

matter other than rule making but including licensing” APA section 551(6). The APA defines “license” to “include \* \* \* an agency permit \* \* \*” APA section 551(8). The APA thus categorizes a permit as an order, which by the APA’s definition is not a rule. Section 553 of the APA establishes “rule making” requirements. The APA defines “rule making” as “the agency process for formulating, amending, or repealing a rule” APA section 551(5). By its terms, then, section 553 applies only to “rules” and not also to “orders,” which include permits.

#### F. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

Title II of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA), Public Law 104–4, establishes requirements for Federal agencies to assess the effects of their “regulatory actions” on State, local, and tribal governments and the private sector. UMRA uses the term “regulatory actions” to refer to regulations. (*See, e.g.*, UMRA section 201, “Each agency shall \* \* \* assess the effects of Federal regulatory actions \* \* \* (other than to the extent that such regulations incorporate requirements specifically set forth in law)”). UMRA section 102 defines “regulation” by reference to 2 U.S.C. 658 which in turn defines “regulation” and “rule” by reference to section 601(2) of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA). That section of the RFA defines “rule” as “any rule for which the agency publishes a notice of proposed rulemaking pursuant to section 553(b) of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA)[we only need parentheses around APA], or any other law \* \* \*.”

As discussed in the RFA section of this notice, NPDES general permits are not “rules” under the APA and thus not subject to the APA requirement to publish a notice of proposed rule making. NPDES general permits are also not subject to such a requirement under the CWA. While EPA publishes a notice to solicit public comment on draft general permits, it does so pursuant to the CWA section 402(a) requirement to provide “an opportunity for a hearing.” Thus, NPDES general permits are not “rules” for RFA or UMRA purposes.

#### G. Paperwork Reduction Act

The information collection required by this permit has been approved by Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*, in submissions made for the NPDES permit program and assigned OMB control numbers 2040–0086 (NPDES permit application) and

2040–0004 (discharge monitoring reports).

**Authority:** Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1251 *et seq.*

Dated: September 15, 2004.

**Alexis Strauss,**

*Director, Water Division, EPA Region 9.*

[FR Doc. 04–21286 Filed 9–21–04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560–50–P**

### FEDERAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS ADVISORY BOARD

#### Notice of Meetings for 2005

**Board Action:** Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3511(d), the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. No. 92–463), as amended, and the FASAB Rules of Procedure, as amended in April, 2004, notice is hereby given that the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB) will meet on the following dates in room 7C13 of the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) Building (441 G Street NW) unless otherwise noted:

- Wednesday and Thursday, March 2 and 3, 2005
- Wednesday and Thursday, May 4 and 5, 2005
- Wednesday and Thursday, June 22 and 23, 2005
- Wednesday and Thursday, August 17 and 18, 2005
- Wednesday and Thursday, October 5 and 6, 2005
- Wednesday and Thursday, December 7 and 8, 2005

The purposes of the meetings are to discuss issues related to:

- FASAB’s conceptual framework,
- Stewardship Reporting,
- Social Insurance,
- Natural Resources,
- Inter-entity Costs,
- Fiduciary Activities,
- Technical Agenda, and
- Any other topics as needed.

A more detailed agenda can be obtained from the FASAB Web site (<http://www.fasab.gov>) one week prior to each meeting.

Any interested person may attend the meetings as an observer. Board discussion and reviews are open to the public. GAO Building security requires advance notice of your attendance. Please notify FASAB of your planned attendance by calling 202–512–7350 at least one day prior to the respective meeting.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Wendy M. Comes, Executive Director, 441 G St., NW., Mail Stop 6K17V, Washington, DC 20548, or call (202) 512–7350.

**Authority:** Federal Advisory Committee Act. Pub. L. 92–463.

Dated: September 17, 2004.

**Charles Jackson,**

*Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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### FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

#### Notice of Public Information Collection(s) Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission, Comments Requested

September 14, 2004.

**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 No. 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 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 22, 2004. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, you should advise the contact listed below as soon as possible.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) comments to Les Smith, Federal Communications Commission, Room 1–A804, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554 or via the Internet to [Leslie.Smith@fcc.gov](mailto:Leslie.Smith@fcc.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For additional information or copies of the information collection(s), contact Les