

intramural Federal research programs which are generating exciting new technologies for HAB monitoring and control. There are 2 major Federal multi-agency funding programs which represent important cross agency collaborative efforts. At least 25 States conduct HAB response efforts, operating through a wide range of State government departments and non profits. Tribes in some States are collaborating with academic, Federal, and State governments to monitor the presence of HABs. Given the global scope of HABs, U.S. programs also work closely with international programs and in some cases contribute funding.

The P&R report describes the remarkable progress made in some areas by Federal prediction and response programs. The greatest effort and progress has been made in mitigation, including improved monitoring and prediction capabilities, the establishment of event response programs, the conduct of economic impact assessments, and establishment of public health measures. Studies leading to prevention and control have led to new approaches. Infrastructure is being developed, cooperation and coordination has improved and incentive based programs have been used to address HAB problems.

Despite progress made, opportunities for advancing response to HABs still exist at the Federal and State level. The P&R report outlines opportunities for advancement identified by Federal agencies for HAB prediction and response and by the HAB community in the report, Harmful Algal Research and Response: A National Environmental Science Strategy (HARRNESS) 2005–2015. (Ramsdell, J.S., Anderson, D.M., and Glibert, P.M. (eds.) Ecological Society of America, Washington, DC, 96pp, 2005). This FRN requests public comment on the state of prediction and response programs in the U.S. and suggestions for how to improve that response.

Comments Request

The Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) welcomes all comments on the content of the Draft report. OSTP is specifically interested in feedback on

(1) The current state of efforts (including infrastructure) in Prediction and Response to prevent, control, or mitigate Harmful Algal Blooms;

(2) suggestions for specific improvements in those efforts.

Please adhere to the instructions detailed below for preparing and submitting your comments on the Draft *National Assessment of Efforts to Predict and Respond to Harmful Algal*

Blooms in U.S. Waters. Using the format guidance described below will facilitate the processing of reviewer comments and assure that all comments are appropriately considered. Please format your comments into the following sections: (1) Background information for yourself including name, title, organizational affiliation and email or telephone (optional), (2) overview or general comments, (3) specific comments with reference to pages or line numbers where possible, and (4) specific comments about the current state of efforts in prevention, control and mitigation of HABs (PCM), including infrastructure. Please number and print identifying information at the top of all pages.

Public comments may be submitted from September 27, 2006 to November 20, 2006.

M. David Hodge,
Operations Manager.

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EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES

Notice of Open Special Meeting of the Sub-Saharan Africa Advisory Committee (SAAC) of the Export-Import Bank of the United States (Export-Import Bank)

SUMMARY: The Sub-Saharan Africa Advisory Committee was established by Public Law 105–121, November 26, 1997, to advise the Board of Directors on the development and implementation of policies and programs designed to support the expansion of the Bank's financial commitments in Sub-Saharan Africa under the loan, guarantee and insurance programs of the Bank. Further, the committee shall make recommendations on how the Bank can facilitate greater support by U.S. commercial banks for trade with Sub-Saharan Africa.

Time and Place: October 11, 2006 at 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Export-Import Bank in Room 1143, 811 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20571.

Agenda: The meeting will include updates on Africa outreach with African Regional Financial Entities, Report on the “Working with African Lenders” seminar and the AGOA Forum, SAAC 2006 recommendations and International Business Development plans for Africa.

Public Participation: The meeting will be open to public participation and the last 10 minutes will be set aside for oral

questions or comments. Members of the public may also file written statement(s) before or after the meeting. If any person wishes auxiliary aids (such as a sign language interpreter) or other special accommodations, please contact, prior to October 11, 2006. Barbara Ransom, Room 1241, 811 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20571, Voice: (202) 565–3525 or TDD (202) 565–3377.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, contact Barbara Ransom, Room 707, 811 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20571, (202) 565–3525.

Kamil Cook,

Deputy General Counsel.

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BILLING CODE 6690–01–M

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Notice of Public Information Collection(s) Being Submitted for Review to the Office of Management and Budget

September 19, 2006.

SUMMARY: The Federal Communications Commission, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burden invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection(s), as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Public Law 104–13. An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) that does not display a valid control number. Comments are requested concerning (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Written Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) comments should be submitted on or before November 27, 2006. If you anticipate that you will be submitting PRA comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of