

Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for the purpose of determining the extent to which such programs and activities are contributing to the achievement of such policy, and to make recommendations to the President with respect thereto. 42 U.S.C. 4344(3). The CEQ referral process permits federal agencies to bring to CEQ interagency disagreements concerning proposed major federal actions that might cause unsatisfactory environmental effects. Under CEQ regulations, 40 CFR part 1504, any federal department or agency may refer a proposed major federal action to CEQ no less than 25 days after the final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been made available to the public commenting agencies, and the Environmental Protection Agency. A federal agency that intends to refer a proposal to CEQ must first notify the lead agency of its intentions at the earliest possible time. If the issues are not resolved between the agencies after publication of the final EIS, and the agency wishes to refer the proposal to CEQ, the referring agency must send a letter and a statement to CEQ and the lead agency and request that no action be taken to implement the proposal until CEQ acts upon the referral. The statement accompanying the referral letter must: (1) Identify the material facts in the controversy; (2) identify environmental policies or requirements that would be violated by the proposal; (3) present the reasons why the referring agency believes the proposal is environmentally unsatisfactory; (4) contain a finding that the issue raised is of national importance; (5) review the steps taken by the referring agency to resolve the matter with the lead agency prior to referral; and (6) offer the referring agency's recommendations in regard to the proposed action. The lead agency for the proposal then has 25 days to respond to the referring agency's letter and statement. Interested parties, both in and outside of government, may deliver written views regarding the referral to CEQ. Within 25 days of the last agency action regarding the referral, CEQ may take one of seven actions:

- (1) Conclude that the process of referral and response has successfully resolved the problem.
- (2) Initiate discussions with the agencies with the objective of mediation with referring and lead agencies.
- (3) Hold public meetings or hearings to obtain additional views and information.
- (4) Determine that the issue is not one of national importance and request the referring and lead agencies to pursue their decision process.

(5) Determine that the issues should be further negotiated by the referring and lead agencies and is not appropriate for Council consideration until one or more heads of agencies report to the Council that the agencies' disagreements are irreconcilable.

(6) Publish its findings and recommendations (including where appropriate a finding that the submitted evidence does not support the position of an agency).

(7) When appropriate, submit the referral and response together with the Council's recommendation to the President for action. 40 CFR 1504.3(f). Initiation of mediation, public hearings or meetings, or a determination of further negotiation must be completed by the Council within 60 days of the Council's action under 40 CFR 1504.3(f).

II. Request for Comments

Written comments on the issues raised by NOAA in their referral are requested by January 18, 2002.

Dated: November 27, 2001.

James L. Connaughton,
Chairman, Council on Environmental Quality.

[FR Doc. 01-29801 Filed 11-29-01; 8:45 am]

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EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, December 11, 2001 at 1:30 p.m. (Eastern Time).

PLACE: Conference Room on the 9th Floor of the EEOC Office Building, 1801 "L" Street, NW., Washington, DC 20507.

STATUS: The meeting will be open to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Open Session

1. Announcement of Notation Votes, and
2. Invited Panelists on Employment Discrimination in the Aftermath of September 11th.

Note: Seating is limited to approximately 125 people. An overflow room will have closed circuit television of the meeting. Members of the public are requested to arrive before 1 p.m. in order to allow sufficient time to complete entry procedures prior to the meeting. Any matters not discussed or concluded may be carried over to a later meeting. (In addition to published notices on EEOC Commission meetings in the **Federal Register**, the Commission also provides a recorded announcement a full week in advance on future Commission meetings.)

Please telephone (202) 663-7100 (voice) and (202) 663-4074 (TTD) at any time for information on these meetings.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Frances M. Hart, Executive Officer on (202) 663-4070.

Dated: November 28, 2001.

Frances M. Hart,
Executive Officer, Executive Secretariat.
[FR Doc. 01-29902 Filed 11-28-01; 2:54 pm]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[Report No. 2516]

Petitions for Reconsideration of Action in Rulemaking Proceedings

November 26, 2001.

Petitions for Reconsideration have been filed in the Commission's rulemaking proceedings listed in this Public Notice and published pursuant to 47 CFR section 1.429(e). The full text of this document is available for viewing and copying in Room CY-A257, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC or may be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, Qualex International (202) 863-2893. Oppositions to these petitions must be filed by December 17, 2001. See section 1.4(b)(1) of the Commission's rules (47 CFR 1.4(b)(1)). Replies to an opposition must be filed within 10 days after the time for filing oppositions has expired.

Subject:

In the Matter of Carriage of the Transmissions of Digital Television Broadcast Stations (CS Docket No. 98-120)

In the Matter of Review of the Commission's Rules and Policies Affecting the Conversion to Digital Television (MM Docket No. 00-39) Service Rules for the 746-764 and 776-794 MHz Banks, and Revisions to Part 27 of the Commission's Rules (WT Docket No. 99-168)

Magalie Roman Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-29682 Filed 11-29-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collections; Comment Request

The Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Secretary will