

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT**  
**United States Patent and Trademark Office**  
**Proposed Addition to**  
**Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Program**  
**(formerly Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program)**  
**OMB CONTROL NUMBER 0651-0058**

**A. JUSTIFICATION**

**1. Necessity of Information Collection**

The Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) pilot program was originally established between the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and the Japan Patent Office (JPO) on July 3, 2006. The PPH program allows applicants whose claims are determined to be patentable in the office of first filing to have the corresponding application that is filed in the office of second filing be advanced out of turn for examination. At the same time, the PPH program allows the office of second filing to exploit the search and examination results of the office of first filing, which increases examination efficiency and improves patent quality. The USPTO and the JPO agreed at the November 2007 Trilateral Conference to fully implement the PPH program on a permanent basis starting on January 4, 2008.

The USPTO entered into a PPH pilot program with the United Kingdom Intellectual Property Office (UKIPO) on September 4, 2007. Additional PPH pilot programs have also recently been established between the USPTO and the Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO), the Danish Patent and Trademark Office (DKPTO), the European Patent Office (EPO), the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), and the Intellectual Property Office of Australia (IPAU).

In addition to the PPH program, the USPTO and the JPO also participate in a work-sharing pilot project called the "New Route." Under the New Route framework, a filing in one member office of this arrangement would be deemed a filing in all member offices. The first office and applicant would be given a 30-month processing time frame in which to make available a first office action and any necessary translations to the second office(s), and the second office(s) would exploit the search and examination results in conducting their own examination. The New Route proposal permits the search and examination results of the first office to be transmitted to the second office(s) according to an internationally coordinated time frame. By allowing the second office to exploit the search and examination results of the first office, the primary benefits of the New Route program would be to reduce overall office workload, minimize duplication of search efforts, and increase examination quality. Because the New Route, as envisioned, would require changes in law in the USPTO and the JPO, the USPTO and the JPO agreed to commence a pilot project to test the New Route concept based on filing scenarios currently available under existing law in both offices. The New Route pilot project began on January 28, 2008, and will end when the number of requests reaches 50 or at the expiration of one year, whichever occurs first.

This information collection previously included two forms, Request for Participation in the New Route Pilot Program Between the JPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/10) and Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the (1) JPO or (2) UKIPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20), which may be used by applicants to request participation in the programs and to ensure that they meet the program requirements. Since the PPH program with the JPO has been fully implemented, Form PTO/SB/20 has been revised as Form PTO/SB/20JP for use with the JPO and a separate Form PTO/SB/20UK has been created for the ongoing pilot program with the UKIPO. Similar forms have been created for the PPH pilot programs with the CIPO, the DKPTO, the EPO, the KIPO, and the IPAU. These additional PPH pilot program forms are being added to this collection.

The USPTO is undertaking another worksharing program with the EPO and the JPO called the “Triway” program. Under the Triway framework, each Office will conduct searches on corresponding applications filed under the Paris Convention in each of the Offices in a sufficiently early time period. The search results will then be shared among the Offices in order to reduce the search and examination workload. The Triway program at the USPTO will accept up to 100 requests during the one-year pilot period. To support this program, the USPTO is adding the Request for Participation in Triway Pilot Program Among the USPTO, the EPO and the JPO (PTO/SB/12) to this collection.

Table 1 provides the statutes and regulations authorizing the USPTO to collect the information discussed above:

**Table 1: Information Requirements for the PPH Program**

Requirement	Statute	Rule
Request for Participation in the New Route Pilot Program Between the JPO and the USPTO	35 U.S.C. § 119	37 CFR 1.55, 1.102(d) and 1.17(h)
Request for Participation in the Triway Pilot Program Among the USPTO, the EPO, and the JPO	35 U.S.C. § 119	37 CFR 1.55, 1.102(d) and 1.17(h)
Request for Participation in the PPH Program Between the USPTO and the JPO, UKIPO, CIPO, DKPTO, EPO, KIPO, or IPAU	35 U.S.C. § 119	37 CFR 1.55, 1.102(d) and 1.17(h)

## 2. Needs and Uses

This information collection is necessary so that patent applicants may participate in the New Route, Triway, or PPH programs between the USPTO and other patent offices in order to receive the benefits of more efficient examination. The USPTO will provide forms to assist the public with submitting the required information for each program. The public uses these forms to request participation in the program, submit the required materials, and pay the appropriate petition fee.

