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IV. Request for Comments

The USPTO is soliciting public comments to:

(a) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(b) Evaluate the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(c) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(d) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

All comments submitted in response to this notice are a matter of public record. The USPTO will include or summarize each comment in the request to OMB to approve this information collection. Before including an address, phone number, email address, or other personally identifiable information (PII) in a comment, be aware that the entire comment—including PII—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask in your comment to withhold PII from public view, the USPTO cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so.

Justin Isaac,

Information Collections Officer, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2024-15123 Filed 7-9-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Notice of Meeting

Per 45 CFR chapter XXI § 2102.3, the next meeting of the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts is scheduled for July 18, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. and will be held via online videoconference. Items of discussion may include buildings, infrastructure, parks, memorials, and public art.

Draft agendas, the link to register for the online public meeting, and additional information regarding the Commission are available on our website: www.cfa.gov. Inquiries regarding the agenda, as well as any public testimony, should be addressed to Thomas Luebke, Secretary, U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, at the above address; by emailing cfastaff@cfa.gov; or by calling 202-504-2200. Individuals requiring sign language interpretation for the hearing impaired should contact the Secretary at least 10 days before the meeting date.

Dated July 3, 2024 in Washington, DC.

Zakiya N. Walters,

Administrative Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024-15098 Filed 7-9-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6330-01-P

CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU

[Docket No. CFPB-2024-0027]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

AGENCY: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) requests the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB's) revision of the existing information collection titled "Regulation F: Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, State Application for Exemption" approved under OMB Control Number 3170-0056.

DATES: Written comments are encouraged and must be received on or before August 9, 2024 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open

for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

In general, all comments received will become public records, including any personal information provided. Sensitive personal information, such as account numbers or Social Security numbers, should not be included.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information should be directed to Anthony May, Paperwork Reduction Act Officer, at (202) 435-7278, or email: CFPB_PRA@cfpb.gov. If you require this document in an alternative electronic format, please contact CFPB_Accessibility@cfpb.gov. Please do not submit comments to these email boxes.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Collection: Regulation F: Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, State Application for Exemption.

OMB Control Number: 3170-0056.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: State governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 8,730.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 858,345.

Abstract: Regulation F implements the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA)¹ and prescribes Federal rules governing the activities of debt collectors (as that term is defined in the FDCPA). Regulation F addresses communications in connection with debt collection and prohibitions on harassment or abuse, false or misleading representations, and unfair practices in debt collection. Regulation F includes information collections related to information that debt collectors must provide to consumers at various points during the debt collection process (such as at the outset of collections), before reporting a debt to a consumer reporting agency, and in response to certain consumer requests or actions. Regulation F also includes information collections related to recordkeeping and State applications to the CFPB for an exemption of a class of debt collection practices within the applying State from the provisions of the FDCPA and the corresponding provisions of Regulation F.

Request for Comments: The CFPB published a 60-day **Federal Register** notice on March 14, 2024 (89 FR 18606) under Docket Number: CFPB-2024-0011. The CFPB is publishing this notice and soliciting comments on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the CFPB, including

¹ 15 U.S.C. 1692.

whether the information will have practical utility; (b) The accuracy of the CFPB's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methods and the assumptions used; (c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be reviewed by OMB as part of its review of this request. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Anthony May,

Paperwork Reduction Act Officer, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

[FR Doc. 2024-15129 Filed 7-9-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-AM-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. AD24-3-000]

Billing Procedures for Annual Charges for the Costs of Other Federal Agencies for Administering Part I of the Federal Power Act; Notice Reporting Costs for Other Federal Agencies' Administrative Annual Charges for Fiscal Year 2023

1. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is required to determine the reasonableness of costs incurred by other Federal agencies (OFAs)¹ in connection with their participation in the Commission's proceedings under the Federal Power Act (FPA) Part I² when those agencies seek to include such costs in the administrative charges licensees must pay to reimburse the United States for the cost of administering Part I.³ The Commission's *Order on Remand and Acting on Appeals of Annual Charge Bills*⁴ determined which costs are eligible to be included in the

¹ The OFAs include: the U.S. Department of the Interior (Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of the Solicitor, Office of Environmental Policy & Compliance); the U.S. Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service); the U.S. Department of Commerce (National Marine Fisheries Service); and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

² 16 U.S.C. 791a-823d (2018).

