

PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE—Continued

January 4, 2012	Deadline for Petitioners' Form 61 or initial brief in support of petition (<i>see</i> 39 CFR 3001.115(a) and (b)).
January 24, 2012	Deadline for answering brief in support of the Postal Service (<i>see</i> 39 CFR 3001.115(c)).
February 8, 2012	Deadline for reply briefs in response to answering briefs (<i>see</i> 39 CFR 3001.115(d)).
February 15, 2012	Deadline for motions by any party requesting oral argument; the Commission will schedule oral argument only when it is a necessary addition to the written filings (<i>see</i> 39 CFR 3001.116).
March 16, 2012	Expiration of the Commission's 120-day decisional schedule (<i>see</i> 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(5)).

[FR Doc. 2011-32905 Filed 12-22-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710-FW-P

POSTAL SERVICE

Board of Governors; Sunshine Act Meeting

DATE AND TIME: Monday, January 9, 2012 at 4 p.m., Tuesday, January 10, 2012, at 8:30 a.m.

PLACE: San Diego, California.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Monday, January 9, 2012, at 4 p.m. (Closed)

1. Strategic Issues.

Tuesday, January 10, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. (Closed)

1. Financial Matters.
2. Pricing.
3. Personnel Matters and Compensation Issues.
4. Governors' Executive Session—Discussion of prior agenda items and Board Governance.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Julie S. Moore, Secretary of the Board, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW., Washington, DC 20260-1000. Telephone (202) 268-4800.

Julie S. Moore,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2011-33026 Filed 12-21-11; 11:15 am]

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OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY**Request for Information: Public Access to Digital Data Resulting From Federally Funded Scientific Research**

ACTION: Notice of Request for Information (RFI).

SUMMARY: The RFI is being extended to change the response date to January 12, 2012. The RFI was published in the **Federal Register**, Volume 76, Number 214, on November 4, 2011, pages 68517-68518.

In accordance with Section 103(b)(6) of the America COMPETES

Reauthorization Act of 2010 (ACRA; Pub. L. 111-358), this Request for Information (RFI) offers the opportunity for interested individuals and organizations to provide recommendations on approaches for ensuring long-term stewardship and encouraging broad public access to unclassified digital data that result from federally funded scientific research. The public input provided through this Notice will inform deliberations of the National Science and Technology Council's Interagency Working Group on Digital Data.

Release Date: November 3, 2011.

Response Date: January 12, 2012.

ADDRESSES: *digitaldata@ostp.gov*.

Issued By: Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) on behalf of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Purpose**

In accordance with Section 103(b)(6) of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (ACRA; Pub. L. 111-358), this Request for Information (RFI) offers the opportunity for interested individuals and organizations to provide recommendations on approaches for ensuring long-term stewardship and encouraging broad public access to unclassified digital data that result from federally funded scientific research. The public input provided through this Notice will inform deliberations of the National Science and Technology Council's Interagency Working Group on Digital Data.

Background

The multi-agency Interagency Working Group on Digital Data (Working Group), established under the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) Committee on Science (CoS), has been tasked with developing options for implementing the digital data policy and standards requirements of Section 103 of ACRA. OSTP will issue a report to Congress, in accordance with Section 103(e) of ACRA, describing priorities for the development of agency policies for ensuring broad public access to the results of federally funded

unclassified research, the status of agency policies for public access to digital data resulting from federally funded research, and a summary of public input collected from this RFI and other mechanisms. The Working Group is considering steps that can be taken by Federal agencies to encourage and coordinate the development of agency policies and standards to promote long-term preservation of and access to digital data resulting from federally funded scientific research. Ideally, such policies would harmonize, to the extent practicable and feasible, data management plans for digital data that are collected or otherwise produced either by the agency itself or extramurally with Federal funds. The 2009 report of the Interagency Working Group on Digital Data of the National Science and Technology Council, "Harnessing the Power of Digital Data," recommended that agencies lay the foundations for digital scientific data policy and make their policies publicly available. It also recommended that agencies consider requiring data management plans for projects that will generate "preservation data"—those data for which the benefits of preservation exceed the costs. Federal science agencies already have some experience with policies to promote long-term preservation and access to scientific data. Indeed current Federal policies promote and in many cases require Federal agencies to make the digital data generated by Federal agencies more publically accessible. However, such policies do not routinely cover data generated through Federal grants, cooperative agreements, and some other types of funding mechanism. Exceptions include, the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) Data Sharing Policy, which requires all investigator-initiated applications with direct costs greater than \$500,000 in any single year provide a data management plan. In addition, NIH has more specific data management and data sharing requirements for specific types of projects, such as genome-wide association studies.

In January 2011, the National Science Foundation (NSF) reaffirmed its data management policy requirement,