

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE BOARD

[No. 97-N-8]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request**AGENCY:** Federal Housing Finance Board.**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Federal Housing Finance Board (Finance Board) hereby gives notice that it is seeking public comments concerning a three-year extension by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) of the previously approved information collection entitled "Personal Certification and Disclosure Forms."

DATES: Interested persons may submit comments on or before January 5, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Address written comments and requests for copies of the information collection to Elaine L. Baker, Secretary to the Board, 202/408-2837, Federal Housing Finance Board, 1777 F Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia L. Sweeney, Program Analyst, Compliance Assistance Division, Office of Policy, 202/408-2872, or Janice A. Kaye, Attorney-Advisor, Office of General Counsel, 202/408-2505, Federal Housing Finance Board, 1777 F Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**A. Need For and Use of Information Collection**

Section 7 of the Federal Home Loan Bank Act (Bank Act) and parts 931 and 932 of the Finance Board's regulations establish eligibility and reporting requirements and the procedures for electing and appointing Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLBank) directors. See 12 U.S.C. 1427; 12 CFR parts 931 and 932. The information collection contained in the FHLBank director personal certification and disclosure forms and §§ 932.18 and 932.21 of the Finance Board's regulations is necessary to enable the Finance Board to determine whether prospective and incumbent FHLBank directors satisfy the statutory and regulatory eligibility and reporting requirements. See Finance Board Forms E-1, E-2, A-1, and A-2; 12 CFR 932.18 (appointive directors) and 932.21 (elective directors). Finance Board staff uses the information collection to determine whether such individuals meet the statutory and regulatory eligibility and reporting requirements.

The likely respondents include only prospective and incumbent FHLBank directors. Currently, there are 109 elective directors and 72 appointive directors serving on the boards of directors of the FHLBanks. The information collection requires each respondent to complete and submit to the Finance Board for review a personal certification and disclosure form prior to election or appointment and, once elected or appointed, annually during the term of service. See 12 CFR 932.18(f)(1), (3) and 932.21(g)(1), (3). Incumbent directors also have a continuing obligation promptly to notify the Finance Board of any known or suspected ineligibility. *Id.* §§ 932.18(f)(2) and 932.21(g)(2).

The OMB number for the information collection is 3069-0002. The OMB clearance for the information collection expires on January 31, 1997.

B. Burden Estimate

The Finance Board estimates the total annual average number of respondents at 286, with one response per respondent. The estimate for the average hours per response is 1.3 hours. The estimate for the total annual hour burden is 376 hours (286 respondents x 1 response/respondent x approximately 1.3 hours). The estimated annualized cost to respondents of the information collection is \$35,175.00.

C. Comment Request

The Finance Board requests written comments on the following: (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of Finance Board functions, including whether the information has practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the Finance Board's estimates of the burdens of the collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

By the Federal Housing Finance Board.

Dated: October 31, 1997.

William W Ginsberg,

Managing Director.

[FR Doc. 97-29368 Filed 11-5-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6725-01-U

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION**Notice of Agreement(s) Filed**

The Commission hereby gives notice of the filing of the following

agreement(s) under the Shipping Act of 1984.

Interested parties can review or obtain copies of agreements at the Washington, DC offices of the Commission, 800 North Capitol Street, N.W., Room 962. Interested parties may submit comments on an agreement to the Secretary, Federal Maritime Commission, Washington, DC 20573, within 10 days of the date this notice appears in the **Federal Register**.

Agreement No.: 232-011539-001.

Title: CMN/Ivaran/TMM Space Charter and Sailing Agreement.

Parties:

Companhia Maritima Nacional ("CMN")

Ivaran Lines AS ("Ivaran")

Transportacion Maritima Mexicana S.A. De C.V. ("TMM").

Synopsis: The proposed modification changes the identity of A/S Ivarans Rederi to Ivaran Lines AS, changes the contact person for TMM, and clarifies that the geographic scope of the Agreement includes Venezuela.

Agreement No.: 203-011593.

Title: N.S. Inman Chassis Program L.L.C. Limited Liability Company Operating Agreement.

Parties:

COSCO Americas, Inc.

"K" Line America

NYK Line (North America), Inc.

Yang Ming Line

Synopsis: The proposed Agreement would establish a container chassis pool which would primarily service the Norfolk Southern Railway facility at Atlanta, Georgia.

Dated: October 31, 1997.

By Order of the Federal Maritime Commission.

Joseph C. Polking,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-29329 Filed 11-5-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6730-01-M

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS**Notice of Planned Termination of the Ethics Bulletin Board System**

AGENCY: Office of Government Ethics (OGE).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of Government Ethics is planning to terminate The Ethics Bulletin Board System (TEBBS), its electronic bulletin board service for executive branch Government ethics information, effective January 1, 1998. In its place, OGE will continue to enhance its Internet World Wide Web

site, established last year, which contains most of the same electronic materials as well as additional informational resources and links to other pertinent Internet sites.

