

professionals, as well as colleagues in academia and medical institutions, will continue to analyze available data on human exposures to environmental contaminants resulting from the World Trade Center disaster. This continuing work will help us to better understand the potential human health impacts.

Dated: February 27, 2003.

Art Payne,

Acting Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment.

[FR Doc. 03-5322 Filed 3-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 98-171, 90-571, 92-237, 99-200, 95-116, 98-170, NSD File No. L-00-72; FCC 03-31]

Commission Seeks Comment on Staff Study Regarding Alternative Contribution Methodologies

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice; solicitation of comments.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Commission seeks comment on a staff study relating to alternative methodologies for calculating contributions to the federal universal service support mechanisms. We urge commenters to comment on the staff analysis of assessment levels under each approach and on the assumptions underlying these projections. Commenters are encouraged to provide their own estimates, projections, and data supporting or refuting the projections.

DATES: Comments are due on or before March 31, 2003. Reply comments are due on or before April 18, 2003.

ADDRESSES: All filings must be sent to the Commission's Secretary: Marlene H. Dortch, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, SW., Suite TW-A325, Washington, DC 20554. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for filing instructions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Diane Law Hsu, Deputy Division Chief, or Paul Garnett, Attorney, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, (202) 418-7400, TTY: (202) 418-0484.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's Public Notice in CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 98-171, 90-571, 92-237, 99-200, 95-116, 98-170, and NSD File No. L-00-72

released February 26, 2003. In this Public Notice, the Commission seeks comment on a staff study relating to alternative methodologies for calculating contributions to the federal universal service support mechanisms. We urge commenters to comment on the staff analysis of assessment levels under each approach and on the assumptions underlying these projections. Commenters are encouraged to provide their own estimates, projections, and data supporting or refuting the projections.

In the *Report and Order and Second Further Notice*, 67 FR 79525, December 30, 2002, the Commission adopted interim measures to maintain the viability of universal service in the near term. In addition to seeking comment on whether to retain a revenue-based system, the Commission invited comment on specific aspects of three connection-based proposals. The Commission first asked for comment on a proposed contribution methodology that would impose a minimum contribution obligation on all interstate telecommunications carriers and a flat charge for each end-user connection depending on the nature or capacity of the connection. Next, the Commission sought comment on a proposal to assess all connections based purely on capacity. Under this proposal, contribution obligations for each switched end-user connection would be shared between access and transport providers. Finally, the Commission sought comment on a proposal to assess providers of switched connections based on their working telephone numbers.

To facilitate discussion and analysis of the various alternatives discussed in the *Second Further Notice*, Commission staff has developed a working paper that estimates potential assessment levels under the newly modified revenue-based system and three connection-based proposals. The assumptions underlying the study are described in the staff paper. The study, and its underlying assumptions were created for the sole purpose of developing a more detailed record addressing these issues in the docket, and do not represent the policies or preferences of the Commission, Commissioners, or the staff.

We seek comment on the study, as well as its underlying assumptions. We specifically ask commenters to analyze the modeled assessment levels, burdens on residential and business customers, and projected industry shares under each approach. To further assist commenters in analyzing the study, the staff spreadsheet that generated the

study is available on the Commission's Web site for downloading at http://www.fcc.gov/wcb/universal_service/welcome.html. This spreadsheet will provide access to the formulas utilized in the study and allow commenters to observe how changes to assumptions impact assessment levels and burdens. We recognize that estimates could differ significantly if different assumptions are utilized. We invite commenters to submit their own data and reasoning supporting or disagreeing with the various projections and assumptions. Comments submitted in response to this Public Notice shall be incorporated into the record for the *Second Further Notice*.

Pursuant to §§ 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules, interested parties may file comments on or before March 31, 2003, and reply comments on or before April 18, 2003. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies.

Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to <<http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>>. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. If multiple docket or rulemaking numbers appear in the caption of this proceeding, however, commenters must transmit one electronic copy of the comments to each docket or rulemaking number referenced in the caption. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions for e-mail comments, commenters should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov, and should include the following words in the body of the message, "get form <your e-mail address>." A sample form and directions will be sent in reply.

Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding, commenters must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number. Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail). The Commission's contractor, Vistrionix, Inc., will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, NE., Suite 110, Washington, DC 20002. The filing

hours at this location are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class mail, Express Mail, and Priority Mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Marlene H. Dortch, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

Parties also must send three paper copies of their filing to Sheryl Todd, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street SW., Room 5-B540, Washington, DC 20554. In addition, commenters must send diskette copies to the Commission's copy contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW., Room CY-B402, Washington, DC 20554. This is a permit but disclose rulemaking proceeding. Ex parte presentations are permitted, except during the Sunshine Agenda period, provided that they are disclosed as provided in the Commission's rules.

Federal Communications Commission.

William F. Caton,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-5240 Filed 3-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Announcement of Establishment of the Diabetes Detection Program and Solicitation of Partnering Organizations

AGENCY: Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Secretary, Office of Public Health and Science.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announces the establishment of the nationwide Diabetes Detection Program, an initiative to be carried out at the local level. HHS seeks both public and private sector partnering organizations to assist in implementation of the project. Potential partners include, but are not limited to: Professional organizations representing medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and other health related professions; diabetes-related nongovernmental organizations; large

employers and employer associations; retail pharmacy and/or related pharmacy associations; pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers and/or related associations; and other health-related organizations such as, hospitals and hospital associations, managed care plans, insurance companies providing coverage for health care, and benefit management organizations. Components of HHS that will be involved in this initiative include the Office of Public Health and Science; the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; the National Institutes of Health; the Health Resources and Services Administration; the Office of the Surgeon General; and the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps.

DATES: Organizations and other entities interested in partnering with HHS in furtherance of this initiative should submit notification of their intent by close of business on April 21, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Notifications of interest in partnering should be sent to Elizabeth Majestic, M.P.H., Acting Director, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office of Public Health and Science, Room 738-G, 200 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20201; (202) 401-6295 (telephone), 202-690-7054 (fax). Notifications may also be submitted by electronic mail to emajestic@osophs.dhhs.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ellis Davis, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office of Public Health and Science, Room 738-G, 200 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20201; (202) 260-2873 (telephone), 202-690-7054 (fax), edavis@osophs.dhhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: To further implementation of the Diabetes Detection Program, HHS is seeking partners to participate in the initiative in accordance with their particular interests. For example, state governors, their health departments, and community health centers could initiate detection-based programs to reach those at highest risk for diabetes. Where appropriate, other organizations and entities could collaborate with these state health department and community health center programs, as in the following examples:

- Partnering organizations could participate in a nationwide advertising campaign that would alert the American public to the opportunity for diabetes detection;
- Partnering organizations could participate in the production or

distribution of printed materials that will be used by state programs and community health centers responsible for implementing the initiative;

- Employers could adopt the project and conduct detection clinics where people at high risk of diabetes could be identified, then referred for specific diagnosis and followup if warranted;
- Hospitals could provide professional resources to conduct detection clinics;
- Managed care plans could adopt the project and encourage their enrollees to have themselves assessed for risk and alter their lifestyles if the risk warrants;
- Colleges and universities could conduct detection events for their student populations;
- Area agencies on aging could form a component of a statewide program.

Where a statewide program is not in place, partnering organizations such as these could proceed on their own.

Dated: February 28, 2003.

Elizabeth Majestic,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health (Disease Prevention and Health Promotion), Department of Health and Human Services.

[FR Doc. 03-5269 Filed 3-5-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4150-32-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the intention of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to allow the proposed information collection project: "Needs Assessment of Primary Care Practice-Based Research Networks (PBRNs)." In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), AHRQ invites the public to comment on this proposed information collection.

The proposed information collection was previously published in the **Federal Register** on January 7, 2003 allowed 60 Days for public comment. No public comments were received. The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 Days for public comment.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by April 7, 2003.