The Information Quality Guidelines from Section 515 of Public Law 106-554, Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2001, apply to this information collection and comply with all applicable information quality guidelines, i.e. OMB and specific operating unit guidelines.

This proposed collection of information will result in information that will be collected, maintained, and used in a way consistent with all applicable OMB and USPTO Information Quality Guidelines.

Table 2 outlines how this collection of information is used by the public and the USPTO:

**Table 2: Needs and Uses of Information Collected for the PPH Program**

Form and Function	Form #	Needs and Uses
Request for Participation in the New Route Pilot Program Between the JPO and the USPTO	PTO/SB/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Used by the public to request participation in the pilot program, submit the required materials, and pay the appropriate fee.</li> <li>Used by the USPTO to determine whether the applicant is eligible for the pilot program and to advance the examination of eligible applications.</li> </ul>
Request for Participation in Triway Pilot Program Among the USPTO, the EPO and the JPO	PTO/SB/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Used by the public to request participation in the pilot program, submit the required materials, and pay the appropriate fee.</li> <li>Used by the USPTO to determine whether the applicant is eligible for the pilot program and to advance the examination of eligible applications.</li> </ul>
Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Program Between the JPO and the USPTO	PTO/SB/20JP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Used by the public to request participation in the program, submit the required materials, and pay the appropriate fee.</li> <li>Used by the USPTO to determine whether the applicant is eligible for the program and to advance the examination of eligible applications.</li> </ul>
Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the UKIPO and the USPTO	PTO/SB/20UK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Used by the public to request participation in the pilot program, submit the required materials, and pay the appropriate fee.</li> <li>Used by the USPTO to determine whether the applicant is eligible for the pilot program and to advance the examination of eligible applications.</li> </ul>
Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the CIPO and the USPTO	PTO/SB/20CA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Used by the public to request participation in the pilot program, submit the required materials, and pay the appropriate fee.</li> <li>Used by the USPTO to determine whether the applicant is eligible for the pilot program and to advance the examination of eligible applications.</li> </ul>
Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the KIPO and the USPTO	PTO/SB/20KR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Used by the public to request participation in the pilot program, submit the required materials, and pay the appropriate fee.</li> <li>Used by the USPTO to determine whether the applicant is eligible for the pilot program and to advance the examination of eligible applications.</li> </ul>
Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the IPAU and the USPTO	PTO/SB/20AU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Used by the public to request participation in the pilot program, submit the required materials, and pay the appropriate fee.</li> <li>Used by the USPTO to determine whether the applicant is eligible for the pilot program and to advance the examination of eligible applications.</li> </ul>
Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the EPO and the USPTO	PTO/SB/20EP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Used by the public to request participation in the pilot program, submit the required materials, and pay the appropriate fee.</li> <li>Used by the USPTO to determine whether the applicant is eligible for the pilot program and to advance the examination of eligible applications.</li> </ul>

Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the DKPTO and the USPTO	PTO/SB/20DK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Used by the public to request participation in the pilot program, submit the required materials, and pay the appropriate fee.</li> <li>• Used by the USPTO to determine whether the applicant is eligible for the pilot program and to advance the examination of eligible applications.</li> </ul>
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### **3. Use of Information Technology**

Requests to participate in the New Route or Triway pilot programs must be submitted by fax to the Office of the Commissioner for Patents to ensure that the request is processed in a timely manner. The forms associated with this collection may be downloaded from the USPTO web site in Portable Document Format (PDF), filled out electronically, and then printed out for faxing to the USPTO. The USPTO will consider alternative methods of submission under this program, including electronic submission, after the pilot periods have concluded.

