

reasonable time to conform with applicable criteria in Units II.D.2-4.

EPA's Determination: As a condition of EPA's grant of the waiver, Texas has given a written assurance satisfactory to EPA (letter from Joseph Fuller, Associate Commissioner, TDH, to Gregg Cooke, dated January 11, 2000) that, if following the grant of the waiver, any provision of either TSCA section 203 or the AHERA schools rule is changed, the State would, within a reasonable period of time, make appropriate changes, as necessary, to the statutory and regulatory provisions of its asbestos-in-schools program to ensure that the program remains at least as stringent as the EPA asbestos-in-schools program.

In addition, as long as the waiver remains in effect, Texas, utilizing adequate resources, will need to continue its asbestos-in-schools implementation and enforcement strategy. EPA may evaluate periodically the adequacy of Texas' program under 40 CFR 763.98, and, under circumstances set forth in the regulation, may, in whole or in part, rescind the waiver if the Agency determines the program to be inadequate.

E. What Recordkeeping and Reporting Burden Approvals Apply to the Texas Waiver Request?

The recordkeeping and reporting burden associated with waiver requests was approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under OMB control number 2070-0091. This document announces the Agency's grant of the Texas waiver request and imposes no additional burden beyond that covered under existing OMB control number 2070-0091.

III. Materials in the Official Record

The official record, under docket control number OPPTS-62162, contains the Texas waiver request, supporting documentation, and other relevant documents.

List of Subjects

Environmental protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Asbestos, Hazardous Imports, Intergovernmental relations, Labeling, Occupational safety and health, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Schools.

Dated: February 9, 2000.

Jerry Clifford, Acting

Regional Administrator, Region VI.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[DA 00-271]

Extension of Filing Deadline for Comments to the Petitions Filed by SBC Communications Inc. and Nextel Communications, Inc. Regarding PCS C and F Block Rules

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This Public Notice announces an extension of the filing deadline for comments to petitions filed by SBC Communications Inc. and Nextel Communications, Inc.

DATES: Comments are due February 22, 2000 and reply comments are due March 1, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be filed with the Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, TW B204, 445 12th St. SW Washington, DC 20554. Comments also should be provided to Amy Zoslov, Chief, Auctions and Industry Analysis Division, Room #4-A624, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th St. SW Washington, DC 20554.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leora Hochstein of the Auctions and Industry Analysis Division at (202) 418-0660.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of Public Notice, DA 00-271 released February 11, 2000. The complete text of the public notice is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room CY-A257), 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC. It may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Services, Inc. (ITS, Inc.) 1231 20th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 857-3800. It is also available on the Commission's website at <http://www.fcc.gov>.

1. In a *Public Notice* released on February 3, 2000, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (Bureau) sought comment on Nextel Communications, Inc.'s ("Nextel") petition regarding the PCS C and F block spectrum and extended the filing deadline for comments to SBC Communications Inc.'s ("SBC") request for waiver of the eligibility requirements for PCS C and F block licenses.¹

¹ "Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Seeks Comment on Nextel Communications, Inc.'s Petition Regarding PCS C and F Block Spectrum; Extension of Filing Deadline for Comments to SBC Communications Inc.'s Request for Waiver," Public

Specifically, the *Public Notice* requested that comments addressing any issues raised by SBC and/or Nextel be filed by February 14, 2000 and that reply comments be filed by February 22, 2000.

2. The National Telephone Cooperative Association ("NTCA"), the Office of the Advocacy of the United States Small Business Administration ("Advocacy") and the Rural Cellular Association ("RCA") have filed requests for extension of the filing deadline for comments to the petitions filed by SBC and Nextel.² These parties all contend that the comment filing period set by the Bureau does not allow interested parties sufficient time to address the complex issues raised in SBC's and Nextel's submissions.

3. It is the policy of the Commission that extensions of time shall not be routinely granted.³ Upon review, however, we agree that an extension will afford parties the time to coordinate and file comments that will facilitate the compilation of a more complete record in this proceeding, without causing undue delay to the Commission's consideration of the issues.

4. Accordingly, we extend the filing deadline for comments to petitions filed by SBC and Nextel. Comments addressing any issues raised by SBC and/or Nextel must be filed by February 22, 2000, and reply comments are due by March 1, 2000.⁴ Adoption of these deadlines should provide interested parties with an adequate opportunity to prepare and file meaningful comments in this proceeding. Further delay here, however, could have the effect of creating uncertainties for bidders in other spectrum auctions scheduled for this year.

5. In all other respects, the terms and filing instructions set forth in the Public

Notice, DA 00-191 (released February 3, 2000). See also "Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Seeks Comment on SBC Communications Inc.'s Request for Waiver of the Eligibility Requirements for Participation in the Upcoming PCS C and F Block Auction," Public Notice, DA 00-145 (rel. January 31, 2000) (requesting that comments be filed by February 10, 2000 and that reply comments be filed by February 15, 2000).

² See National Telephone Cooperative Association Expedited Request for Extension of Filing Deadline for Comments to SBC Communications Inc.'s and Nextel Communications, Inc.'s Request for Waiver of the Commission's Rules, DA 00-191, filed by NTCA on February 4, 2000; Request for Additional Time to File Comments, DA 00-191, filed by Advocacy on February 7, 2000; Request for Extension of Time, DA 00-191, filed by RCA on February 9, 2000.

³ 47 CFR 1.46.

