

43. However, the Bureau proposes to retain the discretion to exercise any of the following options during Auction No. 56:

i. Utilize a modified version of the simultaneous stopping rule. The modified stopping rule would close the auction for all licenses after the first round in which no bidder submits a proactive waiver, withdrawal, or a new bid on any license on which it is not the standing high bidder. Thus, absent any other bidding activity, a bidder placing a new bid on a license for which it is the standing high bidder would not keep the auction open under this modified stopping rule. The Bureau further seeks comment on whether this modified stopping rule should be used at any time or only in stage two of the auction.

ii. Keep the auction open even if no new bids or proactive waivers are submitted and no previous high bids are withdrawn. In this event, the effect will be the same as if a bidder had submitted a proactive waiver. The activity rule, therefore, will apply as usual and a bidder with insufficient activity will either lose bidding eligibility or use a remaining activity rule waiver.

iii. Declare that the auction will end after a specified number of additional rounds ("special stopping rule"). If the Bureau invokes this special stopping rule, it will accept bids in the specified final round(s) only for licenses on which the high bid increased in at least one of a specified preceding number of rounds.

44. The Bureau proposes to exercise these options only in certain circumstances, for example, where the auction is proceeding very slowly, there is minimal overall bidding activity, or it appears likely that the auction will not close within a reasonable period of time. Before exercising these options, the Bureau is likely to attempt to increase the pace of the auction by, for example, increasing the number of bidding rounds per day, and/or increasing the amount of the minimum bid increments for the limited number of licenses where there is still a high level of bidding activity. We seek comment on these proposals.

#### IV. Conclusion

45. Comments are due on or before February 20, 2004, and reply comments are due on or before February 27, 2004. Because of the disruption of regular mail and other deliveries in Washington, DC, the Bureau requires that all comments and reply comments be filed electronically. Comments and reply comments must be sent by electronic mail to the following

address: [auction56@fcc.gov](mailto:auction56@fcc.gov). The electronic mail containing the comments or reply comments must include a subject or caption referring to Auction No. 56 Comments and the name of the commenting party. The Bureau requests that parties format any attachments to electronic mail as Adobe® Acrobat® (pdf) or Microsoft® Word documents. Copies of comments and reply comments will be available for public inspection during regular business hours in the FCC Public Reference Room, Room CY-A257, 445 12th Street SW., Washington, DC 20554.

In addition, the Bureau requests that commenters fax a courtesy copy of their comments and reply comments to the attention of Kathryn Garland at (717) 338-2850.

46. This proceeding has been designated as a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding in accordance with the Commission's *ex parte* rules. Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentations must contain summaries of the substance of the presentations and not merely a listing of the subjects discussed. More than a one or two sentence description of the views and arguments presented is generally required. Other rules pertaining to oral and written *ex parte* presentations in permit-but-disclose proceedings are set forth in § 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Gary Michaels,**

*Deputy Chief, Auctions and Spectrum Access Division, WTB.*

[FR Doc. 04-3236 Filed 2-12-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6712-01-P**

### FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[CC Docket No. 92-237; DA 04-237]

#### Next Meeting of the North American Numbering Council

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** On February 4, 2004, the Commission released a public notice announcing the March 16, 2004, meeting and agenda of the North American Numbering Council (NANC). The intended effect of this action is to make the public aware of the NANC's next meeting and its agenda.

**DATES:** Tuesday, March 16, 2004, 9 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal

Communications Commission, The Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW., Suite 5-A420, Washington, DC 20554. Requests to make an oral statement or provide written comments to the NANC should be sent to Deborah Blue.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Deborah Blue, Special Assistant to the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) at (202) 418-1466 or [Deborah.Blue@fcc.gov](mailto:Deborah.Blue@fcc.gov). The fax number is: (202) 418-2345. The TTY number is: (202) 418-0484.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Released: February 4, 2004.

The North American Numbering Council (NANC) has scheduled a meeting to be held Tuesday, March 16, 2004, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Federal Communications Commission, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW., Room TW-C305, Washington, DC. This meeting is open to members of the general public. The FCC will attempt to accommodate as many participants as possible. The public may submit written statements to the NANC, which must be received two business days before the meeting. In addition, oral statements at the meeting by parties or entities not represented on the NANC will be permitted to the extent time permits. Such statements will be limited to five minutes in length by any one party or entity, and requests to make an oral statement must be received two business days before the meeting.