Requests to participate in the PPH programs must be submitted online using EFS-Web, the USPTO's web-based electronic filing system. EFS-Web allows customers to file patent applications and associated documents electronically through their standard web browser. Typically, the customer will prepare the forms or documents as standard PDF files and then upload them to the USPTO servers using the secure EFS-Web interface. EFS-Web offers many benefits to filers, including form validation to ensure that all required information has been included, immediate notification that a submission has been received, automated processing of requests, and avoidance of postage or other paper delivery costs.

### **4. Efforts to Identify Duplication**

The information collected is required to process requests to participate in the New Route, Triway, or PPH programs and enable fast-track examination. This information is not collected elsewhere and does not result in a duplication of effort. If any of the documents required for participation in the programs have already been filed in the U.S. application, the applicant will not need to resubmit those documents and may simply indicate in the request for participation when the documents were previously filed.

### **5. Minimizing the Burden to Small Entities**

This collection does not impose a significant economic burden on small entities or small businesses. The information required by this collection provides the USPTO with the necessary materials for expediting the examination of applications that are eligible for the programs. The same information is required from every applicant and is not available from any other source.

### **6. Consequences of Less Frequent Collection**

This information is collected only when the public submits a request to participate in the New Route, Triway, or PPH program. If this information were not collected, the USPTO would not be able to fulfill its obligations under these programs and provide the ensuing

examination benefits to eligible applicants. This information could not be collected less frequently.

## **7. Special Circumstances in the Conduct of Information Collection**

There are no special circumstances associated with this collection of information.

## **8. Consultations Outside the Agency**

The 60-Day Notice was published in the *Federal Register* on June 24, 2008 (73 Fed. Reg. 35661). The comment period ended on August 25, 2008. No public comments were received.

The USPTO has long-standing relationships with groups from whom patent application data is collected, such as the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA), as well as patent bar associations, independent inventor groups, and users of our public facilities. Their views are expressed in regularly scheduled meetings and considered in developing proposals for information collection requirements. There have been no comments or concerns expressed by these or similar organizations concerning the time required to provide the information required under this program.

## **9. Payment or Gifts to Respondents**

This information collection does not involve a payment or gift to any respondent.

## **10. Assurance of Confidentiality**

Confidentiality of patent applications is governed by statute (35 U.S.C. § 122) and regulation (37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14). Upon publication of an application or issuance of a patent, the entire patent application file is made available to the public, subject to provisions for providing only a redacted copy of the file contents. The disclosure of the invention in the application is the quid pro quo for the property right conferred by the patent grant and the very means by which the patent statute achieves its constitutional objective of “promot[ing] the progress of science and useful arts.” The prosecution history contained in the application file is critical for determining the scope of the property right conferred by a patent grant.

## **11. Justification of Sensitive Questions**

None of the required information in this collection is considered to be of a sensitive nature.

## 12. Estimate of Hour and Cost Burden to Respondents

Table 3 calculates the burden hours and costs of this information collection to the public, based on the following factors:

- Respondent Calculation Factors**  
 The USPTO estimates that it will receive approximately 1,350 total responses per year for this collection, as outlined in Table 3 below.
- Burden Hour Calculation Factors**  
 The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 1.5 to 2 hours to submit the information in this collection, including the time to gather the necessary information, prepare the appropriate form, and submit the completed request to the USPTO.
- Cost Burden Calculation Factors**  
 In 2007 the Committee on Economics of Legal Practice of the American Intellectual Property Law Association published a report that summarized the results of a survey with data on hourly billing rates. The professional rate of \$310 per hour is the median rate for associate attorneys in private firms as published in that report. The USPTO expects that the information in this collection will be prepared by attorneys. This is a fully-loaded hourly rate.

