

850, Washington, DC 20004; 202-272-2004 (voice), 202-272-2074 (TTY), 202-272-2022 (fax), mquigley@ncd.gov (e-mail).

AGENCY MISSION: NCD is an independent federal agency composed of 15 members appointed by the President and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. Its overall purpose is to promote policies, programs, practices, and procedures that guarantee equal opportunity for all people with disabilities, including people from culturally diverse backgrounds, regardless of the nature or significance of the disability; and to empower people with disabilities to achieve economic self-sufficiency, independent living, and inclusion and integration into all aspects of society.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Those needing sign language interpreters or other disability accommodations should notify NCD at least one week before this meeting.

LANGUAGE TRANSLATION: In accordance with E.O. 13166, Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency, those people with disabilities who are limited English proficient and seek translation services for this meeting should notify NCD at least one week before this meeting.

MULTIPLE CHEMICAL SENSITIVITY/ ENVIRONMENTAL ILLNESS: People with multiple chemical sensitivity/ environmental illness must reduce their exposure to volatile chemical substances to attend this meeting. To reduce such exposure, NCD requests that attendees not wear perfumes or scented products at this meeting. Smoking is prohibited in meeting rooms and surrounding areas.

Dated: March 22, 2005.

Ethel D. Briggs,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 05-6353 Filed 3-28-05; 10:52 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-MA-P

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request for a Revised Information Collection; RI 25-37

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, May 22, 1995), this notice announces that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request for review of a revised information collection. RI 25-37,

Evidence to Prove Dependency of a Child, is designed to collect sufficient information for OPM to determine whether the surviving child of a deceased federal employee is eligible to receive benefits as a dependent child.

Approximately 250 forms are completed annually. We estimate it takes approximately 60 minutes to assemble the needed documentation. The annual estimated burden is 250 hours.

For copies of this proposal, contact Mary Beth Smith-Toomey on (202) 606-8358, Fax (202) 418-3251 or via E-mail to mbtoomey@opm.gov. Please include a mailing address with your request.

DATES: Comments on this proposal should be received within 30 calendar days from the date of this publication.

ADDRESSES: Send or deliver comments to—

Pamela S. Israel, Chief, Operations Support Group, Retirement Services Program, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street, NW., Room 3349, Washington, DC 20415;

and Joseph Lackey, OPM Desk Office, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, NW., Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503.

For Information Regarding Administrative Coordination—Contact: Cyrus S. Benson, Team Leader, Publications Team, Support Group, (202) 606-0623.

Office of Personnel Management.

Dan G. Blair,

Acting Director.

[FR Doc. 05-6226 Filed 3-29-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-38-P

OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TRANSPORTATION

National Science and Technology Council's Committee on Environmental and Natural Resources (CENR) Interagency Working Group on Earth Observations (IWGEO)

ACTION: Notice of public meeting/workshop and opportunity for public discussion.

SUMMARY: This notice announces an Integrated Earth Observation System Public Engagement Workshop by the National Science and Technology Council's Committee on Environment and Natural Resources (CENR) Interagency Working Group on Earth Observations (IWGEO) to discuss the nine societal benefit areas and the six near term opportunities identified in the

Strategic Plan for the U.S. Integrated Earth Observation System. This plan was developed to address the effective use of Earth observation systems to enable a healthy public, economy and planet.

DATES: The Interagency Working Group on Earth Observations will hold a two-day workshop on Monday, May 9, 2005, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (e.d.t.); Tuesday, May 10, 2005, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to identify Earth observation system components and solutions to contribute to the implementation of the Integrated Earth Observation System. All sessions of the workshop will be held at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information regarding this notice, please contact Carla Sullivan, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Telephone: (202) 482-5921. E-mail: carla.sullivan@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Strategic Plan for the U.S. Integrated Earth Observation System was developed by the Interagency Working Group on Earth Observations of the NSTC Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

Purpose of the Workshop: The purpose of this workshop is to bring ideas and information from the broader community into the IWGEO planning process as it further develops the U.S. 10-Year Plan for Developing an Integrated Earth Observing System. The nine strategic social/economic benefit areas identified in the Strategic Plan include:

1. Improve Weather forecasting;
2. Reducing Loss of Life and Property From Disasters;
3. Protecting and Monitoring Ocean Resources;
4. Understanding Climate, and Assessing, Mitigating, and Adapting to Climate Change Impacts;
5. Supporting Sustainable Agriculture and Forestry, and Combating Land Degradation;
6. Understanding the Effect on Environmental Factors on Human Health and Well-Being;
7. Developing the Capacity To Make Ecological Forecasts;
8. Protecting and Monitoring Water Resources; and
9. Monitoring and Managing Energy Reserves.

The six near term opportunities identified in the Strategic Plan are:

1. Data Management
2. Improved Observations for Disaster Warnings
3. Global Land Observing System

4. Sea Level Observing System
5. National Integrated Drought Information System, and
6. Air Quality Assessment and Forecast System.

