

payment under the employer shared responsibility provisions of section 4980H(a) of the Code, if such provisions were applicable; provides minimum value (as defined in section 36B(c)(2)(C)(ii) of the Code); and is reasonably expected to be affordable (applying the safe harbor rules for determining affordability set forth in 26 CFR 54.4980H-5(e)(2)). If a plan or issuer providing limited wraparound coverage takes reasonable steps to ensure that employers disclose to the plan or issuer necessary information regarding their coverage offered and affordability information, the plan or issuer is permitted to rely on reasonable representations by employers regarding this information, unless the plan or issuer has specific knowledge to the contrary.

(ii) Eligibility for the wraparound coverage is limited to employees who are not full-time employees (and their dependents), or who are retirees (and their dependents). For this purpose, full-time employees are employees who are reasonably expected to work at least an average of 30 hours per week.

(iii) Other group health plan coverage, not limited to excepted benefits, is offered to the individuals eligible for the wraparound coverage. Only individuals eligible for the other group health plan coverage are eligible for the wraparound coverage.

(2) *Limited wraparound coverage offered in conjunction with Multi-State Plan coverage.* Limited wraparound coverage offered in conjunction with Multi-State Plan coverage satisfies all of the conditions of this paragraph (b)(3)(vii)(D)(2). For this purpose, the term “full-time employee” means a “full-time employee” as defined in 26 CFR 54.4980H-1(a)(21) who is not in a limited non-assessment period for certain employees (as defined in 26 CFR 54.4980H-1(a)(26)). Moreover, if a plan or issuer providing limited wraparound coverage takes reasonable steps to ensure that employers disclose to the plan or issuer necessary information regarding their coverage offered and contribution levels for 2014 and for any year in which limited wraparound coverage is offered, the plan or issuer is permitted to rely on reasonable representations by employers regarding this information, unless the plan or issuer has specific knowledge to the contrary. Consistent with the reporting and evaluation criteria of paragraph (b)(3)(vii)(E) of this section, the Office of Personnel Management may verify that plans and issuers have reasonable mechanisms in place to ensure that contributing employers meet these standards.

(i) The limited wraparound coverage is specifically designed, and approved by the Office of Personnel Management, consistent with the reporting and evaluation criteria of paragraph (b)(3)(vii)(E) of this section, to provide benefits in conjunction with coverage under a Multi-State Plan authorized under section 1334 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The Office of Personnel Management may revoke approval if it determines that continued approval is inconsistent with the reporting and evaluation criteria of paragraph (b)(3)(vii)(E) of this section.

(ii) The employer has offered coverage in the plan year that begins in 2014 that is substantially similar to coverage that the employer would need to have offered to its full-time employees in order to not be subject to an assessable payment under the employer shared responsibility provisions of section 4980H(a) of the Code, if such provisions had been applicable.

(iii) In the plan year that begins in 2014, the employer has offered coverage to a substantial portion of full-time employees that provided minimum value (as defined in section 36B(c)(2)(C)(ii) of the Code) and was affordable (applying the safe harbor rules for determining affordability set forth in 26 CFR 54.4980H-5(e)(2)).

(iv) For the duration of the pilot program, as described in paragraph (b)(3)(vii)(F) of this section, the employer's annual aggregate contributions for both primary and wraparound coverage are substantially the same as the employer's total contributions for coverage offered to full-time employees in 2014.

(E) *Reporting—(1) Reporting by group health plans and group health insurance issuers.* A self-insured plan, or a health insurance issuer, offering or proposing to offer Multi-State Plan wraparound coverage pursuant to paragraph (b)(3)(vii)(D)(2) of this section reports to the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), in a form and manner specified in guidance, information OPM reasonably requires to determine whether the plan or issuer qualifies to offer such coverage or complies with the applicable requirements of this section.

(2) *Reporting by group health plan sponsors.* The plan sponsor of a group health plan offering wraparound coverage under paragraph (b)(3)(vii) of this section, must report to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), in a form and manner specified in guidance, information HHS reasonably requires to determine whether the exception for limited wraparound coverage under this

paragraph (b)(3)(vii) is allowing plan sponsors to provide workers with comparable benefits whether enrolled in minimum essential coverage under a group health plan offered by the plan sponsor, or a qualified health plan with additional limited wraparound coverage offered by the plan sponsor, without the causing an erosion of coverage.

