRREA directs the FDIC to prescribe appropriate performance standards for real estate appraisals connected with Federally related transactions under its jurisdiction. This information collection is a direct consequence of the statutory requirement.

5. *Title:* Activities and Investments of Savings Associations.

OMB Number: 3064-0104.
Frequency of Response: On occasion.
Affected Public: Insured Savings Associations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 75.

Estimated Time per Response: 5 hours.

Total Annual Burden: 375 hours.

General Description of Collection: State savings associations must furnish information to the FDIC to obtain approval or non-objection prior to engaging in certain activities or acquiring/retaining certain investments.

6. *Title:* CRA Sunshine.

OMB Number: 3064-0139.
Frequency of Response: On occasion.
Affected Public: Insured state nonmember banks and their affiliates, and nongovernmental entities and persons.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 26.

Estimated Time per Response: 19.3 hours.

Total Annual Burden: 501.6 hours.

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.

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