

decisions on State regulatory programs and program amendments must be based solely on a determination of whether the submittal is consistent with SMCRA and its implementing Federal regulations and whether the other requirements of 30 CFR Parts 730, 731, and 732 have been met.

National Environmental Policy Act

This rule does not require an environmental impact statement since section 702(d) of SMCRA (30 U.S.C. 1292(d)) provides that agency decisions on State regulatory program provisions do not constitute major Federal actions within the meaning of section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)).

Paperwork Reduction Act

This rule does not contain information collection requirements that require approval by OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3507 *et seq.*).

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Department of the Interior has determined that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*). The State submittal which is the subject of this rule is based upon corresponding Federal regulations for which an economic analysis was prepared and certification made that such regulations would not have a significant economic effect upon a substantial number of small entities. Therefore, this rule will ensure that existing requirements previously published by OSM will be implemented by the State. In making the determination as to whether this rule would have a significant economic impact, the Department relied upon the data and assumptions for the corresponding Federal regulations.

Unfunded Mandates

OSM has determined and certifies under the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (2 U.S.C. 1502 *et seq.*) that this rule will not impose a cost of \$100 million or more in any given year on local, state, or tribal governments or private entities.

List of Subjects in 30 CFR Part 918

Intergovernmental relations, Surface mining, Underground mining.

Dated: September 1, 1999.

Ervin J. Barchenger,

Acting Regional Director, Mid-Continent Regional Coordinating Center.

[FR Doc. 99-23489 Filed 9-9-99; 8:45 am]

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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION

39 CFR Part 3003

[Docket No. RM99-4]

Privacy Act; Implementation

AGENCY: Postal Rate Commission.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Commission proposes revisions to its rules of practice implementing the Privacy Act of 1974. The changes will conform the rules to prevailing law. Editorial changes will improve clarity.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before September 27, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Send comments regarding this document to the attention of Margaret P. Crenshaw, Secretary, Postal Rate Commission, 1333 H Street NW., Washington, DC 20268-0001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen L. Sharfman, General Counsel, Postal Rate Commission, 1333 H Street NW., Washington, DC 20268-0001, 202-789-6824.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commission proposes revisions in its rules implementing the Privacy Act, contained in 39 CFR part 3003, to clarify their application and to shorten and simplify their language. The Commission's rules implementing the Privacy Act have been amended only in minor respects since their original adoption shortly after the passage of the Act in 1974. While the current rules have operated adequately, it is apparent on review that they are capable of both substantive and editorial improvement. Accordingly, the Commission proposes a redrafted set of rules to replace those currently contained in part 3003.

The substantive changes incorporated in the proposed rules are intended to conform them more closely to prevailing standards of Privacy Act administration without altering the rights of individuals or the obligations of the Commission under the Act. The proposed revision would eliminate the special procedure for access to medical records contained in current § 3003.6, under which access to such records is contingent on the judgment of the Commission's chief administrative officer, in favor of the general access provision in proposed § 3003.4. Proposed § 3003.2 would eliminate unnecessary definitions, cross-reference others to the text of the Privacy Act, and reword other definitions slightly for the sake of clarity. Also for clarification, proposed § 3003.1 would add a statement indicating that the Commission's Privacy Act rules are not

intended either to broaden or narrow the scope of an individual's rights afforded by the Act.

While the proposed rules would alter the substance of the current rules pertaining to requests for individual records and appeals of denials only in minor ways, they would appreciably shorten and simplify those provisions. Language that does not relate directly to the exercise of rights by individuals under the Privacy Act, and thus is unnecessary, would be omitted from the revised rules. Additionally, the language of the current rules generally would be simplified and shortened without affecting individuals' exercise of their rights or the Commission's performance of its obligations under the Privacy Act.

Commission Order No. 1256 was distributed to the service list in Docket No. B97-1. It invited comments on the proposed revisions no later than August 23, 1999. Those not aware of the deadline should contact the Secretary of the Commission for information regarding submission of comments.

Dated: September 2, 1999.

Margaret P. Crenshaw,
Secretary.

List of Subjects in 39 CFR Part 3003

Administrative practice and procedure; Archives and records; Privacy; Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, 39 CFR part 3003 is proposed to be revised to read as follows:

PART 3003—PRIVACY ACT RULES

Sec.

3003.1 Purpose and scope.

3003.2 Definitions.

3003.3 Procedures for requesting inspection, copying, or correction.

3003.4 Response to a request.

3003.5 Appeals of denials of access or amendment.

3003.6 Fees.

3003.7 Exemptions.

Authority: Privacy Act of 1974 (Pub.L. 93-579), 5 U.S.C. 552a.

§ 3003.1 Purpose and scope.

This part implements the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) by establishing Commission policies and procedures that permit individuals to obtain access to and request amendment of information about themselves that is maintained in systems of records. This part does not expand or restrict any rights granted under the Privacy Act of 1974.

§ 3003.2 Definitions.

For purposes of this part:

(a) *Commission* means the Postal Rate Commission.

(b) *Individual, record, and system of records* have the meanings specified in 5 U.S.C. 552a(a).

(c) *Day* means a calendar day and does not include Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays.

§ 3003.3 Procedures for requesting inspection, copying, or correction.

(a) An individual who—

(1) Wishes to know whether a Commission system of records contains a record about him or her,

(2) Seeks access to a Commission record about him or her that is maintained in a system of records (including the accounting of disclosures), or

(3) Seeks to amend a record about him or her that is maintained in a system of records, may file a written request with the chief administrative officer of the Commission at the Commission's current address (1333 H Street NW., Suite 300, Washington, DC 20268-0001). The request should state on the outside of the envelope and in the request that it is a Privacy Act request.

(b) A request for amendment must describe the information sought to be amended and the specific reasons for the amendment.

(c) A requester—

(1) May request an appointment to inspect records at the Commission's offices between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on any day;

(2) Must present suitable identification, such as a driver's license, employee identification card, or Medicare card;

(3) If accompanied by another individual, must sign a statement, if requested by the chief administrative officer, authorizing discussion of his or her record in the presence of that individual;

(4) Who files a request by mail must include his or her date of birth, dates of employment at the Commission (if applicable), and suitable proof of identity, such as a facsimile of a driver's license, employee identification card, or Medicare card; and

(5) Must, if requested by the chief administrative officer, provide additional proof of identification.

§ 3003.4 Response to a request.

(a) In the case of a request for notice of the existence of a record, the chief administrative officer shall respond within 10 days of receipt of a request and shall inform the individual whether a system of records maintained by the Commission contains such a record.

(b) In the case of a request for access to a record or for a copy of a record, the

chief administrative office shall acknowledge the request within 10 days and shall promptly thereafter—

(1) Fulfill the request by mail or arrange for an inspection by the requester in the Commission's offices; or

(2) If the request is denied, notify the requester of the denial, the reasons for the refusal, the procedures for appealing the refusal, and the name and address of the Chairman of the Commission who will consider an appeal.

(c) In the case of a request for amendment, the chief administrative officer shall

(1) Acknowledge the request in writing within 10 days;

(2) Promptly review the record; and

(3)(i) Make any requested amendment of a record found to be not accurate, relevant, timely, or complete; notify the requester of the change and provide a copy of the corrected record; and notify any previous recipient of the record (excluding Commission staff who obtained the record in the performance of their duties and recipients under the Freedom of Information Act) of any change; or

(ii) Inform the requester of a refusal to amend the record, the reasons for the refusal, the procedures for appealing the refusal, and the name and address of the Chairman of the Commission who will consider an appeal.

§ 3003.5 Appeals of denials of access or amendment.

(a) If a request for access to or amendment of a record is denied, the requester may file a written appeal with the Chairman of the Commission. The Chairman will decide each appeal within 30 days of receipt unless the Chairman has, for good cause, extended the period for another 30 days.

(b) If an appeal is denied, the requester will be notified of the decision, the reasons for the denial, the right to file a concise statement of disagreement, the procedures for filing a statement of disagreement, the subsequent uses of a statement of disagreement, and of the right to seek judicial review in accordance with subsection (g) of the Privacy Act.

§ 3003.6 Fees.

The first copy of any record furnished under the Privacy Act of 1974 will be provided without charge. Additional copies will be charged at the cost of reproduction.

§ 3003.7 Exemptions.

The Postal Rate Commission has not established any exempt system of records.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Care Financing Administration

42 CFR Parts 435, 436, and 440

[HCFA-2082-P]

RIN 0938-AG72

Medicaid Program; Optional Coverage of Certain Tuberculosis-Related Services to TB-Infected Individuals

AGENCY: Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), HHS.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: This proposed rule would amend the existing Medicaid regulations to incorporate statutory provisions that allow States to cover a limited Medicaid service package to an eligibility group of low-income individuals infected with tuberculosis (TB). The services provided under this optional coverage are limited to those related to the treatment of TB. This optional coverage will ensure Medicaid services for the treatment of TB-infected individuals who would otherwise be unlikely to receive coverage under Medicaid. This proposed rule would incorporate and interpret provisions of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993.

DATES: Comments will be considered if we receive them at the appropriate address, as provided below, no later than 5 p.m. on November 9, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Mail written comments (one original and three copies) to the following address: Health Care Financing Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, Attention: HCFA-2082-P, P.O. Box 9010, Baltimore, MD 21244-9010.

If you prefer, you may deliver your written comments (one original and three copies) to one of the following addresses: Room 443-G, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, or C5-14-03, Central Building, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21244-1850.

Because of staffing and resource limitations, we cannot accept comments by facsimile (FAX) transmission. In commenting, please refer to file code HCFA-2082-P.