(F) *Pilot program with sunset*—The provisions of paragraph (b)(3)(vii) of this section apply to limited wraparound coverage that is first offered no later than December 31, 2017 and that ends on the later of:

(1) The date that is three years after the date wraparound coverage is first offered; or

(2) The date on which the last collective bargaining agreement relating to the plan terminates after the date wraparound coverage is first offered (determined without regard to any extension agreed to after the date wraparound coverage is first offered).

\* \* \* \* \*

[FR Doc. 2014–30010 Filed 12–19–14; 11:15 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P; 4510-29-P; 4120-01-P

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### 47 CFR Part 20

[WT Docket Nos. 07–250, 10–254; DA 14–1688]

### Request for Updated Information and Comment on Wireless Hearing Aid Compatibility Regulations

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** In this document, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau seek updated input to better understand the current consumer experience, to explore technical or other barriers to the provision of hearing aid compatible devices on new wireless technologies, and to consider changes to its rules that may be necessary to ensure that wireless handsets used with advanced communications services are accessible in light of directives contained in the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act (CVAA).

**DATES:** Effective 30 days from publication in the **Federal Register**. Reply Comments 45 days from publication in the **Federal Register**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Eli Johnson, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, (202) 418–1395, email [Eli.Johnson@fcc.gov](mailto:Eli.Johnson@fcc.gov). Bob Aldrich, Consumer and Governmental Affairs

Bureau, (202) 418-0996, email [Robert.Aldrich@fcc.gov](mailto:Robert.Aldrich@fcc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a summary of the Commission's Public Notice, WT Docket Nos. 07-250, 10-254, released November 21, 2014. The full text of this document is available for inspection and copying during business hours in the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street SW., Room CY-A257, Washington, DC 20554. Also, it may be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor at Portals II, 445 12th Street SW., Room CY-B402, Washington, DC 20554; the contractor's Web site, <http://www.bcpweb.com>; or by calling (800) 378-3160, facsimile (202) 488-5563, or email [FCC@BCPIWEB.com](mailto:FCC@BCPIWEB.com). Copies of the Public Notice also may be obtained via the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) by entering the docket number WT Docket 07-250; 10-254. Additionally, the complete item is available on the Federal Communications Commission's Web site at <http://www.fcc.gov>.

## I. Introduction

1. By this Public Notice, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (Wireless Bureau) and the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau (CGB) request updated information to assess whether the Commission's hearing aid compatibility rules for wireless handsets effectively meet the needs of individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing. Since the Wireless Bureau last developed the record on these issues in 2012, a number of developments have occurred, including the deployment of LTE networks and LTE only handsets, wider use of and reliance on Wi-Fi calling, increasing consumer demand for data-centric mobile services on wireless devices, and continued growth in the number of wireless-only households.

2. The Wireless Bureau and CGB therefore seek updated information to better understand the current consumer experience, to explore technical or other barriers to the provision of hearing aid compatible devices on new wireless technologies, and to consider recommending changes to the Commission's rules that may be necessary to ensure that wireless handsets used with advanced communications services are accessible in light of directives contained in the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act (CVAA) (CVAA, Pub. L. 111-260). The Commission seeks to refresh the record on two principal issues. First, should the Commission revise the hearing aid compatibility requirement to apply in a

technologically neutral way to all mobile wireless devices that can be used for voice communications? Second, should the Commission consider moving away from the fractional compliance regime that exists today and implement a requirement that all mobile wireless devices must comply with the hearing aid compatibility rules?

## II. Background

3. In 2003, the Commission adopted rules to ensure that all wireless handset manufacturers and service providers offer consumers a selection of handsets that are compatible with hearing aids. Under these rules, which were amended in 2008, manufacturers and wireless service providers are currently required to meet the Commission's wireless hearing aid compatibility standards only to the extent that handsets are associated with digital CMRS networks that "offer real-time, two-way switched voice or data service that is interconnected with the public switched network and utilize an in-network switching facility that enables the provider to reuse frequencies and accomplish seamless hand-offs of subscriber calls." These rules require mobile service providers and handset manufacturers to offer only a certain number of digital wireless handset models that are hearing aid compatible through reductions in radio frequency (RF) interference and through an internal capacity for inductive coupling with a telecoil.

