

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-9659-5]

Notification of a Public Teleconference of the Science Advisory Board Ecological Processes and Effects Committee

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or Agency) Science Advisory Board (SAB) Staff Office announces a public teleconference of the SAB Ecological Processes and Effects Committee (EPEC) to discuss the Committee's draft advisory report on the EPA Risk Assessment Forum (RAF) document, "Integrating Ecological Assessment and Decision-Making at EPA, 2011 RAF Ecological Assessment Action Plan (August, 11, 2011)."

DATES: The SAB Ecological Processes and Effects Committee will conduct a public teleconference on Wednesday, May 16, 2012. The teleconference will begin at 12:00 noon and end at 3 p.m. (Eastern Daylight Time).

ADDRESSES: The public teleconference will be conducted by telephone only.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Any member of the public wishing further information regarding the public teleconference may contact Dr. Thomas Armitage, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), SAB Staff Office, by telephone/voice mail at (202) 564-2155 or via email at armitage.thomas@epa.gov. General information concerning the EPA Science Advisory Board can be found at the EPA SAB Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/sab>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: The SAB was established pursuant to the Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Authorization Act (ERDAA) codified at 42 U.S.C. 4365, to provide independent scientific and technical peer review, advice, consultation, and recommendations to the EPA Administrator on the technical basis for EPA actions. As a Federal Advisory Committee, the SAB conducts business in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (5 U.S.C. App. 2) and related regulations. Pursuant to FACA and EPA policy, notice is hereby given that the SAB EPEC, augmented with other experts, will hold a public teleconference to discuss its draft report on the EPA RAF document, "Integrating Ecological Assessment and Decision-Making at EPA, 2011 RAF Ecological Assessment

Action Plan (August, 11, 2011)." The SAB Committee will comply with the provisions of FACA and all appropriate SAB Staff Office procedural policies.

EPA's Office of the Science Advisor has requested that the SAB EPEC review the Agency's Ecological Assessment Action Plan and related background documents, and provide advice on the technical merit and implementation of proposed initiatives. The SAB EPEC augmented with other experts previously held public teleconferences on February 22 and 23, 2012 to discuss its review comments on the EPA RAF draft document "Integrating Ecological Assessment and Decision-Making at EPA, 2011 RAF Ecological Assessment Action Plan (August, 11, 2011)." Background information about this SAB review can be found on the SAB Web site at: http://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabproduct.nsf/fedrgstr_activites/RAF%20Eco%20Action%20Plan?OpenDocument. The purpose of the upcoming teleconference is for the SAB EPEC to discuss its draft review report.

Availability of the review materials: The agenda and material in support of this meeting will be available on the SAB Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/sab>. For technical questions and information concerning the EPA document, "Integrating Ecological Assessment and Decision-Making at EPA, 2011 RAF Ecological Assessment Action Plan (August, 11, 2011)," please contact Mr. Lawrence Martin of EPA's Risk Assessment Forum by phone (202) 564-6497 or via email at lawrence@epa.gov.

Procedures for Providing Public Input: Public comment for consideration by EPA's federal advisory committees and panels has a different purpose from public comment provided to EPA program offices. Therefore, the process for submitting comments to a federal advisory committee is different from the process used to submit comments to an EPA program office. Federal advisory committees and panels, including scientific advisory committees, provide independent advice to EPA. Members of the public can submit comments for a federal advisory committee to consider as it develops advice for EPA. Input from the public to the SAB will have the most impact if it consists of comments that provide specific scientific or technical information or analysis for the SAB Committee to consider or if it relates to the clarity or accuracy of the technical information.

Oral Statements: In general, individuals or groups requesting an oral presentation will be limited to three minutes per speaker. Interested parties should contact Dr. Thomas Armitage,

DFO, in writing (preferably via email), at the contact information noted above, by May 9, 2012 to be placed on the list of public speakers for the May 16, 2012 teleconference. **Written Statements:** Written statements should be received in the SAB Staff Office by May 9, 2012 so that the information may be made available to the SAB Committee for their consideration. Written statements should be supplied to the DFO in electronic format via email (acceptable file formats: Adobe Acrobat PDF, WordPerfect, MS Word, MS PowerPoint, or Rich Text files in IBM-PC/Windows 98/2000/XP format). It is the SAB Staff Office general policy to post written comments on the Web page for the advisory meeting or teleconference. Submitters are requested to provide an unsigned version of each document because the SAB Staff Office does not publish documents with signatures on its Web sites. Members of the public should be aware that their personal contact information, if included in any written comments, may be posted to the SAB Web site. Copyrighted material will not be posted without explicit permission of the copyright holder.

Accessibility: For information on access or services for individuals with disabilities, please contact Dr. Thomas Armitage at the phone number or email address noted above, preferably at least ten days prior to the teleconference, to give EPA as much time as possible to process your request.

Dated: April 6, 2012.

Thomas H. Brennan,

Deputy Director, EPA Science Advisory Board Staff Office.

[FR Doc. 2012-8987 Filed 4-12-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

[No. 2012-N-04]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Housing Finance Agency.

