

estimate the number of people in remote parts of Alaska who have access to mobile service in census blocks partially served by providers participating in the Alaska Plan. To assess a participating provider's satisfaction of its service commitments at the 5 and 10-year performance benchmarks, the Bureau will use 2010 block-level population census data and the provider's Form 477 data, in conjunction with the Alaska Population-Distribution Model, to estimate the number of Alaskans in remote parts of the state who are covered by the provider's network (using the technology identified in the commitment). No commenter proposed an alternative approach, and the sole commenter, ATA, supports use of the model. The Bureau agrees with ATA that the Alaska Population-Distribution Model is the best currently available method for determining whether mobile providers meet their service commitments. In addition, the Bureau believes that the model is the best available methodology that likely will be available by the 5-year mark and that the same methodology should be applied to both the 5 and 10-year benchmark. Using two different methodologies for the 5 and 10-year evaluations would result in inconsistent evaluation of the commitments and could jeopardize the Commission's ability to enforce those commitments.

10. *Determining Whether Providers Have Met Their Commitments.* Although the Alaska Plan Order required mobile participants to specify the number of people that they would commit to serve, it did not address how providers would calculate this number, other than to note that the Commission would use mobile providers' nationwide coverage polygons from Form 477 for the analysis. Form 477 data, however, which reflect mobile providers' coverage area, do not necessarily reflect the number of people served in Alaska. A map that reflects 75% coverage of the geographic area of a census block, for example, does not mean necessarily that 75% of the population of that census block is covered by that provider, given that population generally is not evenly distributed through a census block in remote areas of Alaska and that census blocks may be very large and sparsely populated.

11. To determine whether mobile providers have met their service commitments using their Form 477 nationwide coverage polygons, the Commission will superimpose these coverage polygons onto the Alaska Population-Distribution Model to distribute 2010 census population throughout the census block.

Commission staff then will analyze how many people in that census block are located within the mobile provider's coverage area to determine the number of people served by that provider.

12. *Exceptions.* The Bureau also adopts the four exceptions to the model that it proposed in the Alaska Population Model Public Notice (in and around Unalaska, near Nome and Unalakleet, in the Prudhoe Bay area, and in the Copper Valley area). Because of the unique nature of these four areas, the alternate data sources better reflect the location of population than the Alaska Population-Distribution Model; in addition, no commenters object to these exceptions. Allowing these limited exceptions to the model will provide more granular data of where people are located in remote areas, and it will ensure that participating mobile providers are deploying service that will benefit Alaskans.

13. The Bureau rejects ATA's request for mobile providers to "submit available evidence regarding the true location of population no later than six months before the next approaching benchmark," which the Bureau interprets to be a request to submit additional exceptions to the Alaska Population-Distribution Model by June 30, 2021 (six months before the 5-year mark of December 31, 2021). First, the Bureau notes that mobile providers already have had an opportunity to submit additional exceptions in response to the Alaska Population Model Public Notice, issued in February, and no commenter has identified any exceptions other than the four exceptions that the Bureau adopts here. Second, permitting the submission of additional exceptions after providers' four-year performance plan resubmissions, due December 31, 2020, would unnecessarily complicate the Bureau's review of those resubmissions, which must include population coverage commitments based on the model the Bureau adopts herein. The Bureau therefore declines to allow mobile providers to submit additional exceptions to the model and find the amount of time already allowed for such requests to have been sufficient.

14. *Frozen-Support Eligible Census Blocks.* Finally, the Bureau adopts its proposal to use the Alaska Population-Distribution Model to identify those census blocks in remote areas of Alaska that are eligible for frozen support under the Alaska Plan and that can be counted by participating carriers towards their performance commitments. Specifically, the Bureau uses the model to identify those census blocks in remote Alaska where, as of December 31, 2014, less

than 85% of the population was covered by 4G LTE service of providers that are either unsubsidized or not eligible for frozen support in Alaska. The Bureau applies the Alaska Population-Distribution Model—in combination with 2010 block-level population census data and Form 477 4G LTE coverage data for those unsubsidized or ineligible providers as of December 31, 2014—to generate the list of frozen-support eligible blocks.