4. In the *2007 Hearing Aid Compatibility NPRM*, (22 FR 292, November 7, 2007) the Commission sought comment on whether to apply the hearing aid compatibility rules to wireless handsets that may fall outside the scope of covered CMRS, including handsets that offer voice services on non-cellular unlicensed Wi-Fi networks. In the *2010 Further NPRM*, (75 FR 77781, December 14, 2010) the Commission proposed to apply hearing aid compatibility requirements to "all customer equipment used to provide wireless voice communications over any type of network among members of the public or a substantial portion of the public via a built-in speaker where the equipment is typically held to the ear, so long as meeting hearing aid compatibility standards is technologically feasible and would not increase costs to an extent that would preclude successful marketing."

5. Subsequent to the release of the *2010 Further NPRM*, the CVAA amended the Hearing Aid Compatibility Act (HAC Act) (HAC Act, Pub. L. 100-394) in several relevant respects. First, the CVAA defined the class of

equipment that is generally required to be hearing aid compatible to include, in addition to telephones, "all customer premises equipment used with advanced communications services that is designed to provide 2-way voice communication via a built-in speaker intended to be held to the ear in a manner functionally equivalent to a telephone." The CVAA defines "[a]dvanced communications services" to include, among other things, interconnected and non-interconnected VoIP services. Second, the CVAA defines "telephones" for purposes of the public mobile and private radio services exemptions to include "telephones and other customer premises equipment used in whole or in part with" various wireless communications services, including unlicensed services that are functionally equivalent to licensed services. Third, Congress directed the Commission to reassess the appropriateness of existing exemptions using a four-part test. Finally, in implementing the hearing aid compatibility requirements applicable to customer premises equipment (CPE) used with advanced communications services, Congress directed the Commission to "use appropriate timetables or benchmarks to the extent necessary (1) due to technical feasibility, or (2) to ensure the marketability or availability of new technologies to users."

6. Shortly after passage of the CVAA, the Wireless Bureau released a Public Notice seeking comments on the effect that the new legislation might have, if any, on the hearing aid compatibility rules that had been proposed in the *2010 Further NPRM*. In December 2010, the Wireless Bureau issued a second Public Notice to initiate a comprehensive review of the wireless hearing aid compatibility regulations (*2010 Review PN*), (76 FR 2625, December 28, 2010) including reassessment of deployment benchmarks and consideration of whether all wireless handsets should be required to meet hearing aid compatibility standards. Subsequently, in November 2012, due to intervening market, technical, and regulatory developments since the *2010 Review PN*, the Wireless Bureau sought updated and additional comment on these matters (*2012 Refresh PN*), (77 FR 70407, November 26, 2012).

## III. Request for Comment

### A. Applying the Rules in a Technologically Neutral Manner

7. Section 20.19 of the Commission's rules currently imposes hearing aid

compatibility requirements based on the underlying network technology, not on a device's functionality. Consumers, however, may focus more on a particular handset's functionality than on the network technology that it utilizes. Additionally, a technologically neutral approach may encourage innovation in the design of hearing aid compatible mobile wireless devices. The Wireless Bureau and CGB renew the Commission's request for comment on whether to require compatibility in a technologically neutral manner.

8. To keep pace with consumer expectations and the evolution of wireless technologies, the Wireless Bureau and CGB seek comment on whether consumers are aware that the hearing aid compatibility rules currently apply only to digital CMRS services with certain functionalities and, relatedly, whether section 20.19 should apply to all wireless handsets, regardless of the service, frequency, or technology with which they are used. In other words, if a wireless handset includes a built-in speaker and is typically held to the ear in a manner functionally equivalent to a telephone, then should the hearing aid compatibility requirements apply? If the Commission were to take this course of action, how should it define "functionally equivalent"? What would be the costs and benefits of revising section 20.19 along these lines—for handset manufacturers, service providers, hearing aid manufacturers, and consumers? The Wireless Bureau and CGB seek comment on whether this approach would be more consistent with consumer expectations, especially the expectations of persons with hearing loss, and if so, why.

9. The Wireless Bureau and CGB note that amended rules could cover, among other things, handsets that operate over Wi-Fi systems and private internal networks. In light of this potential scope, the Wireless Bureau and CGB seek comment on whether the Commission should consider applying the hearing aid compatibility rules to handsets and other CPE used for wireless voice communications regardless of whether they are interconnected with the public switched telephone network (PSTN). Similarly, should the rules apply to other packet-based modes of voice access such as Voice over LTE (VoLTE) that may not use an in-network switching facility? How would amending the hearing aid compatibility rules in this manner affect a consumer's ability to use his or her device in a variety of situations, such as for communicating in a moving vehicle (which requires access to multiple base

stations), in a Wi-Fi hot-spot, or through a satellite? Additionally, should the Commission expand the hearing aid compatibility rules to include handsets and CPE used solely over internal networks?