#### Proposed Agenda—Tuesday, March 16, 2004, 9 a.m.\*

1. Announcements and Recent News
2. Approval of Minutes—Meeting of January 13, 2004
3. Report from NBANC
4. Report of NAPM, LLC
5. Report of the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA)
6. Report of National Thousands Block Pooling Administrator
7. Status of Industry Numbering Committee (INC) activities
8. Reports from Issues Management Groups (IMGs)
9. Report of Local Number Portability Administration (LNPA) Working Group—Wireless Number Portability Operations (WNPO) Subcommittee
10. Report of Numbering Oversight Working Group (NOWG)
11. Report of Cost Recovery Working Group
12. Special Presentations
13. Update List of NANC Accomplishments
14. Summary of Action Items

15. Public Comments and Participation  
(5 minutes per speaker)

16. Other Business

Adjourn no later than 5 p.m.

*Next Meeting:* Tuesday, May 18, 2004.

\*The Agenda may be modified at the discretion of the NANC Chairman with the approval of the DFO.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Cheryl L. Callahan,**

*Assistant Chief, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau.*

[FR Doc. 04-3237 Filed 2-12-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

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## FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

### Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a bank or bank holding company and all of the banks and nonbanking companies owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The application also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1843). Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States. Additional information on all bank holding companies may be obtained from the National Information Center Web site at <http://www.ffiec.gov/nic/>.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than March 8, 2004.

**A. Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta**  
(Sue Costello, Vice President) 1000 Peachtree Street, NE., Atlanta, Georgia 30303:

1. *New Horizons Bancshares, Inc.*, East Ellijay, Georgia; to become a bank

holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of New Horizons Bank, East Ellijay, Georgia (in organization).

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, February 9, 2004.

**Robert deV. Frierson,**

*Deputy Secretary of the Board.*

[FR Doc. E4-269 Filed 2-12-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-S

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## FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension

**AGENCY:** Federal Trade Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The information collection requirements described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act ("PRA"). The Federal Trade Commission ("FTC") is soliciting public comments on its proposal to extend through May 31, 2007 the current PRA clearance for information collection requirements contained in 16 CFR parts 801-803 ("the HSR rules"). That clearance expires on May 31, 2004.

**DATES:** Comments must be filed by April 13, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written comments. Comments should refer to "HSR Rules: Paperwork Comment" to facilitate the organization of comments. A comment filed in paper form should include this reference both in the text and on the envelope, and should be mailed or delivered to the following address: Federal Trade Commission/Office of the Secretary, Room 159-H, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20580. Comments containing confidential material must be filed in paper form, as explained in the Supplementary Information section. The FTC is requesting that any comment filed in paper form be sent by courier or overnight service, if possible, because U.S. postal mail in the Washington area and at the Commission is subject to delay due to heightened security precautions. A public comment that does not contain any material for which confidential treatment is requested may instead be filed in electronic form (in ASCII format, WordPerfect, Microsoft Word, or PDF), as part of or as an attachment to an email message sent to the following email box: [hsr-rules@ftc.gov](mailto:hsr-rules@ftc.gov).

The FTC Act and other laws the Commission administers permit the collection of public comments to consider and use in this proceeding as appropriate. All timely and responsive public comments, whether filed in paper or electronic form, will be considered by the Commission, and will be available to the public on the FTC Web site, to the extent practicable, at [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov). As a matter of discretion, the FTC makes every effort to remove home contact information for individuals from the public comments it receives before placing those comments on the FTC Web site. More information, including routine uses permitted by the Privacy Act, may be found in the FTC's privacy policy, at <http://www.ftc.gov/ftc/privacy.htm>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Requests for additional information should be addressed to B. Michael Verne, 600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Room 301, Washington, DC 20580. Telephone: (202) 326-3100.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from OMB for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. "Collection of information" means agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. 44 U.S.C. 3502(3), 5 CFR 1320.3(c). As required by section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, the FTC is providing this opportunity for public comment before requesting that OMB extend the existing paperwork clearance for the HSR Rules.

The FTC invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

All persons are hereby given notice of the opportunity to submit written data, views, facts, and arguments addressing the issues raised by this Notice. Written comments must be submitted on or before April 13, 2004. Comments should