**Table 3: Burden Hours/Burden Costs to Respondents for the PPH Program**

Item/Form No.	Hours (a)	Responses (yr) (b)	Burden (hrs/yr) (c) (a x b)	Rate (\$/hr) (d)	Total Cost (\$/yr) (e) (c x d)
Request for Participation in the New Route Pilot Program Between the JPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/10)	1.5	50	75	\$310.00	\$23,250.00
Request for Participation in Triway Pilot Program Among the USPTO, the EPO and the JPO (PTO/SB/12)	1.5	100	150	\$310.00	\$46,500.00
Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Program Between the JPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20JP)	2.0	500	1,000	\$310.00	\$310,000.00
Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the UKIPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20UK)	2.0	100	200	\$310.00	\$62,000.00
Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the CIPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20CA)	2.0	100	200	\$310.00	\$62,000.00
Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the KIPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20KR)	2.0	200	400	\$310.00	\$124,000.00

Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the IPAU and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20AU)	2.0	100	200	\$310.00	\$62,000.00
Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the EPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20EP)	2.0	100	200	\$310.00	\$62,000.00
Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the DKPTO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20DK)	2.0	100	200	\$310.00	\$62,000.00
<b>Totals</b>	-----	<b>1,350</b>	<b>2,625</b>	-----	<b>\$813,750.00</b>

Requests for participation in the PPH program, which account for 89% of the total responses for this collection, will be submitted electronically via EFS-Web.

The proposed additions to this information collection, plus the approved burden in the current inventory, will result in the total burden estimates shown below:

Current inventory responses = 800  
 Current inventory burden hours = 1,575  
 Current inventory burden hour costs = \$478,800

Impact on responses due to the proposed addition = increase of 550  
 Impact on burden hours due to the proposed addition = increase of 1,050  
 Impact on burden hour costs due to the proposed addition = increase of \$334,950

Total estimated responses after the proposed addition = 1,350  
 Total estimated burden hours after the proposed addition = 2,625  
 Total estimated burden hour costs after the proposed addition = \$813,750

### 13. Total Annualized (Non-hour) Cost Burden

There are no capital start-up, maintenance, or postage costs associated with this collection. However, this collection does have annual (non-hour) costs in the form of petition fees and recordkeeping costs.

The petition fee for requests to participate in the New Route, PPH, or Triway programs is \$130 under 37 CFR 1.17(h). Using the \$130 fee, the USPTO estimates that the total fees for this collection would be \$175,500 per year.

There are also recordkeeping costs associated with submitting the PPH forms in this collection online through EFS-Web. When submitting forms through EFS-Web, the USPTO recommends that customers print and retain a copy of the acknowledgment receipt as evidence of the successful submission. The USPTO estimates that it will take 5 seconds (0.001 hours) to print a copy of the acknowledgment receipt and that approximately 1,200 submissions in this collection will be filed online, for a total of approximately 1 hour per year. The USPTO expects that these receipts will be printed by paraprofessionals at an estimated rate of \$100 per hour, for a total recordkeeping cost of \$100 per year.

The total (non-hour) respondent cost burden for this collection in the form of fees and recordkeeping costs is estimated to be \$175,600 per year.

Currently approved annual (non-hour) costs = \$104,000  
 Impact due to the proposed addition = increase of \$71,600  
 Total estimated annual (non-hour) costs after the proposed addition = \$175,600

#### 14. Annual Cost to the Federal Government

Requests for participation in the New Route and Triway pilot programs will be processed by a combination of Senior Level and GS-15, step 1 employees, and the USPTO estimates that it will take approximately one hour on average to process a request. The estimated hourly rate for a Senior Level employee is approximately \$74.33 and the rate for a GS-15, step 1 is currently \$55.25, for an average rate of \$64.79. When 30% is added to account for a fully-loaded hourly rate (benefits and overhead), the hourly rate for processing these items is \$84.23 (\$64.79 + \$19.44).