10. The CVAA directs the Commission to consider technical feasibility, marketability, and the availability of new technologies in connection with its hearing aid compatibility rules. Thus, the Wireless Bureau and CGB seek comment on how difficult it would be for handsets that offer voice communication capability but may not presently be subject to section 20.19 to comply with a hearing aid compatibility technical standard, and whether devices used primarily or exclusively on internal networks pose unique technical challenges. Could manufacturers and service providers achieve compliance for these devices in a relatively short period of time? Are there technical impediments or other considerations of which the Commission should be aware? If there are technical impediments or other considerations, what are they and how long would it take for manufacturers and service providers to overcome them? How much lead time would manufacturers need in order to come into compliance and what would be the costs of complying?

11. Along these same lines, do testing laboratories have the equipment and software needed to test the compatibility of handsets that offer voice communication capability but may not be presently subject to section 20.19? Could laboratories upgrade existing equipment to test devices that operate on other interfaces, or would they need to purchase new equipment and software? What are the costs of updating existing equipment and software or purchasing new equipment and software?

12. Would technical impediments, testing costs, or other challenges support exempting certain technologies or services from the rules, either indefinitely or for a specified period? If so, what technologies or services would merit an exemption and why? What impact would exemptions have on people with hearing loss? What standard should the Commission utilize to determine if a technology or service should be exempted? Finally, how frequently should the Commission review such exemptions?

#### *B. Fractional Deployment Benchmarks*

13. In enacting the HAC Act, Congress found that individuals with hearing loss should have access to the telecommunications network "to the

fullest extent made possible by technology and medical science." Likewise, the CVAA directs the Commission to adopt rules that expand consumer access to hearing aid compatible handsets in line with advanced communication technologies. The Commission's existing hearing aid compatibility rules, however, require covered handset manufacturers and service providers to achieve compliance only for a percentage of the total number of handset models that they offer. These fractional deployment benchmarks have been in place for a number of years and they have remained static, despite significant progress among certain manufacturers in achieving compliance. Moreover, the Wireless Bureau and CGB note the increasing trend among consumers to reside in wireless only households and rely exclusively on wireless services for communications. In such households, wireless handsets may be the only way for consumers to contact essential services, such as 911 emergency services. Given the evolution in wireless technology and handset manufacturing, and evolving consumer expectations and use, the Wireless Bureau and CGB seek comment on whether the current fractional deployment approach effectively meets the communication needs of people with hearing loss.

14. The Wireless Bureau and CGB renew the Commission's request for comment on how consumers with hearing loss would benefit if all newly manufactured handsets were hearing aid compatible—*i.e.*, have ratings of M3 and T3 or better. For example, to what extent would this improve the ability of consumers to select phones that meet their communication needs and reduce consumer confusion when shopping at retail establishments? To the extent that consumers currently have difficulty finding handsets that work effectively with their hearing aids or implants, would this change meaningfully address the difficulty? Or, by contrast, are consumers able to find hearing aid compatible devices (*i.e.*, devices with ratings of M3 and T3 or better) without difficulty, but are discovering that many devices do not work effectively with hearing aids or implants notwithstanding compliance with the Commission's rules?

15. To what extent would requiring compliance for all handsets make it easier for consumers with hearing loss to purchase handsets not just from manufacturers and service providers but from distributors, third-party vendors, kiosks, and Web sites? The Wireless Bureau and CGB note that, in the past, consumers have requested an in-store

testing requirement for independent retailers. Would expanding the hearing aid compatibility requirement to all handsets render this request moot? Given the increasing number of wireless-only households, to what extent would this change improve access to emergency services for individuals with hearing loss? The Wireless Bureau and CGB seek comment on these issues and on other ways consumers with hearing loss could benefit if all future handsets were hearing aid compatible.

