**JUSTIFICATION FOR NONMATERIAL/NONSUBSTANTIVE CHANGE**

**United States Patent and Trademark Office**

**Trademark Petitions**

**OMB Control Number 0651-0061**

**2020**

Background

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) administers the Trademark Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1051 et seq., which provides for the registration of trademarks, service marks, collective trademarks and service marks, collective membership marks, and certification marks. Individuals and businesses that use or intend to use such marks in commerce may file an application to register their marks with the USPTO. Individuals and businesses may also submit various communications to the USPTO, including letters of protest, requests to make special, responses to petition inquiry letters, petitions to make special, requests to restore a filing date, and requests for reinstatement.

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is submitting this request to adjust the burdens associated with collection 0651-0061 (Trademark Petitions) in conjunction with rulemaking RIN 0651-AD15 (Changes to the Trademark Rules of Practice to Mandate Electronic Filing). As a result, the USPTO expects that there will be a reduction in 2 hours of cost burden and an annual (non-hourly) cost burden decrease of $2 as a result of removing the postage costs.

**Changed Details**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **IC Item** | **Current Respondent Numbers** | **Changes in Respondent Numbers** | **Proposed Respondent** | **Current Burden Hours** | **Changes in Burden Hours** | **Proposed Burden Hours** |
| Letter of Protest (TEAS Global) | 3,475 | 5 | 3,480 | 3,475 | 5 | 3480 |
| Letter of Protest (Paper) | 10 | -5 | 5 | 13 | -7 | 6 |
| **Total** | 3485 | 0 | 3485 | 2488 | -2 | 2486 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **IC Item** | **Current Non-Hourly Cost** | **Changes in Non-Hourly Cost** | **Proposed Non-Hourly Cost** |
| Letter of Protest  | 5.00 | -2 | 3 |
| **Total** |  |  | **3** |

Summary of Changes

The postage costs will be reduced in this collection, resulting in a decrease of $2 to the annual (non-hourly) cost burden.

Changes in Burden

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Burden Type** | **Currently Approved** | **Proposed**  | **New Estimate** |
| Annual Respondent | 4,768 | -0 | 4,768 |
| Annual hour burden  | 4,336 | -2 | 4,334 |
| Annual (non-hourly) cost burden | $53,510 | -$2 | $53,508 |

0651-0061’s revised total burden is as follows:

* 4,768 annual respondents
* 4,334 annual hour burden
* $53,508 in annual (non-hourly) cost burden