The USPTO estimates that it will take a GS-15, step 1 employee approximately one hour on average to process a request for participation in the PPH Program. The hourly rate for a GS-15, step 1 is currently \$55.25. When 30% is added to account for a fully-loaded hourly rate (benefits and overhead), the hourly rate for processing these items is \$71.83 (\$55.25 + \$16.58).

Table 5 calculates the burden hours and costs to the Federal Government for processing this information collection:

**Table 5: Burden Hours/Burden Costs to the Federal Government for the PPH Program**

Item/Form No.	Hours (a)	Responses (yr) (b)	Burden (hrs/yr) (c) (a x b)	Rate (\$/hr) (d)	Total Cost (\$/yr) (e) (c x d)
Request for Participation in the New Route Pilot Program Between the JPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/10)	1.0	50	50	\$84.23	\$4,212.00
Request for Participation in Triway Pilot Program Among the USPTO, the EPO and the JPO (PTO/SB/12)	1.0	100	100	\$84.23	\$8,423.00



Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Program Between the JPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20JP)	1.0	500	500	\$71.83	\$35,915.00
Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the UKIPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20UK)	1.0	100	100	\$71.83	\$7,183.00
Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the CIPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20CA)	1.0	100	100	\$71.83	\$7,183.00
Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the KIPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20KR)	1.0	200	200	\$71.83	\$14,366.00
Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the IPAU and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20AU)	1.0	100	100	\$71.83	\$7,183.00
Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the EPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20EP)	1.0	100	100	\$71.83	\$7,183.00
Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the DKPTO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20DK)	1.0	100	100	\$71.83	\$7,183.00
<b>Totals</b>	-----	<b>1,350</b>	<b>1,350</b>	-----	<b>\$98,831.00</b>

Current government cost burden = \$55,067

Impact due to the proposed addition = increase of \$43,764

Total estimated government cost burden after the proposed addition = \$98,831

## 15. Reason for Changes in Annual Burden

### Summary of Changes Since the Previous Renewal

- December 2006: New collection approved by OMB with a total of 500 responses and 1,000 burden hours per year.
- August 2007: OMB approved a change worksheet that increased the total burden by 250 responses and 500 burden hours due to the revision of Form PTO/SB/20 to accommodate participation in the PPH Program by the UKIPO.
- July 2008: OMB approved the addition of the Request for Participation in the New Route Pilot Program Between the JPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/10), which increased the total burden by 50 responses and 75 burden hours.
- Currently: Approved with a total of 800 responses and 1,575 burden hours per year.

For this proposed addition, the USPTO estimates that the total annual responses will be 1,350 and the total annual burden hours will be 2,625, which is an increase of 550 responses and 1,050 hours from the currently approved burden for this collection. The increase in burden hours is due to program changes.

The total annual (non-hour) cost burden for this renewal of \$175,600 is an increase of \$71,600 over the current approved total of \$104,000 in annual (non-hour) costs for this collection. This increase in annual costs for the current renewal is due to program changes.

#### Changes from the 60-Day Notice

Since the 60-Day Notice was published, the USPTO has decided to revise the response estimates for Form PTO/SB/20UK and Form PTO/SB/20KR. The response estimates for PTO/SB/20UK have been reduced from 250 to 100 per year, and the estimates for PTO/SB/20KR have been reduced from 250 to 200 per year. The USPTO is also proposing to add three additional items to this collection: Request for Participation in the Triway Pilot Program Among the USPTO, the EPO and the JPO (PTO/SB/12), Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the DKPTO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20DK), and Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the EPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20EP). The estimated paraprofessional rate used to calculate recordkeeping costs as part of the annual (non-hour) cost burden of this collection has also increased from \$90 to \$100.

