

EPA's response to any written comments received will be available for public inspection at the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Suzanne M. Parent, Senior Assistant Regional Counsel, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Regional Counsel (3RC44), 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19103, telephone number (215) 814-2630.

Dated: October 31, 2002.

**James W. Newsom,**

*Acting Regional Administrator, U.S. EPA, Region III.*

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7407-7]

### Supplemental Information and Extension of Public Comment Period on the General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits for Log Transfer Facilities in Alaska: AK-G70-0000 and AK-G70-1000

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of extension of public comment and request for additional public comments on general NPDES permits for log transfer facilities in Alaska.

**SUMMARY:** The Director, Office of Water, EPA Region 10, is extending the comment period on proposed modifications of the two general National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for Alaskan log transfer facilities (LTFs), inconclusive of log storage areas: NPDES permit numbers AK-G70-0000 and AK-G70-1000. In addition, EPA Region 10 is providing clarification on an element in the proposed modifications dealing with bark deposition and application of a Zone of Deposit. Notice of a public comment period on the project area zone of deposit for bark and woody debris, and proposed modifications of the NPDES permits was published in the **Federal Register** on October 22, 2002, 67 FR 64885. Region 10 is extending the public comment period to January 13, 2002.

**DATES:** Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed modifications to general NPDES permits AK-G70-0000 and AK-G70-1000 and

on the project area zone of deposit on or before January 13, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments must be sent to the attention of Alaskan LTF Public Comments, EPA Region 10 (OW-130), 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101. All comments should include the name of the commenter, a concise statement of the comment, and the relevant facts upon which the comment is based.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The NPDES Permits Unit, EPA Region 10 Office of Water, Seattle, Washington, at (206) 553-0775.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The EPA published the public notice of its request for comment on the "project area zone of deposit" for LTFs and its proposed modification of two general permits for Alaskan log transfer facilities on October 22, 2002 (67 FR 64885). The October 22, 2002 **Federal Register** Notice announced a 60-day public comment period ending on December 23, 2002. The EPA did not, however, post the administrative record on the internet, provide copies of the record at its listed offices, nor distribute copies of the public notice and draft modified general permits to permittees and other interested parties in a timely fashion. Therefore, the EPA has determined to extend the public comment period to provide for sixty (60) days of comment following this present re-notice of public comment and proposed permit modification.

In addition to extending the comment period, the EPA seeks to clarify the October 22 **Federal Register** Notice (67 FR 64885) in regard to issues associated with the regulation of continuous coverage of bark and woody debris inside of the project area zone of deposit authorized by the State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC). The EPA asks that commenters provide comment on the practical, technical, economic, environmental and legal considerations regarding one of two alternative permit conditions to address the physical and environmental impacts associated with continuous coverage of the seafloor by bark and woody debris that is discharged from LTFs. The two alternatives being considered by EPA are: (1) A 1 acre threshold on continuous bark coverage that, once exceeded, would require the development and implementation of a remediation plan overseen by ADEC; or (2) a 1 acre *limit* on continuous bark coverage in the two general NPDES permits, which if exceeded, would be a violation of the permit.

The first alternative is to provide a *threshold* of 1 acre of continuous bark

coverage that would serve as an area of initiation for the development and implementation of a *remediation* plan to control and reduce the deposition of additional bark and woody debris that might contribute to the continuous coverage of additional area of seafloor in excess of 1 acre. The 1 acre *threshold for remediation* was provided by the ADEC in its certification of reasonable assurance that the general NPDES permits would meet the Alaska Water Quality Standards pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. The ADEC has indicated that the 1 acre threshold was established in the Timber Task Force Guidelines and was meant to be a threshold for regulatory discretion to determine if cleanup was required, but was not intended to be a legal limit in a NPDES permit. Specifically, from Alaska Timber Task Force's (1985), Log transfer facility siting, construction, operations and monitoring/reporting guidelines (p. 11, section C6): "*Bark accumulation:* The regulatory agency(ies) will impose an interim intertidal and submarine threshold bark accumulation level. When accumulations exceed the threshold level, cleanup—if any—will occur at the discretion of the permitting agency(ies). The interim threshold bark accumulation level is described as 100% coverage exceeding both 1 acre in size and a thickness greater than 10 cm (3.9 inches) at any point."

The second alternative is to provide a limit of 1 acre of continuous bark coverage no deeper than 10 centimeters at any point that would serve as a maximum area of coverage under the NPDES permit. The 1 acre *limit of maximum continuous coverage* was provided by the EPA in its proposed modification of the two general permits on October 22, 2002, based on information developed by the Timber Task Force Guidelines on the impacts of discharges of bark and woody debris and previous ADEC Section 401 Certifications. Please refer to the October 22, 2002 **Federal Register** Notice (67 FR 64885) for a more detailed discussion of the alternatives for controlling continuous coverage of the seafloor by bark and woody debris from LTFs.