Public Participation: Due to space constraints, interested parties will need to pre-register for this meeting. Deadline for registration is April 29, 2005, or when capacity of facility is met. See IWGEO Web page for registration materials and additional information: <http://iwgeo.ssc.nasa.gov>, or contact the IWGEO Secretariat office: Carla Sullivan, Interagency Working Group on Earth Observations (IWGEO), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230. Telephone: (202) 482-5921, telefax: (202) 482-5181. E-mail: carla.sullivan@noaa.gov. Subject: IWGEO Integrated Earth Observation System Public Engagement Workshop.

Authority

The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) was established under Executive Order 12881. The CENR is chartered under the NSTC. The purpose of the CENR is to advise and assist the NSTC, with emphasis on those federally supported efforts that develop new knowledge related to improving our understanding of the environment and natural resources.

M. David Hodge,

Acting Assistant Director for Budget and Administration.

[FR Doc. 05-6224 Filed 3-29-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3170-WS-M

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon written request, copies available from: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

Extension: Rule 10f-3, SEC File No. 270-237, OMB Control No. 3235-0226.

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") is soliciting comments on the collections of information discussed below. The Commission plans to submit these existing collections of information to the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") for extension and approval.

Section 10(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act")

prohibits a registered investment company ("fund") from purchasing any security during an underwriting or selling syndicate if the fund has certain relationships with a principal underwriter for the security. Congress enacted this provision in 1940 to protect funds and their shareholders by preventing underwriters from "dumping" unmarketable securities on affiliated funds.

Rule 10f-3 permits a fund to engage in a securities transaction that otherwise would violate section 10(f) if, among other things, (i) each transaction effected under the rule is reported on Form N-SAR; (ii) the fund's directors have approved procedures for purchases made in reliance on the rule, regularly review fund purchases to determine whether they comply with these procedures, and approve necessary changes to the procedures; and (iii) a written record of each transaction effected under the rule is maintained for six years, the first two of which in an easily accessible place. The written record must state (i) from whom the securities were acquired, (ii) the identity of the underwriting syndicate's members, (iii) the terms of the transactions, and (iv) the information or materials on which the fund's board of directors has determined that the purchases were made in compliance with procedures established by the board.

The rule also conditionally allows managed portions of fund portfolios to purchase securities offered in otherwise off-limits primary offerings. To qualify for this exemption, rule 10f-3 requires that the subadviser that is advising the purchaser be contractually prohibited from providing investment advice to any other portion of the fund's portfolio and consulting with any other of the fund's advisers that is a principal underwriter or affiliated person of a principal underwriter concerning the fund's securities transactions.

These requirements provide a mechanism for fund boards to oversee compliance with the rule. The required recordkeeping facilitates the Commission staff's review of rule 10f-3 transactions during routine fund inspections and, when necessary, in connection with enforcement actions.

The staff estimates that approximately 200 funds engage in a total of approximately 1,000 rule 10f-3 transactions each year.¹ Rule 10f-3 requires that the purchasing fund create a written record of each transaction that includes, among other things, from

¹ These estimates are based on staff extrapolations from earlier data.

whom the securities were purchased and the terms of the transaction. The staff estimates² that it takes an average fund approximately 30 minutes per transaction and approximately 500 hours³ in the aggregate to comply with this portion of the rule.

The funds also must maintain and preserve these transactional records in accordance with the rule's recordkeeping requirement, and the staff estimates that it takes a fund approximately 20 minutes per transaction and that annually, in the aggregate, funds spend approximately 333 hours⁴ to comply with this portion of the rule.

In addition, fund boards must, no less than quarterly, examine each of these transactions to ensure that they comply with the fund's policies and procedures. The information or materials upon which the board relied to come to this determination also must be maintained and the staff estimates that it takes a fund 1 hour per quarter and, in the aggregate, approximately 800 hours⁵ annually to comply with this rule requirement.

The staff estimates that approximately half of the boards of funds that engage in rule 10f-3 transactions that deem it necessary to revise the fund's written policies and procedures for rule 10f-3 and that complying with this requirement takes each of these funds on average, 25 hours of a compliance attorney's time and, in the aggregate, approximately 2,500 hours⁶ annually.

The Commission staff estimates that 3,028 portfolios of approximately 2,126 investment companies use the services of one or more subadvisers. Based on discussions with industry representatives, the staff estimates that it will require approximately 6 hours to draft and execute revised subadvisory contracts (5 staff attorney hours, 1 supervisory attorney hour), in order for funds and subadvisers to be able to rely on the exemption in rule 10f-3. The staff assumes that all of these funds amended their advisory contracts when rule 10f-3 was amended in 2002 by

² Unless stated otherwise, the information collection burden estimates contained in this Supporting Statement are based on conversations between the staff and representatives of funds.

³ This estimate is based on the following calculation: (30 minutes × 1,000 = 500 hours).

⁴ This estimate is based on the following calculations: (20 minutes × 1,000 transactions = 20,000 minutes; 20,000 minutes / 60 = 333 hours).

⁵ This estimate is based on the following calculation: (1 hour per quarter × 4 quarters × 200 funds = 800 hours).

⁶ This estimate is based on the following calculation: (100 funds × 25 hours = 2,500 hours).