

2. *Tips for Preparing Your Comments.* When submitting comments, remember to:

- i. Identify the action by docket number and other identifying information (subject heading, **Federal Register** date and page number).
- ii. Follow directions—The agency may ask you to respond to specific questions or organize comments by referencing a Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part or section number.
- iii. Explain why you agree or disagree; suggest alternatives and substitute language for your requested changes.
- iv. Describe any assumptions and provide any technical information and/or data that you used.
- v. If you estimate potential costs or burdens, explain how you arrived at your estimate in sufficient detail to allow for it to be reproduced.
- vi. Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns, and suggest alternatives.
- vii. Explain your views as clearly as possible, avoiding the use of profanity or personal threats.
- viii. Make sure to submit your comments by the comment period deadline identified.

#### *B. Background of Final Revised Policy*

On December 23, 2003, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a final memorandum in the **Federal Register** (68 FR 74233) that outlined its revised policy regarding regulatory requirements under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) for properties that submeter for water usage. Through the revised policy memorandum, as a way to promote full cost and conservation pricing to achieve water conservation, the EPA changed its long standing interpretation of SDWA section 1411 as it applies to submetered properties. Under the revised policy, a property owner who had not previously been (or would not be) subject to SDWA national primary drinking water regulations through SDWA section 1411, and who installs submeters to accurately track usage of water by tenants on his or her property, will not then be subject to SDWA regulations solely as a result of taking the action to submeter and bill. EPA took this action because the Agency believed that water submetering promotes water conservation. The data and information available to EPA in December of 2003 did not show that allocated billing systems, such as ratio utility billing systems (RUBS) and hot water hybrid (HWH) systems, would promote water conservation. Therefore, EPA did not

include other billing systems in the final revised policy.

The findings of a new two-year study of water billing practices in the multi-family residential sector, released on August 30, 2004, show the water conservation benefits of submetering. The study was conducted by Aquacraft, Inc. of Boulder, Colorado, the National Research Center, and Potomac Resources. The study underwent extensive peer review and was sponsored by EPA, National Apartment Association, National Multi Housing Council, City of Austin, City of Phoenix, City of Portland, City of Tucson, Denver Water Department, East Bay Municipal Utility District, San Antonio Water System, San Diego County Water Authority, Seattle Public Utilities, and Southern Nevada Water Authority. A copy of the study can be accessed at EPA Docket ID No. OW-2004-0039. The study showed that "Submetering was found to achieve statistically significant water savings of 15.3 percent (21.8 gal/day/unit) compared to traditional in-rent properties after correcting for factors \* \* \*" In addition, "This study found no evidence that Ratio Utility Billing Systems (RUBS) reduced water use by a statistically significant amount compared with traditional in-rent arrangements, and the data showed that the difference between water use in RUBS and in-rent properties was not statistically different from zero".

The findings and recommendations of the study will help EPA and the drinking water industry better understand current mechanisms available to facilitate water conservation in multi-family housing. EPA strongly supports water conservation efforts, and encourages all actions to promote conservation by renters, homeowners, apartment owners, and water systems.

Dated: January 6, 2005.

#### **Benjamin Grumbles,**

*Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Water.*

[FR Doc. 05-499 Filed 1-10-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

#### **EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES**

##### **Notice of Open Special Meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Export-Import Bank of the United States (Ex-Im Bank).**

**SUMMARY:** The Advisory Committee was established by Public Law 98-181, November 30, 1982, to advise the Export-Import Bank on its programs and to provide comments for inclusion in

the reports of the Export-Import Bank of the United States to Congress.

*Time and Place:* Monday, January 31, 2005 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. The meeting will be held at Ex-Im Bank in the Main Conference Room 1143, 811 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20571.

*Agenda:* Agenda items include a briefing of the Advisory Committee members on their responsibilities, an update on Ex-Im Bank related legislative issues, and an introduction of the Advisory Committee strategy for 2005.

*Public Participation:* The meeting will be open to public participation, and the last 10 minutes will be set aside for oral questions or comments. Members of the public may also file written statement(s) before or after the meeting. If any person wishes auxiliary aids (such as a sign language interpreter) or other special accommodations, please contact, prior to January 24, 2005, Teri Stumpf, Room 1203, 811 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20571, Voice: (202) 565-3502 or TDD (202) 565-3377.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information, contact Teri Stumpf, Room 1203, 811 Vermont Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20571, (202) 565-3502.