DATES: Comments by the agencies and the public are invited and should be submitted to OGE by December 8, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to the Office of Government Ethics, Suite 500, 1201 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20005-3917, Attention: James V. Parle.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James V. Parle, Chief, Office of Information Resources Management, Office of Government Ethics; telephone: 202-208-8000; TDD: 202-208-8025; FAX: 202-208-8037; Internet E-mail address: usoge@oge.gov (for E-mail messages, the subject line should include the following reference—Comment on planned TEBBS termination).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that, effective January 1, 1998, the Office of Government Ethics is planning to terminate the operation of its "The Ethics Bulletin Board System" (TEBBS). This notice is also being posted on TEBBS and OGE's Web site. In light of the creation last year of OGE's new Web site on the Internet, OGE has initially determined that TEBBS is no longer needed for electronic dissemination of OGE Government ethics information to the agencies and the public. Nonetheless, OGE invites comments from the agencies and the public on this planned termination of TEBBS, to be received by December 8, 1997, and will carefully consider any comments received before reaching a final decision. If OGE does decide to delay or reverse the planned termination of TEBBS, OGE will publish a further notice to this effect in the **Federal Register**, as well as posting it on both TEBBS and the OGE Web site.

The Office of Government Ethics introduced TEBBS to the executive branch ethics community at the September 1992 Government Ethics Conference. Since then, TEBBS has been used to disseminate electronic copies of OGE's executive branchwide ethics regulations, along with its advisory memoranda and letters. The TEBBS bulletin board also electronically provides access to various ethics program administration aids, such as ethics reporting forms, training materials, and OGE publications.

When OGE introduced the TEBBS service in 1992, electronic bulletin boards were the principal means for the Government to disseminate information electronically. However, since that time,

information technology has changed significantly. Today, the World Wide Web on the Internet has become the primary electronic means of disseminating information. The Office of Government Ethics introduced its own Web site at the September 1996 Government Ethics Conference.

The current uniform resource locator (URL) address for OGE's Internet World Wide Web site is <http://www.usoge.gov>. The OGE Web site contains, either on-site or via links to other Web sites, most of the same electronic information that is available on TEBBS as noted above, as well as that on OGE's ethics CD-ROM, which OGE will continue to publish twice a year. The Web site also provides access to additional informational resources, such as electronic copies of pertinent Government ethics laws and Executive orders. Further, the Web site includes all the current OGE forms and publications in Adobe Acrobat portable document format (PDF) files that can be downloaded and used as needed by agencies and their employees. The Office of Government Ethics continually updates its Web site as new material becomes available for electronic dissemination.

Response to OGE's Web site has been better than expected. Since OGE put its Web site into service a year ago, the number of "hits" (visits to a page or downloading of a document) has grown steadily. The volume now averages some 34,000 "hits" a month. The Office of Government Ethics expects this number to continue to grow as it adds additional functionality and information to the site. Not surprisingly, there has been a corresponding decrease in the use of TEBBS. With OGE's limited resources, the largely redundant and less flexible capabilities offered by TEBBS has become too expensive to operate and maintain. The additional resources and capabilities of OGE's Web site should more than compensate for the termination of the TEBBS electronic bulletin board service.

Approved: October 31, 1997.

Stephen D. Potts,

Director, Office of Government Ethics.

[FR Doc. 97-29333 Filed 11-5-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6345-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Program Support Center; Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collections; Comment Request

The Department of Health and Human Services, Program Support Center (PSC), will periodically publish summaries of proposed information collection projects and solicit public comments in compliance with the requirements of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. To request more information on the project or to obtain a copy of the information collection plans and instruments, call the PSC Reports Clearance Officer on (301) 443-2045.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

1. Application Packets for Real Property for Public Health Purposes—0937-0191—Revision

The Department of Health and Human Services Administers a program to convey or lease surplus real property to States and their political subdivisions and instrumentalities, to tax-supported institutions, and to nonprofit institutions to be used for health purposes. State and local governments and nonprofit organizations use these applications to apply for excess/surplus, underutilized/unutilized and off-site Government real property. Information in the application is used to determine eligibility to purchase, lease, or use property under the provisions of the surplus property program. The instructions have been reduced from six (6) packets to three (3) to streamline and consolidate the health and homeless application processes. The Environmental information form, used to evaluate potential environmental effects of a proposal as required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, is being revised to provide factual data to support the response to each question and to leave no doubt about what conditions or adverse effects are