⁴ To the extent that the Bankruptcy Court's February 7, 2000 order may have constrained the Commission in acting on SBC's and Nextel's petitions, the Second Circuit Court of Appeals' order of February 10, 2000 clarifies that the Commission may take this action.

Notice released on February 3, 2000 (DA 00-191) apply.⁵

6. We reiterate that both SBC's waiver request and Nextel's petition are available for public inspection and copying in the Reference Center, Room CY A257, 445 12th St., SW, Washington, DC 20554. Copies of the request and the petition are also available from ITS at 1231 20th St. NW, Washington, DC 20036, or by calling (202) 857-3800.

Federal Communications Commission.

Louis J. Sigalos,

Deputy Chief, Auctions & Industry Analysis Division.

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FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Federal Open Market Committee; Domestic Policy Directive of December 21, 1999

In accordance with § 71.5 of its rules regarding availability of information (12 CFR part 271), there is set forth below the domestic policy directive issued by the Federal Open Market Committee at its meeting held on December 21, 1999.¹

The information reviewed at this meeting suggests continued strong expansion of economic activity. Nonfarm payroll employment increased substantially further in October and November, and the civilian unemployment rate stayed at 4.1 percent in November, its low for the year. Manufacturing output recorded sizable gains in October and November. Total retail sales rose appreciably over the two months. Housing activity has softened somewhat over recent months but has remained at a high level. Trends in orders suggest that business spending on capital equipment has increased further. The U.S. nominal trade deficit in goods and services rose in October from its average in the third quarter. Aggregate price increases have been smaller in the past two months, reflecting a flattening in energy prices; labor compensation rates have been rising more slowly than last year.

Most market interest rates are up somewhat since the meeting on November 16, 1999. Measures of share prices in equity markets have risen further over the intermeeting period. In foreign exchange markets, the trade-weighted value of the dollar has changed little over the period in relation to the currencies of a broad group of important U.S. trading partners.

M2 continued to grow at a moderate pace in November while M3 surged. For the year through November, M2 and M3 are estimated to have increased at rates somewhat above the Committee's annual ranges for 1999. Total domestic nonfinancial debt has expanded at a pace in the upper end of its range.

The Federal Open Market Committee seeks monetary and financial conditions that will foster price stability and promote sustainable growth in output. In furtherance of these objectives, the Committee reaffirmed at its meeting in June the ranges it had established in February for growth of M2 and M3 of 1 to 5 percent and 2 to 6 percent respectively, measured from the fourth quarter of 1998 to the fourth quarter of 1999. The range for growth of total domestic nonfinancial debt was maintained at 3 to 7 percent for the year. For 2000, the Committee agreed on a tentative basis in June to retain the same ranges for growth of the monetary aggregates and debt, measured from the fourth quarter of 1999 to the fourth quarter of 2000. The behavior of the monetary aggregates will continue to be evaluated in the light of progress toward price level stability, movements in their velocities, and developments in the economy and financial markets.

To promote the Committee's long-run objectives of price stability and sustainable economic growth, the Committee in the immediate future seeks conditions in reserve markets consistent with maintaining the federal funds rate at an average of around 5½ percent. In view of the evidence currently available, the Committee believes that prospective developments are equally likely to warrant an increase or a decrease in the federal funds rate operating objective during the intermeeting period.

By order of the Federal Open Market Committee, February 10, 2000.

Donald L. Kohn,

Secretary, Federal Open Market Committee.

[FR Doc. 00-4216 Filed 2-22-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-P

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Proposed Collection: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request Entitled American Customer Satisfaction Index

AGENCY: General Services Administration (GSA).

ACTION: Notice of request for approval of an information collection entitled American Customer Satisfaction Index.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), GSA has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an information collection concerning American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI). An emergency review was requested by OMB, and a notice was published in the **Federal Register** at 64 FR 36690, July 7, 1999. OMB approved the emergency collection and assigned OMB No. 3090-0271. The information collection also was published in the **Federal Register** on November 26, 1999 at 64 FR 66478 allowing for the standard 60-day public comment period. No comments were received.

The following summary of the proposed information collection activity is designed to support the customer satisfaction policies outlined in Executive Order 12862, "Setting Customer Service Standards," and to establish a means to consistently measure and compare customer satisfaction among high-impact agencies within the Executive Branch. GSA serves as the Executive Agent for this initiative and has selected the ACSI through a competitive procurement process as the vehicle for obtaining the required information.

The ACSI is a cross-industry, cross-agency methodology for obtaining comparable measures of customer satisfaction. Along with other economic objectives—such as employment and growth—the quality of output (goods and services) is a part of measuring living standards. The ACSI's ultimate purpose is to help improve the quality of goods and services available to the American people.

The surveys that comprise the Federal Government's portion of the ACSI will be completed subject to the Privacy Act of 1974, Public Law 93-579, December 31, 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a). The agency information collection will be used solely for the purpose of the survey. The ACSI partnership will not be authorized to release any agency information upon completion of the survey without first obtaining permission from GSA and the

⁵ See "Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Seeks Comment on Nextel Communications, Inc.'s Petition Regarding PCS C and F Block Spectrum; Extension of Filing Deadline for Comments to SBC Communications Inc.'s Request for Waiver," Public Notice, DA 00-191 (released February 3, 2000).

¹ Copies of the Minutes of the Federal Open Market Committee meeting of December 21, 1999, which include the domestic policy directive issued at that meeting, are available upon request to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, DC 20551. The minutes are published in the Federal Reserve Bulletin and in the Board's annual report.