15. As the Bureau explained in the Alaska Population Model Public Notice, the list of census blocks generated using our proposed Alaska Population Distribution Model aligns with the list of census blocks eligible for frozen support that GCI submitted on November 29, 2016. Commenters do not object to this list of census blocks, and the Bureau finds that it is the most accurate list of census blocks eligible for frozen support. Accordingly, the Bureau will use this list of frozen-support eligible census blocks to determine if mobile providers have met their service commitments at the 5 and 10-year benchmarks of the Alaska Plan. Consistent with the Alaska Plan Order, participating providers "may only satisfy their performance commitments through service coverage" in those census blocks included on the list.

16. Accordingly, *it is ordered*, pursuant to the authority contained in sections 1–4 and 254 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 151–154 and 254, and sections 0.91, 0.131, 0.291, 0.311, and 1.106 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR 0.91, 0.131, 0.291, 0.311, and 1.106, and the delegated authority contained in the Alaska Plan Order, 31 FCC Rcd 10139, 10166, para. 85, this Order is adopted.

Federal Communications Commission.

Amy Brett,

Associate Division Chief, Competition and Infrastructure Policy Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

[FR Doc. 2020–21045 Filed 9–23–20; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE

[Docket No.: FMCS–2020–0005–0001]

Notice of Succession Plan for the FMCS

AGENCY: Office of the Director (OD), Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is notice of the succession plan for the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS) provided by the Director of FMCS at the request of the Federal Transition Coordinator at the General Services Administration and the Office of Management and Budget via OMB Memorandum M–20–33. This notice supersedes all prior succession plans for officials performing the functions and duties of the Director of FMCS.

DATES: September 19, 2020.

ADDRESSES: N/A.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to this notice, please contact Sarah Cudahy, 202–606–8090, scudahy@fmcs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Notice provides the succession plan of officials authorized to perform the functions and duties of the Director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service. The order of succession is subject to the provisions of the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998 (5 U.S.C. 3345–3349d).

Order of Succession

Subject to the provisions of the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, the following is the succession plan of officials authorized to perform the functions and duties of the Director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service:

- 1st in Order of Succession: Principal Deputy Director
- 2nd in Order of Succession: Deputy Director
- 3rd in Order of Succession: Chief Operating Officer

Dated: September 19, 2020.

Sarah Cudahy,
General Counsel.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[OMB Control No. 9000–0199; Docket No. 2019–0003; Sequence No. 28]

Submission for OMB Review; Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act, the Regulatory Secretariat Division has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension of a previously approved information collection requirement regarding prohibition on contracting for certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment.

DATES: Submit comments on or before October 26, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for this 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 Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

Additionally submit a copy to GSA by any of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** This website provides the ability to type short comments directly into the comment field or attach a file for lengthier comments. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and follow the instructions on the site. All items submitted must cite Information Collection 9000–9000–0199, Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.
- Comments received generally will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal and/or business confidential information provided. To confirm receipt of your comment(s), please check www.regulations.gov, approximately two-to-three days after submission to verify posting (except allow 30 days for posting of comments submitted by mail).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Camara Francis, Procurement Analyst, at telephone 202–550–0935, or camara.francis@gsa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. OMB Control Number, Title, and any Associated Form(s)

9000–0199, Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.

B. Needs and Uses

The Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) provides that an agency generally cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information, and no person is required to respond to,

nor be subject to, a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information, unless that collection has obtained Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

DoD, GSA, and NASA requested and OMB authorized emergency processing of an information collection involved in this rule, as OMB Control Number 9000–0199 (FAR case 2018–017), from the provision at FAR 52.204–24, Representation Regarding Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services and the clause at FAR 52.204–25, Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment, consistent with 5 CFR 1320.13. DoD, GSA, and NASA have determined the following conditions have been met:

a. The collection of information is needed prior to the expiration of time periods normally associated with a routine submission for review under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act, in view of the deadline for this provision of the NDAA which was signed into law in August 2018 and requires action before the prohibition goes into effect on August 13, 2019.

b. The collection of information is essential to the mission of the agencies to ensure the Federal Government does not purchase prohibited equipment, systems and services, and can respond appropriately if any such purchases are not identified until after delivery or use.

c. The use of normal clearance procedures would prevent the collection of information from contractors, for national security purposes.

This requirement supports implementation of Section 889 of Title VII of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Pub. L. 115–232). This section prohibits agencies from procuring, obtaining, extending or renewing a contract to procure or obtain any equipment, system, or service that uses covered telecommunication equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as a critical technology as part of any system on or after August 13, 2019 unless an exception applies.

This requirement is implemented in the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) through the provision at FAR 52.204–24, Representation Regarding Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment and the clause at FAR 52.204–25, Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.