**Peter Saba,**

*General Counsel.*

[FR Doc. 05-454 Filed 1-10-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6690-01-M**

#### **FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

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

December 28, 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 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 March 14, 2005. 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 Judith B. Herman, Federal Communications Commission, Room 1-C804, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554 or via the Internet to [Judith-B.Herman@fcc.gov](mailto:Judith-B.Herman@fcc.gov).

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*OMB Control No.:* 3060-0804.

*Title:* Universal Service "Health Care Providers Universal Service Program. *Form Nos.:* FCC Forms 465, 466, 466-A and 467.

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

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

*Number of Respondents:* 14,440.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 1-3 hours.

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

*Total Annual Burden:* 17,720 hours.

*Total Annual Cost:* N/A.

*Privacy Act Impact Assessment:* N/A. *Needs and Uses:* The Commission implemented the rural health care mechanism at the direction of Congress as provided in the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (1996 Act). In past years of its operation, the rural health care mechanism has provided discounts that have facilitated the ability of health care providers to provide critical access to modern telecommunications and information services for medical and health maintenance purposes to rural America. Participation in the rural health care universal service support mechanism, however, has not met the Commission's projections.

In the Second Report and Order, Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, released on December 17, 2004, in FCC 04-289, the Commission modifies the definition of "rural" for purposes of the rural health care universal service support mechanism. The Commission also revises its policy to allow mobile rural health care clinics to receive discounts for telecommunications services. In addition, the Commission permits States and territories that are entirely rural to receive funding for advanced telecommunications and information services. The Commission also establishes a deadline for filing the FCC Form 466. Finally, the Commission seeks comment on whether support for Internet access should be increased and whether support should be provided for upgrades to the public switched or backbone telecommunications networks.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Marlene H. Dortch,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 05-468 Filed 1-10-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6712-01-P**

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

[CC Docket No. 98-67 and CG Docket No. 03-123; DA 04-3921]

**Comments Requested on Petition for Declaratory Ruling and Request for Clarification Filed Concerning Two-Line Captioned Telephone Voice Carry Over Service, a Form of Telecommunications Relay Service**

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This document seeks public comment on Ultratec, Inc., Sprint Corporation, and Hamilton Relay, Inc., *Request for Clarification* and the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc., *Petition for Declaratory Ruling* concerning two-line captioned telephone voice carry over (VCO) service, a form of telecommunications relay service (TRS).

**DATES:** Interested parties may file comments in this proceeding on or before January 7, 2005. Reply comments may be filed on or before January 19, 2005.

**ADDRESSES:** Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dana Jackson, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau, Disability

Rights Office at (202) 418-2247 (voice), (202) 418-7898 (TTY), or e-mail at [Dana.Jackson@fcc.gov](mailto:Dana.Jackson@fcc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a summary of the Commission's *Public Notice* DA 04-3921, released December 16, 2004. On August 1, 2003, the Commission released a *Declaratory Ruling*, published at 68 FR 55898, September 29, 2003, in CC Docket No. 98-67; FCC 03-190. In the *Declaratory Ruling*, the Commission clarified that certain TRS mandatory minimum standards do not apply to captioned telephone VCO service. When filing comments, please reference CC Docket No. 98-67 and CG Docket No. 03-123. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies. See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings, 63 FR 24121, May 1, 1998. Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to <http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. If multiple docket or rulemaking numbers appear in the caption of this proceeding, however, commenters must transmit one electronic copy of the comment to each docket or rulemaking number referenced in the caption. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit electronic comments by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions, commenters should send an e-mail to [ecfs@fcc.gov](mailto:ecfs@fcc.gov), and should include the following words in the body of the message, "get form <your e-mail address>." A sample form and directions will be sent in reply. 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, commenters must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number. Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by electronic media, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Services mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail). The Commission's contractor, Natek, Inc., will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings or electronic media for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, NE., Suite 110, Washington, DC 20002. The filing hours at this location are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together