



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

November 18, 2009

Memorandum

To: Alexander Hunt
Chief, Information Policy Branch
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Office of Management and Budget

From: Susan K. Fawcett *SF*
Records Officer
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Subject: Request for Emergency Clearance

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) requests emergency review of an information collection request associated with a notice, "Streamlined Examination Pilot Program for Green Technologies Including Greenhouse Gas Reduction." The USPTO seeks to publish this notice in the *Federal Register* by the first week of December 2009.

The collection of information is needed prior to the expiration of the time period established by 5 C.F.R. §1320. The importance of green initiatives to the Obama Administration is well known. The President seeks to "protect our nation from the serious economic and strategic risks associated with our reliance on foreign oil and the destabilizing effects of a changing climate." White House Fact Sheet: President Obama Highlights Vision for Clean Energy Economy (Apr. 22, 2009). As an international leader in promoting innovation, the USPTO's pilot program will advance the green technology agenda by streamlining the processing of certain patent applications relating to environmental quality, energy conservation, development of renewable energy, and greenhouse gas emission reduction. To delay implementation of the pilot while ordinary Paperwork Reduction Act clearances are obtained would cause undue public harm.

The USPTO asks OMB to conclude its review of this information collection request by Friday, November 27, 2009. Thank you for your consideration and assistance in this matter.