The net result of these changes is that the total annual responses for this collection have been increased from what was reported in the 60-Day Notice, from 1,250 to 1,350, and the total burden hours have been increased from 2,475 to 2,625. In addition, the total annual respondent cost burden has been increased from \$767,250 to \$813,750, and the total annual (non-hour) cost burden has been increased from \$162,590 to \$175,600.

#### Change in Respondent Cost Burden

The total respondent cost burden for providing this information to the USPTO has increased by \$334,950 from the currently approved inventory for this collection. The estimated rate for associate attorneys preparing the information in this collection has increased from \$304 to \$310 per hour, and the total burden hours have increased from 1,575 to 2,625. The increase in estimated hourly rates for attorneys and the increase in total burden hours have resulted in an increase of the total respondent cost burden for this collection from \$478,800 to \$813,750 per year.

#### Changes in Responses and Burden Hours

For this proposed addition, the USPTO estimates that the annual responses for this collection will increase by 550, from 800 to 1,350, and the total annual burden hours will

increase by 1,050, from 1,575 to 2,625. This increase in burden hours is due to program changes. The changes in burden for the requirements in this collection are as follows:

- The USPTO does not expect any changes in the estimates for the Request for Participation in the New Route Pilot Program Between the JPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/10).
- The USPTO is proposing to add the Request for Participation in Triway Pilot Program Among the USPTO, the EPO and the JPO (PTO/SB/12) to this collection. **Therefore, this collection takes a burden increase of 150 hours as a program change.**
- The USPTO estimates that the annual responses for the Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Program Between the JPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20JP) will decrease by 250, from 750 to 500, due to the creation of the separate form for the PPH program with UKIPO. **Therefore, this collection takes a burden decrease of 500 hours as a program change.**
- The USPTO is proposing to add requests for participation in the PPH programs with the CIPO, the DKPTO, the EPO, the KIPO, and the IPAU to this collection, along with a new separate form for requests for participation in the PPH program with the UKIPO. **Therefore, this collection takes a burden increase of 1,400 hours as a program change.**

**In sum, this information collection has a total net burden increase of 1,050 hours due to program changes.**

#### Changes in Annual (Non-hour) Costs

For this renewal, the USPTO estimates that the total annual (non-hour) costs for this collection will increase by \$71,600, from \$104,000 to \$175,600 per year. The increase in total annual (non-hour) costs is due to program changes, as follows:

- The total fees will increase from \$104,000 to \$175,500 due to the additional filings for the new items being added to this collection. **Therefore, this collection takes a burden increase of \$71,500 in fees as a program change.**
- There will be recordkeeping costs added to this collection associated with the submission of PPH requests to the USPTO via EFS-Web and the recommendation that customers print and retain a copy of the acknowledgement receipt generated for electronic submissions. **Therefore, this collection takes a burden increase of \$100 in recordkeeping costs as a program change.**

**In sum, this collection has a total increase in annual (non-hour) cost burden of \$71,600 due to program changes.**

**16. Project Schedule**

The USPTO does not plan to publish this information for statistical use or any other purpose.

**17. Display of Expiration Date of OMB Approval**

The forms in this information collection will display the OMB Control Number and the expiration date.

**18. Exceptions to the Certificate Statement**

This collection of information does not include any exceptions to the certificate statement.

**B. COLLECTION OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS**

This collection of information does not employ statistical methods.

## REFERENCES

- A. The USPTO Information Quality Guidelines
- B. Request for Participation in the New Route Pilot Program Between the JPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/10)
- C. Request for Participation in Triway Pilot Program Among the USPTO, the EPO and the JPO (PTO/SB/12)
- D. Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Program Between the JPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20JP)
- E. Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the UKIPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20UK)
- F. Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the CIPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20CA)
- G. Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the KIPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20KR)
- H. Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the IPAU and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20AU)
- I. Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the EPO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20EP)
- J. Request for Participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program Between the DKPTO and the USPTO (PTO/SB/20DK)
- K. 60-Day Notice published in the *Federal Register* on June 24, 2008 (73 Fed. Reg. 35661)