

specified in the **DATES** section of this notice.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Maria Ellis, Executive Secretary for MEDCAC, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Office of Clinical Standards and Quality, Coverage and Analysis Group, C1-09-06, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21244 or contact Ms. Ellis by phone (410-786-0309) or via e-mail at [Maria.Ellis@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Maria.Ellis@cms.hhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

MEDCAC, formerly known as the Medicare Coverage Advisory Committee (MCAC), provides advice and recommendations to CMS regarding clinical issues. (For more information on MCAC, see the December 14, 1998 *Federal Register* (63 FR 68780).) This notice announces the March 24, 2010 public meeting of the Committee. During this meeting, the Committee will examine the currently available evidence on the use of erythropoiesis stimulating agents (ESAs) to manage anemia in patients who have chronic kidney disease. Background information about this topic, including panel materials, is available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/coverage>. We encourage the participation of appropriate organizations with expertise in renal insufficiency/kidney disease, anemia, and ESAs.

**II. Meeting Format**

This meeting is open to the public. The Committee will hear oral presentations from the public for approximately 45 minutes. The Committee may limit the number and duration of oral presentations to the time available. Your comments should focus on issues specific to the list of topics that we have proposed to the Committee. The list of research topics to be discussed at the meeting will be available on the following Web site prior to the meeting: [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/mcd/index\\_list.asp?list\\_type=mcac](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/mcd/index_list.asp?list_type=mcac). We require that you declare at the meeting whether you have any financial involvement with manufacturers (or their competitors) of any items or services being discussed.

The Committee will deliberate openly on the topics under consideration. Interested persons may observe the deliberations, but the Committee will not hear further comments during this time except at the request of the chairperson. The Committee will also allow a 15-minute unscheduled open public session for any attendee to

address issues specific to the topics under consideration. At the conclusion of the day, the members will vote and the Committee will make its commendation(s) to CMS.

**III. Registration Instructions**

CMS' Coverage and Analysis Group is coordinating meeting registration. While there is no registration fee, individuals must register to attend. You may register by contacting the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice by the deadline listed in the **DATES** section of this notice. Please provide your full name (as it appears on your state-issued driver's license), address, organization, telephone, fax number(s), and e-mail address. You will receive a registration confirmation with instructions for your arrival at the CMS complex or you will be notified the seating capacity has been reached.

**IV. Security, Building, and Parking Guidelines**

This meeting will be held in a Federal government building; therefore, Federal security measures are applicable. We recommend that confirmed registrants arrive reasonably early, but no earlier than 45 minutes prior to the start of the meeting, to allow additional time to clear security. Security measures include the following:

- Presentation of government-issued photographic identification to the Federal Protective Service or Guard Service personnel.
- Inspection of vehicle's interior and exterior (this includes engine and trunk inspection) at the entrance to the grounds. Parking permits and instructions will be issued after the vehicle inspection.
- Inspection, via metal detector or other applicable means, of all persons entering the building. We note that all items brought into CMS, whether personal or for the purpose of presentation or to support a presentation, are subject to inspection. We cannot assume responsibility for coordinating the receipt, transfer, transport, storage, set-up, safety, or timely arrival of any personal belongings or items used for presentation or to support a presentation.

**Note:** Individuals who are not registered in advance will not be permitted to enter the building and will be unable to attend the meeting. The public may not enter the building earlier than 45 minutes prior to the convening of the meeting.

All visitors must be escorted in areas other than the lower and first floor levels in the Central Building.

**Authority:** 5 U.S.C. App. 2, section 10(a). (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.773, Medicare—Hospital Insurance; and Program No. 93.774, Medicare—Supplementary Medical Insurance Program)

Dated: December 31, 2009.

**Barry M. Straube,**

*Chief Medical Officer and Director, Office of Clinical Standards and Quality, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.*

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**BILLING CODE 4120-01-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**

**Coast Guard**

[USCG-2009-1137]

**Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee; Meeting**

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (MERPAC) will hold a teleconference to discuss and prepare recommendations for the Coast Guard concerning the notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) on the Implementation of the 1995 Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978 (USCG-2004-17914). These recommendations were developed during a MERPAC working group meeting on January 5-6, 2010, and this teleconference will be held to finalize those proposed recommendations. The teleconference will be open to the public.

**DATES:** The teleconference call will take place on Thursday, February 11, 2010, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m., EST. This teleconference may close early if all business is finished. Written material should reach the Coast Guard on or before February 2, 2010. Requests to have a copy of your material distributed to each member of the committee should reach the Coast Guard on or before February 2, 2010.

**ADDRESSES:** Members of the public may participate by dialing 1-877-950-5410. (Persons using international connections should dial 1-720-348-6543). You will then be prompted to dial your conference room number, which is 9876776#. Please ensure that you enter the “#” mark after the conference room number. Public participation is welcomed; however, the number of teleconference lines is limited, and lines are available first-

come, first-served. Members of the public may also participate by coming to Room 5-0622, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001. You will be required to show picture identification in the form of a government issued identification card. We request that members of the public who plan to attend this meeting notify Mr. Mark Gould at 202-372-1409 so that he may notify building security officials. Send written material and requests to make oral presentations to Mr. Gould. This notice may be viewed in our online docket, USCG-2009-1137, at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Mark Gould, Assistant Designated Federal Officer of MERPAC, telephone 202-372-1409, fax 202-372-1426.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (Pub. L. 92-463). MERPAC is chartered under that Act. It provides advice and makes recommendations to the Assistant Commandant for Operations on issues concerning merchant marine personnel, such as implementation of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, and developing standards of competency for ship's security officers.

#### Tentative Agenda of Meeting

The tentative agenda for the February 11, 2010, Committee meeting is as follows:

- (1) Welcome and Opening Remarks—MERPAC Chairman Captain Andrew McGovern (11 a.m.–11:05 a.m.).
- (2) Open discussion on the docket of the Coast Guard's NPRM concerning the implementation of the 1995 amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978 (USCG-2004-17914) (11:05 a.m.–12:30 p.m.).
- (3) Public comment period (12:30 p.m.–1 p.m.).
- (4) MERPAC vote on recommendations for the Coast Guard (1 p.m.–2 p.m.).
- (5) Adjourn (2 p.m.).

This agenda is subject to change, and the meeting may adjourn early if all committee business has been completed.

#### Procedural

The Chairman of MERPAC is empowered to conduct the teleconference in a way that will, in his judgment, facilitate the orderly conduct of business. During its teleconference, the committee welcomes public

comment. The committee will make every effort to hear the views of all interested parties, including the public. Written comments should reach the Coast Guard no later than February 2, 2010 and may be submitted to Mr. Mark Gould, Assistant Designated Federal Officer, MERPAC, at Commandant (CG-5221), ATTN MERPAC, U.S. Coast Guard, 2100 Second St., SW STOP 7126, Washington, DC 20593-7126.

#### Information on Services for Individuals with Disabilities

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance at the meeting, contact Mr. Gould as soon as possible.

Dated: January 19, 2010.

**J.G. Lantz,**

*Director of Commercial Regulations and Standards.*

[FR Doc. 2010-1415 Filed 1-25-10; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 9110-04-P**

#### DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-5382-N-01]

#### Notice of Proposed Information Collection for Public Comment: Tracking the Use of CDBG Homeowner and Small Landlord Disaster Assistance Grants

**AGENCY:** Office of Policy Development and Research, HUD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The proposed information collection requirement described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Department is soliciting public comments on the subject proposal.

**DATES:** *Comment Due Date:* March 29, 2010.

**ADDRESSES:** Interest persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and should be sent to: Reports Liaison Officer, Office of Policy Development and Research, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW., Room 8226, Washington, DC 20410.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cheryl A. Levine, PhD, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 457 7th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20410; telephone (202) 402-3928 (this is not a toll-free number). Copies of the proposed data collection and other

available documents may be obtained from Dr. Levine.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This Notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information to: (1) 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; (2) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond; including through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, such as permitting electronic submission of responses.

*Title of Proposal:* Tracking the Use of Homeowner and Small Landlord Disaster Assistance Grants.

*Description of the need for the information and proposed use:* In August, September, and October 2005, Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma caused massive devastation in the Gulf region. As of February 2006, FEMA estimated that more than 300,000 homes suffered major or severe damage from the storm. In response to the widespread destruction caused by these three storms, Congress appropriated \$19.7 billion in supplemental Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program funds for Gulf Coast disaster recovery. Created in 1974, CDBG is one of the oldest programs administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), providing funding to States, cities, and counties nationwide to support neighborhood revitalization, housing rehabilitation, and economic development activities. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the role that supplemental CDBG disaster recovery funding has played in housing recovery in the three States most affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita (Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas) and to identify the most important factors affecting property owners' willingness and ability to rebuild or repair their storm-damaged properties. The results of the study will help HUD use current allocations of CDBG funds to make better progress on Katrina and Rita rebuilding efforts during FY 2011. The study findings also will help the Federal government respond more effectively to future disasters.

*Members of affected public:* Members of the following groups selected by