16. The Wireless Bureau and CGB also seek comment on challenges that may be associated with ensuring that all future handsets are compliant. Are there any technologies for which this would be technically infeasible? How much lead time would manufacturers need to achieve this, while ensuring the marketability and availability of their new technologies? Does the transition away from GSM and towards VoLTE remove some technological hurdles that slowed progress towards making all handsets hearing aid compatible? Commenters advocating maintaining the existing benchmarks should clearly explain why their position is consistent with the HAC Act and the CVAA, and also why this decision would not adversely impact persons who are deaf or hard of hearing. Are there some wireless technologies for which the Commission should grant exemptions from an all-inclusive rule, because of their nascent status or for other reasons? Commenters advocating specific exemptions should clearly state the basis for any exemption, its expected impact on the affected population, whether it should be temporary or permanent, and if temporary, whether and how frequently it should be reevaluated by the Commission.

17. Finally, the Wireless Bureau and CGB seek comment on the costs and benefits associated with requiring all handsets to be hearing aid compatible. In particular, would this change eliminate the need for a number of the compliance requirements associated with the present fractional approach, such as annual status reports on hearing aid compatibility, the product refresh rule, and the "different levels of functionality" rule? What would be the advantages and disadvantages of discontinuing these requirements for manufacturers, service providers and consumers? Are there other compliance requirements that could be discontinued? Would the potential reduction in compliance burdens provide a particular benefit or cost to discrete segments of the industry, such as smaller wireless providers? Would

smaller providers benefit from the availability of a wider variety of the latest handset models? The Wireless Bureau and CGB note that some manufacturers now deploy hearing aid compatible handsets in a higher percentage than is required under the rules. What economies of scale and other benefits would accrue to manufacturers who design all of their handsets to be hearing aid compatible? The Wireless Bureau and CGB generally seek comment on other ways covered handset manufacturers and service providers could benefit if all wireless handsets were hearing aid compatible, as well as any obstacles to achieving this result.

#### IV. Procedural Matters

18. Interested parties may file comments within 30 days of the publication of this document in the **Federal Register** and reply comments within 45 days of the publication of this Public Notice in the **Federal Register**. All filings should refer to WT Docket Nos. 07–250 and 10–254. Comments may be filed using: (1) The Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), or (2) by filing paper copies. See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings, 63 FR 24121 (1998).

- **Electronic Filers:** Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>. Filers should follow the instructions provided on the Web site for submitting comments. If multiple dockets or rulemaking numbers appear in the caption of this proceeding, filers must transmit one electronic copy of the comments for each docket or rulemaking number referenced in the caption. In completing the transmittal screen, filers should include their full name, Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet email. To get filing instructions for email comments, filers should send an email to [ecfs@fcc.gov](mailto:ecfs@fcc.gov), and should include the following words in the body of the message, "get form your email address." A sample form and directions will be sent in response.

- **Paper Filers:** 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, filers must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number.

19. 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 the Commission continues to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail). All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

- The Commission's contractor 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 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 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.

20. One copy of each pleading must be delivered electronically, by email or facsimile, or if delivered as paper copy, by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (according to the procedures set forth for paper filings), to the Commission's duplicating contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., at [FCC@BCPIWEB.COM](mailto:FCC@BCPIWEB.COM) or (202) 488–5563 (facsimile).

21. Copies of the document and any subsequently-filed documents in this matter may be obtained from Best Copy and Printing, Inc. in person at 445 12th Street SW., Room CY–B402, Washington, DC 20554, via telephone at (202) 488–5300, via facsimile at (202) 488–5563, or via email at [FCC@BCPIWEB.COM](mailto:FCC@BCPIWEB.COM). The Public Notice and any associated documents are also available for public inspection and copying during normal reference room hours at the following Commission office: FCC Reference Information Center, 445 12th Street SW., Room CY–A257, Washington, DC 20554. The Public Notice is also available electronically through the Commission's ECFS, which may be accessed on the Commission's Internet Web site at <http://www.fcc.gov>.

22. To request information in accessible formats (computer diskettes, large print, audio recording, and Braille), send an email to [fcc504@fcc.gov](mailto:fcc504@fcc.gov) or call the FCC's Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418–0530 (voice), (202) 418–0432 (TTY).

Federal Communications Commission.

**Chad Breckinridge,**

*Associate Bureau Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.*

[FR Doc. 2014–30096 Filed 12–22–14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6712–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

**48 CFR Parts 1001, 1002, 1016, 1019, 1022, 1028, 1032, 1034, 1042, and 1052**

### Department of the Treasury Acquisition Regulation; Technical Amendments

**AGENCY:** Office of the Procurement Executive, Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury is making amendments to the Department of the Treasury Acquisition Regulation (DTAR) in order to make editorial changes. These editorial changes are in response to either updates made to the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR), Treasury bureau organizational restructuring, and other internal updates that have occurred since the 2013 edition.

**DATES:** *Comment due date:* January 22, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** Treasury invites comments on the topics addressed in this proposed rule. Comments may be submitted to Treasury by any of the following methods: by submitting electronic comments through the federal government e-rulemaking portal, [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), by email to [thomas.olinn@treasury.gov](mailto:thomas.olinn@treasury.gov); or by sending paper comments to Department of the Treasury, Office of the Procurement Executive, Attn: Thomas O'Linn, 655 15th Street NW., Metropolitan Square, Room 6B415, Washington, DC 20220.

In general, Treasury will post all comments to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) without change, including any business or personal information provided, such as names, addresses, email addresses, or telephone numbers. Treasury will also make such comments available for public inspection and copying in Treasury's Library, Room 1428, Department of the Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20220, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time. You can make an appointment to inspect comments by telephoning (202) 622–0990. All comments, including attachments and other supporting materials received are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. You should submit

only information that you wish to make publicly available.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Thomas O'Linn, Procurement Analyst, Office of the Procurement Executive, at (202) 622–2092.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The DTAR, which supplement the Federal Acquisition Regulation, are codified at 48 CFR Chapter 10. In order to update certain elements in 48 CFR part 10 this document makes editorial changes to the DTAR, which include updating Treasury bureau names and updating titles and dates, and other nonsubstantive revisions. This proposed rule would also remove the Earned Value Management System provisions codified at section 1052.234–72. There is no longer a need for Treasury-specific coverage in this area.

#### Regulatory Planning and Review

This rule is not a significant regulatory action as defined in section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866. Therefore a regulatory assessment is not required.

#### Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. chapter 6) generally requires agencies to conduct an initial regulatory flexibility analysis and a final regulatory flexibility analysis of any rule subject to notice and comment rulemaking requirements, unless the agency certifies that the rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

It is hereby certified that this proposed rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The rule is intended to make editorial changes to the DTAR.

#### Paperwork Reduction Act

The information collections contained in this proposed rule have been previously approved by the Office of Management and Budget under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*) and assigned OMB control numbers 1505–0081; 1505–0080; and 1505–0107. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act, an agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

#### List of Subjects in 48 CFR Chapter 10

Government procurement.

Accordingly, the Department of the Treasury proposes to amend 48 CFR chapter 10 as follows:

## PART 1001—DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY ACQUISITION REGULATION (DTAR) SYSTEM

■ 1. The authority citation for part 1001 is revised to read as follows:

**Authority:** 41 U.S.C. 1707.

### 1001.670 [Amended]

■ 2. Amend section 1001.670 by removing from the paragraph the word “Technical” from Contracting Officer Technical Representative and the letter “T” in COTR in all instances used.

## PART 1002—DEFINITIONS OF WORDS AND TERMS

■ 3. The authority citation for part 1002 is revised to read as follows:

**Authority:** 41 U.S.C. 1707.

■ 4. Section 1002.101 is revised to read as follows:

### 1002.101 Definitions.

*Bureau* means any one of the following Treasury organizations:

- (1) Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB);
- (2) Bureau of Engraving & Printing (BEP);
- (3) Bureau of the Fiscal Service (formerly Bureau of Public Debt and Financial Management Service);
- (4) Departmental Offices (DO);
- (5) Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN);
- (6) Office of the Inspector General (OIG);
- (7) Internal Revenue Service (IRS);
- (8) Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC);
- (9) Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program (SIGTARP);
- (10) Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA); or
- (11) United States Mint.

### 1002.70 [Amended]

■ 5. Amend section 1002.70 by—

■ a. Removing “COTR Contracting Technical Officer's Representative” and adding “COR Contracting Officer's Representative” in its place.

■ b. Removing “IPP Internet Payment Platform” and adding “IPP Invoice Processing Platform” in its place.

## PART 1016—TYPES OF CONTRACTS

■ 6. The authority citation for part 1016 is revised to read as follows:

**Authority:** 41 U.S.C. 1707.

### 1016.505 [Amended]

■ 7. Section 1016.505 is revised to read as follows: