

Petitions for eligibility decisions may be submitted by either manufacturers or importers who have registered with NHTSA pursuant to 49 CFR part 592. As specified in 49 CFR 593.7, NHTSA publishes notice in the **Federal Register** of each petition that it receives, and affords interested persons an opportunity to comment on the petition. At the close of the comment period, NHTSA decides, on the basis of the petition and any comments that it has received, whether the vehicle is eligible for importation. The agency then publishes this decision in the **Federal Register**.

Wallace Environmental Testing Laboratories, Inc. of Houston, Texas ("Wallace") (Registered Importer 90-005) petitioned NHTSA to decide whether 1973-1975 Volkswagen Type 181 ("The Thing") MPVs are eligible for importation into the United States. NHTSA published notice of the petition under Docket No. NHTSA 97-3156 on December 1, 1997 (62 FR 63599) to afford an opportunity for public comment. The reader is referred to that notice for a thorough description of the petition.

One comment was received in response to the notice of the petition, from Volkswagen of America, Inc. ("Volkswagen"), the United States representative of Volkswagen AG, the vehicle's manufacturer. In this comment, Volkswagen stated that the petitioner had identified, at a minimum, the standards to which non-U.S. certified 1973-1975 Volkswagen Type 181 ("The Thing") MPVs would have to be conformed to be eligible for importation. In addition, Volkswagen contended that some of those vehicles would have to be equipped with laminated windshields to meet Standard No. 205, *Glazing Materials*. Noting that its analysis of the vehicle identification number (VIN) for the vehicle that is the subject of the petition revealed that vehicle to have been manufactured for the German Army and not for consumer use, Volkswagen observed that the vehicle may not comply with Standard Nos. 124, *Accelerator Control Systems*, and 302 *Flammability of Interior Materials*. In addition, Volkswagen noted that the vehicle may have to be altered to comply with Standard No. 104, *Windshield Wiping and Washing Systems*.

NHTSA accorded Wallace an opportunity to respond to Volkswagen's comments. In its response, Wallace asserted that all of the issues raised by Volkswagen concern minor alterations that would not render the vehicle ineligible for importation. Additionally, Wallace stated that if NHTSA decides to

grant import eligibility to non-U.S. certified 1973-1975 Volkswagen Type 181 ("The Thing") MPVs, it will inspect every vehicle it imports under that decision to assure compliance with each of the standards addressed in Volkswagen's comments.

NHTSA believes that Wallace's response adequately addresses the issues that Volkswagen has raised regarding the petition. NHTSA further notes that the modifications described by Wallace, which have been performed with relative ease on thousands of motor vehicles imported over the years, would not preclude non-U.S. certified 1973-1975 Volkswagen Type 181 ("The Thing") MPVs from being found "capable of being readily altered to comply with applicable motor vehicle safety standards."

NHTSA has accordingly decided to grant the petition. Although the petition requested NHTSA to decide that 1973-1975 Volkswagen Type 181 ("The Thing") MPVs are eligible for importation, the agency is limiting this decision to 1974 and 1975 models alone. NHTSA regards all 1973 models as motor vehicles that are "at least 25 years old," within the meaning of 49 U.S.C. 30112(b)(9), which permits them to be imported and sold regardless of whether they complied with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards in effect on their date of manufacture.

Vehicle Eligibility Number for Subject Vehicles

The importer of a vehicle admissible under any final decision must indicate on the form HS-7 accompanying entry the appropriate vehicle eligibility number indicating that the vehicle is eligible for entry. VSP-239 is the vehicle eligibility number assigned to vehicles admissible under this notice of final decision.

Final Decision

Accordingly, on the basis of the foregoing, NHTSA hereby decides that 1974-1975 Volkswagen Type 181 ("The Thing") MPVs not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards are substantially similar to 1974-1975 Volkswagen Type 181 ("The Thing") MPVs originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States and certified under 49 U.S.C. 30115, and are capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A) and (b)(1); 49 CFR 593.8; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Issued on: March 18, 1998.

Marilynne Jacobs,

Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.

[FR Doc. 98-7457 Filed 3-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-59-P

UNITED STATES ENRICHMENT CORPORATION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY: United States Enrichment Corporation.

SUBJECT: Board of Directors Meeting.

TIME AND DATE: 8:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 25, 1998.

PLACE: USEC Corporate Headquarters, 6903 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, Maryland 20817.

STATUS: The Board meeting will be closed to the public.

MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED:

- Review of commercial, operational and financial issues of the Corporation.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Joseph Tomkowicz, 301-564-3345.

Dated: March 18, 1998.

William H. Timbers, Jr.,

President and Chief Executive Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-7574 Filed 3-19-98; 10:23 am]

BILLING CODE 8720-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0262]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C., 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden; it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before April 22, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE SUBMISSION CONTACT: Ron Taylor, Information Management Service (045A4), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW,

Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8015 or FAX (202) 273-5981. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0262."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title and Form Numbers: Designation of Certifying Official, VA Form 22-8794. *OMB Control Number:* 2900-0262.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: The law requires specific certifications from an educational institution or job training establishment that provides approved training for veterans and other eligible persons. VA Form 22-8794 serves as the report from the school or job training establishment as to those persons authorized to submit these certifications. VBA uses the information to ensure that VA educational benefits are not made improperly based on a report from someone other than a designated certifying official. Without the information, VA could improperly pay benefits.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on October 27, 1997 at page 55672.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit, Not for-profit institutions, and State, Local or Tribal Government.

Estimated Annual Burden: 417 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per

Respondent: 10 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,500.

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, Allison Eydt, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-4650. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0262" in any correspondence.

Dated: January 26, 1998.

By direction of the Secretary.

Donald L. Neilson,

Director, Information Management Service.
[FR Doc. 98-7385 Filed 3-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0406]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C., 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden; it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before April 22, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF

THE SUBMISSION CONTACT: Ron Taylor, Information Management Service (045A4), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8015 or FAX (202) 273-5981. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0406."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Verification of VA Benefit-Related Indebtedness, VA Form 26-8937.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0406.

Type of Review: Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired.

Abstract: Since March of 1992, and a result of OMB's approval of VA's Debt Collection Plan, lenders authorized to make VA-guaranteed home or manufactured home loans on the automatic basis have been required to determine through VA Finance Officers whether any benefits-related debts exist in the veteran-borrower's name prior to the closing of any automatic loan. VA Form 26-8937 is designed to assist lenders and VA in the completion of debt checks in a uniform manner.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information

unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on October 27, 1997 at page 55672.

Affected Public: Individual or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 25,000 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 5 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 300,000.

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, Allison Eydt, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-4650. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0406" in any correspondence.

Dated: January 26, 1998.

By direction of the Secretary.

Donald L. Neilson,

Director, Information Management Service.

[FR Doc. 98-7386 Filed 3-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

"FEDERAL REGISTER" CITATION OF PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT: 63 FR 11677, March 10, 1998.

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED TIME AND DATE OF MEETING: 2:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) Thursday, March 19, 1998.

CHANGE IN THE MEETING: The closed session of the Meeting has been cancelled.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Frances M. Hart, Executive Officer on (202) 663-4070

Dated: March 19, 1998.

Frances M. Hart,

Executive Officer, Executive Secretariat.

[FR Doc. 98-7606 Filed 3-19-98; 11:32 am]

BILLING CODE 6750-06-M