³ See *id.* section 803(e)(1) and 42 U.S.C. 7178 (2018).

⁴ 107 FERC ¶ 61,277, *order on reh'g*, 109 FERC ¶ 61,040 (2004).

administrative annual charges. This order also established a process whereby the Commission would annually request each OFA to submit cost data, using a form⁵ specifically designed for this purpose. In addition, the order established requirements for detailed cost accounting reports and other documented analyses to explain the cost assumptions contained in the OFAs' submissions.

2. The Commission has completed its review of the forms and supporting documentation submitted by the U.S. Department of the Interior (Interior), the U.S. Department of Agriculture (Agriculture), and the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) for fiscal year (FY) 2023. This notice reports the costs the Commission included in its administrative annual charges for FY 2024.

Scope of Eligible Costs

3. The basis for eligible costs that should be included in the OFAs' administrative annual charges is prescribed by the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Circular A-25—*User Charges* and the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board's Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Standards (SFFAS) Number 4—*Managerial Cost Accounting Concepts and Standards for the Federal Government*. Circular A-25 establishes Federal policy regarding fees assessed for government services and provides specific information on the scope and type of activities subject to user charges. SFFAS Number 4 provides a conceptual framework for federal agencies to determine the full costs of government goods and services.

4. Circular A-25 provides for user charges to be assessed against recipients of special benefits derived from federal activities beyond those received by the general public.⁶ With regard to licensees, the special benefit derived from federal activities is the license to operate a hydropower project. The guidance provides for the assessment of sufficient user charges to recover the *full* costs of services associated with these special benefits.⁷ SFFAS Number 4 defines full costs as the costs of resources consumed by a specific governmental unit that contribute directly or indirectly to a provided service.⁸ Thus, pursuant to OMB requirements and authoritative accounting guidance, the Commission

⁵ Other Federal Agency Cost Submission Form, available at <https://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/forms.asp#ofa>.

⁶ OMB Circular A-25 section 6.

⁷ OMB Circular A-25 section 6.a.2.

⁸ SFFAS Number 4 ¶ 7.

must base its OFA administrative annual charge on all direct and indirect costs incurred by agencies in administering Part I of the FPA. The special form the Commission designed for this purpose, the "Other Federal Agency Cost Submission Form," captures the full range of costs recoverable under the FPA and the referenced accounting guidance.⁹

5. Our guidance directs the OFAs to ensure that the costs are for FPA Part I activities and that the documented costs are segregated between activities covering municipal projects from those for non-municipal projects. This year, we also asked the OFAs to provide additional narrative descriptions of the type of work performed in administering FPA Part I (including a list of the projects for which work was performed during the covered period) and a detailed description of what managerial/administrative or other activities are included in the non-specific category.

Commission Review of OFA Cost Submittals

5. The Commission received cost forms and other supporting documentation from the Departments of the Interior, Agriculture, and Commerce. The Commission completed a review of each OFA's cost submission forms and supporting reports. In its examination of the OFAs' cost data, the Commission considered each agency's ability to demonstrate a system or process which effectively captured, isolated, and reported FPA Part I costs as required by the "Other Federal Agency Cost Submission Form."

6. The Commission held a Technical Conference on March 21, 2024 to report its initial findings to licensees and OFAs. Representatives for several licensees and most of the OFAs attended the conference. Following the technical conference, a transcript was posted, and licensees had the opportunity to submit comments to the Commission regarding its initial review.

7. Idaho Falls Group (Idaho Falls) filed written comments¹⁰ generally agreeing with the Commission's revisions of the guidance requiring narrative descriptions of work

⁹ For the past few years, the form has excluded "Other Direct Costs" to avoid the possibility of confusion that occurred in earlier years as to whether costs were being entered twice as "Other Direct Costs" and "Overhead."

¹⁰ See Letter from Michael A. Swiger, Van Ness Feldman, to the Honorable Debbie-Anne A. Reese, FERC, Docket No. AD24-3-000 (filed April 18, 2024).