The EPA also draws attention to an issue of the appropriate precision used in the term "1 acre." The EPA's present October 22, 2002 **Federal Register** Notice uses the value "1.0 acre," a more precise definition of the exact extent of bark coverage. The EPA asks for additional comment on which of these approaches to measurement precision is best.

*Administrative Record:* The two draft general NPDES permit nos. AK-G70-0000 and AK-G70-1000, the October 22, 2002, **Federal Register** Notice, and this **Federal Register** Notice are available for inspection and copying at six locations: (a) EPA-Juneau, 709 West 9th Street, Room 223A; (b) ADEC-Juneau, 410 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 200; (c) EPA-Anchorage, 222 West 7th Avenue, Room 19; (d) ADEC-Anchorage, 555 Cordova Street; (e) ADEC-Ketchikan, 540 Water Street; and (f) EPA-Seattle, 1200 Sixth Avenue, 10th Floor Library. These documents are also available on EPA Region 10's internet site at <http://www.epa.gov/r10earth/>. The administrative record for the proposed modifications reflected in the draft general NPDES permits AK-G70-0000 and AK-G70-1000 and the project area zone of deposit can be reviewed in the EPA's Seattle Office, 1200 Sixth Avenue, 13th Floor.

Dated: November 1, 2002.

**Randall F. Smith,**

*Director, Office of Water, Region 10.*

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## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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

November 5, 2002.

**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 of 1995, Pub. L. 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 (PRA) 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 comments should be submitted on or before January 13, 2003. 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 comments to Judith Boley Herman, Federal Communications Commission, Room 1-C804 or Room 1-A804, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554 or via the Internet to [jboley@fcc.gov](mailto:jboley@fcc.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For additional information or copies of the information collection(s), contact Judith Boley Herman at 202-418-0214 or via the Internet at [jboley@fcc.gov](mailto:jboley@fcc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: OMB Control No.:** 3060-0106.

**Title:** Section 43.61, Reports of Overseas Telecommunications Traffic.

**Form No.:** N/A.

**Type of Review:** Extension of a currently approved collection.

**Respondents:** Business or other for-profit.

**Number of Respondents:** 704.

**Estimated Time Per Response:** 2-240 hours.

**Frequency of Response:** Annual and quarterly reporting requirements.

**Total Annual Burden:** 18,520 hours.

**Total Annual Cost:** \$518,000.

**Needs and Uses:** The telecommunications traffic data report is an annual reporting requirement imposed on common carriers engaged in the provision of overseas telecommunications services. The reported data is useful for international planning, facility authorization, monitoring emerging developments in communications services, analyzing market structures, tracking the balance of payments in international communications services, and market analysis purposes. The reported data enables the Commission to fulfill its regulatory responsibilities.

**OMB Control No.:** 3060-0806.

**Title:** Universal Service—Schools and Libraries Universal Service.

**Form Nos.:** FCC Forms 470 and 471.

**Type of Review:** Revision of a currently approved collection.

**Respondents:** Business or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions, state, local or tribal government.

**Number of Respondents:** 60,000.

**Estimated Time Per Response:** 4.5 hours.

**Frequency of Response:** On occasion reporting requirement, recordkeeping

requirements, and third party disclosure requirement.

**Total Annual Burden:** 440,000 hours.

**Total Annual Cost:** N/A.

**Needs and Uses:** Schools and libraries ordering telecommunications services, Internet access, and internal connections under the universal service discount program must submit a description of the services desired to the Administrator. Schools and libraries may use the same description they use to meet the requirement that they generally face to solicit competitive bids. The FCC Form 470 is used to order those services. The FCC Form 471 requires schools and libraries to list all services that have been ordered and the funding needs for the current funding year. The Commission has modified FCC Form 471 to clarify instructions and specify requirements to participate in the schools and libraries universal service program.

**OMB Control No.:** 3060-0848.

**Title:** Deployment of Wireline Services Offering Advanced Telecommunications Capability.

**Form No.:** N/A.

**Type of Review:** Revision of a currently approved collection.

**Respondents:** Business or other for-profit.

**Number of Respondents:** 1,750.

**Estimated Time Per Response:** .50-44 hours.

**Frequency of Response:** On occasion and annual reporting requirements, recordkeeping requirement, third party disclosure requirement.

**Total Annual Burden:** 165,600 hours.

**Total Annual Cost:** \$61,200.

**Needs and Uses:** In the Collection Remand Order, CC Docket No. 98-147, the Commission requires that incumbent local exchange carriers providing cross-connects, pursuant to section 201 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, must include this offering as part of their federal tariffs as required by section 203(a) of the Act.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Marlene H. Dortch,**

*Secretary.*

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## FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

[FEMA-1437-DR]

### Louisiana; Amendment No. 3 to Notice of a Major Disaster Declaration

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

**ACTION:** Notice.