ACTION: 60-Day notice of submission of information collection for approval from Office of Management and Budget.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) is seeking public comments concerning the information collection known as "Advances to Housing Associates," which has been assigned control number 2590-0001 by the Office of

Management and Budget (OMB). FHFA intends to submit the information collection to OMB for review and approval of a three-year extension of the control number, which is due to expire on July 31, 2012.

DATES: Interested persons may submit comments on or before June 12, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments to the FHFA using any one of the following methods:

- *Email:* RegComments@fhfa.gov. Please include Proposed Collection; Comment Request: Comment Request: "Advances to Housing Associates, (No. 2012-N-04)" in the subject line of the message.

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. If you submit your comment to the Federal eRulemaking Portal, please also send it by email to FHFA at RegComments@fhfa.gov to ensure timely receipt by the agency.

- *Mail/Hand Delivery:* Federal Housing Finance Agency, Eighth Floor, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20024, ATTENTION: Public Comments/Proposed Collection; Comment Request: "Advances to Housing Associates, (No. 2012-N-04)". The package should be logged at the Seventh Street entrance Guard Desk, First Floor, on business days between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

We will post all public comments we receive without change, including any personal information you provide, such as your name, phone number, and address, on the FHFA Web site at <http://www.fhfa.gov>. In addition, copies of all comments received will be available for examination by the public on business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., at the Federal Housing Finance Agency, Eighth Floor, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20024. To make an appointment to inspect comments, please call the Office of General Counsel at (202) 649-3804.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jonathan F. Curtis, Financial Analyst, by email at jonathan.curtis@fhfa.gov, by telephone at (202) 649-3321, or Eric M. Raudenbush, Assistant General Counsel, eric.raudenbush@fhfa.gov, (202) 649-3084, (these are not toll-free numbers), Federal Housing Finance Agency, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington DC 20024. The Telecommunications Device for the Hearing Impaired is (800) 877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Need For and Use of the Information Collection

Section 10b of the Federal Home Loan Bank Act (Bank Act) (12 U.S.C. 1430b) authorizes the Federal Home Loan Banks (Banks) to make advances under certain circumstances to certified nonmember mortgagees. FHFA refers to nonmember mortgagees as "housing associates." In order to be certified as a housing associate, an applicant must meet the eligibility requirements set forth in section 10b of the Bank Act. Part 1264 of FHFA's regulations implements the statutory eligibility requirements and establishes uniform review criteria an applicant must meet in order to be certified as a housing associate by a Bank.¹ More specifically, §§ 1264.3 and 1264.4 (12 CFR 1264.3-1264.4) implement the statutory eligibility requirements and provide guidance to an applicant on how it may satisfy those requirements.² Section 1264.5 authorizes the Banks to approve or deny all applications for certification as a housing associate, subject to the statutory and regulatory requirements.³ Section 1264.6 permits an applicant to appeal a Bank decision to deny certification to the FHFA.⁴

Section 1266.17 of FHFA's regulations establishes the terms and conditions under which a Bank may make advances to an housing associate and also imposes a continuing obligation on each housing associate to provide information necessary to determine if it remains in compliance with applicable statutory and regulatory requirements.⁵

The information collection contained in §§ 1266.1 through 1266.6 and § 1266.17 of the regulations is necessary to enable the Banks to determine whether an applicant satisfies the statutory and regulatory requirements to be certified initially and maintain its status as a housing associate eligible to receive Bank advances. The FHFA requires and uses the information collection to determine whether to uphold or overrule a Bank decision to deny housing associate certification to an applicant.

The OMB control number for the information collection, which expires on July 31, 2012, is 2590-0001. The likely respondents include applicants for housing associate certification and current housing associates.

¹ See 12 CFR part 1264.

² See 12 CFR 1264.3, .4.

³ See 12 CFR 1264.5.

⁴ See 12 CFR 1264.6.

⁵ See 12 CFR 1266.17.

B. Burden Estimate

FHFA estimates the total annual average number of applicants at one, with one response per applicant. The estimate for the average hours per application is 15 hours. The estimate for the annual hour burden for applicants is 15 hours (1 applicant × 1 response per applicant × 15 hours).

FHFA estimates the total annual average number of maintenance respondents—that is, current housing associates—at 68, with 1 response per housing associate. The estimate for the average hours per maintenance response is one hour. The estimate for the annual hour burden for current housing associates is 68 hours (68 certified housing associates × 1 response per associate × 1 hour).

The estimate for the total annual hour burden is 83 hours (68 housing associates × 1 response per associate × 1 hour + 1 applicant × 1 response per applicant × 15 hours).

C. Comment Request

FHFA requests written comments on the following: (1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of FHFA functions, including whether the information has practical utility; (2) The accuracy of FHFA's estimates of the burdens of the collection of information; (3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (4) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on applicants and housing associates, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: April 9, 2012.

Edward J. DeMarco,

Acting Director, Federal Housing Finance Agency.

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FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Notice of Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Federal Maritime Commission.

TIME AND DATE: April 18, 2012—10 a.m.

PLACE: 800 North Capitol Street NW., First Floor Hearing Room, Washington, DC.

STATUS: A part of the meeting will be in Open Session and the remainder of the meeting will be in Closed Session.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: