

of the stock assessment and input data. Participants for SEDAR Workshops are appointed by the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils and NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office, Highly Migratory Species Management Division, and Southeast Fisheries Science Center. Participants include: data collectors and database managers; stock assessment scientists, biologists, and researchers; constituency representatives including fishermen, environmentalists, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs); international experts; and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and federal agencies.

The items of discussion at the SEDAR 92 Atlantic Blueline Tilefish LH–TWG: the Work Group will discuss available life history data sources and make recommendation for their use in the assessment.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified 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 intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 10 business days prior to the meeting.

Note: The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

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

Dated: September 12, 2024.

Rey Israel Marquez,

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

[FR Doc. 2024–21126 Filed 9–16–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Advisory Committee for Excellence in Space (ACES); Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: Office of Space Commerce (OSC), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, the NOAA Office of Space Commerce announces the inaugural meeting of the Advisory Committee for Excellence in Space (ACES).

DATES: October 3, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. EDT.

ADDRESSES: U.S. Department of Commerce, Herbert C. Hoover Building—Commerce Research Library, 1401 Constitution Ave NW, Washington, DC 20230. In-person participation is limited to ACES members and DOC personnel. Public participation will occur via a hybrid format. The link for webinar registration will be posted, when available, on the ACES website, <http://www.space.commerce.gov/aces>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jason Y. Kim, Designated Federal Officer, Advisory Committee for Excellence in Space (ACES), NOAA Office of Space Commerce, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230. Telephone: 202–482–5827. Email: space.commerce@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: ACES provide advice and recommendations to the NOAA Under Secretary or OSC Director on matters relating to OSC’s statutory purview. Originally established in 2002 as the Advisory Committee on Commercial Remote Sensing, ACES was rescoped and rechartered in 2024 to address a broader range of commercial space issues.

Agenda: The meeting will include discussions on topics pertinent to commercial space policy, regulation, and operational mission support, including:

- Licensing of private remote sensing space systems
- Authorization and supervision of novel space missions
- Space sustainability, including space situational awareness
- International commercial space partnerships
- Expanding applications and markets for commercial space capabilities

A detailed agenda with meeting materials will be available closer to the meeting date on the ACES website, <http://www.space.commerce.gov/aces>.

Written Comments: Members of the public may submit written comments to ACES at space.commerce@noaa.gov by September 27, 2024.

Special Accommodations: Requests for special accommodations may be directed to the Designated Federal

Officer no later than September 27, 2024.

Dated: September 11, 2024.

Richard DalBello,

Director of Office of Space Commerce.

[FR Doc. 2024–21105 Filed 9–16–24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No.: PTO–P–2024–0026]

2024 Guidance Update on Patent Subject Matter Eligibility, Including on Artificial Intelligence

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Examination guidance; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is extending the comment period for the notice titled “2024 Guidance Update on Patent Subject Matter Eligibility, Including on Artificial Intelligence” that was published in the **Federal Register** on July 17, 2024. The notice’s comment period is extended until October 16, 2024. This will be the only extension of the comment period.

DATES: The comment period for the notice published July 17, 2024 at 89 FR 58128 is extended until October 16, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Comments must be submitted through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at www.regulations.gov. To submit comments via the portal, enter docket number PTO–P–2024–0026 on the homepage and select “Search.” The site will provide a search results page listing all documents associated with this docket. Find a reference to this document and select the “Comment” icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments. Attachments to electronic comments will be accepted in Adobe® portable document format (PDF) or Microsoft Word® format. Because comments will be made available for public inspection, information that the submitter does not desire to make public, such as an address or phone number, should not be included in the comments.

Visit the Federal eRulemaking Portal for additional instructions on providing comments via the portal. If electronic submission of comments is not feasible due to a lack of access to a computer and/or the internet, please contact the USPTO using the contact information at

the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this Notice for special instructions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Carolyn Kosowski, Senior Legal Advisor, at 571-272-7688; Nalini Mummalaneni, Senior Legal Advisor, at 571-270-1647; or Matthew Sked, Senior Legal Advisor, at 571-272-7627, all with the Office of Patent Legal Administration, Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Patents.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 17, 2024, the USPTO published a notice on patent subject matter eligibility titled “2024 Guidance Update on Patent Subject Matter Eligibility, Including on Artificial Intelligence” to address innovation in critical and emerging technologies, especially artificial intelligence. See 89 FR 58128.

The USPTO is extending the written comment period until October 16, 2024, to ensure that all stakeholders have a sufficient opportunity to submit comments on the examination guidance presented in the July 17, 2024, notice. The USPTO is extending the written comment period only once.

Katherine K. Vidal,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2024-21085 Filed 9-16-24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No.: PTO-P-2021-0042]

Extension of the Patent Trial and Appeal Board Motion To Amend Pilot Program

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is extending the Motion to Amend (MTA) pilot program, initiated on March 15, 2019, and previously extended up to September 16, 2024. The MTA pilot program provides additional options for a patent owner who files an MTA before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB). In particular, the MTA pilot program provides a patent owner who files an MTA with options to request preliminary guidance from the PTAB on the MTA and to file a revised MTA. The MTA pilot program also provides timelines for briefing to accommodate these options.

DATES: *Applicable Date:* September 17, 2024. *Duration:* The MTA pilot program will run until March 31, 2025, or earlier if replaced by a permanent program after notice-and-comment rulemaking. The USPTO may extend the MTA pilot program (with or without modification) on either a temporary or a permanent basis or may discontinue the MTA pilot program, after that date.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Miriam L. Quinn, Acting Vice Chief Administrative Patent Judge, or Melissa Haapala, Vice Chief Administrative Patent Judge at 571-272-9797 (*Miriam.Quinn@uspto.gov* or *Melissa.haapala@uspto.gov*, respectively).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A patent owner in an America Invents Act (AIA) trial proceeding may file an MTA as a matter of right. See 35 U.S.C. 316(d)(1), 326(d)(1). After receiving public feedback about the PTAB’s MTA practice, including some concerns regarding the low grant rate of claim amendments in AIA trial proceedings, in October 2018, the USPTO published a Request for Comments in the **Federal Register** seeking written public comments on a proposed amendment process in AIA trials that would involve preliminary guidance from the PTAB on the merits of an MTA and an opportunity for a patent owner to file a revised MTA. Request for Comments on MTA Practice and Procedures in Trial Proceedings Under the America Invents Act Before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, 83 FR 54319 (Oct. 29, 2018). The majority of comments supported the PTAB issuing preliminary guidance in cases involving an MTA and commenters were almost evenly mixed in supporting or opposing the opportunity for a patent owner to file a revised MTA.

On March 15, 2019, in response to these public comments, the USPTO issued a Notice detailing the MTA pilot program. Notice Regarding a New pilot program Concerning Motion to Amend Practice and Procedures in Trial Proceedings Under the America Invents Act Before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, 84 FR 9,497 (Mar. 15, 2019). The MTA pilot program provides a patent owner with two options not previously available: (1) a patent owner may choose to receive preliminary guidance from the PTAB on its MTA; and (2) a patent owner may choose to file a revised MTA after receiving petitioner’s opposition to the original MTA and/or the PTAB’s preliminary guidance (if requested). If a patent owner does not elect either option, then AIA trial practice, including MTA practice, is essentially

unchanged from the practice prior to the MTA pilot program.

The USPTO has extended the MTA pilot program twice. The first extension on September 16, 2021 ran through September 16, 2022, and the second extension currently runs until September 16, 2024. The USPTO continues to present results of the MTA pilot program yearly, with the most recent report based on data up through March 31, 2024, in Installment 9 of the Motions to Amend Study. The most recent information and statistics related to MTAs are available on the USPTO’s website at <https://www.uspto.gov/patents/ptab/motions-amend-study>.

After four years of experience with the MTA pilot program and development of Federal Circuit case law concerning burden allocation in the MTA context, the USPTO issued a Request for Comments to seek feedback on the public’s experience with the program and the burden-allocation rules that apply to MTAs. See Request for Comments Regarding MTA Pilot Program and Rules of Practice to Allocate the Burdens of Persuasion on Motions to Amend in Trial Proceedings Before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, 88 FR 33063 (May 23, 2023) (2023 RFC). Then on March 4, 2024, after consideration of the received comments and based on the experience of the Board with the MTA pilot program, the USPTO published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking concerning Motion to Amend Practice and Procedures in Trial Proceedings Under the America Invents Act Before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board. 89 FR 15531 (“2024 NPRM”). The USPTO proposed to revise its rules of practice to provide for issuance of preliminary guidance in response to an MTA and to provide a patent owner with the option for filing a revised MTA. While the USPTO finalizes rules in this regard, the USPTO is extending the MTA pilot program for a third time. The MTA pilot program is hereby extended through March 31, 2025. The requirements for the MTA pilot program remain as set forth in the original Notice without modification at this time.

Katherine K. Vidal,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2024-21135 Filed 9-16-24; 8:45 am]

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