

- Information concerning pre-registration, accommodations and directions is available at <http://www.research.umn.edu/conferences/nsf/>.

Monday, November 17, 2003, Chapel Hill, NC

The theme of this workshop will be the "Appropriate Costs of Research Enterprise—Determination, Recovery, and Accountability." Our focus will include the following issues published in the August 6, 2003 **Federal Register** notice ([http://www.ostp.gov/html/Request for Info 03-19935.pdf](http://www.ostp.gov/html/Request%20for%20Info%2003-19935.pdf)): Accountability, information technology, and technology transfer optimization.

- Morning Panel—"IT: Has Technology Made and Can It Make Research Administration More Efficient? How Can Grants.Gov Help the Process?"

- Afternoon Panel—"Compliance Costs: Balancing Requirements with the Public's Interests."

- Information concerning pre-registration, accommodations and directions is available at <http://research.unc.edu/workshops/>.

Tuesday, December 9, 2003 and Wednesday, December 10, 2003, Washington, DC

The agenda of the Washington meeting will be strongly influenced by public comments submitted in response to the prior **Federal Register** notice and by the input from the three regional workshops. The agenda for this meeting will be available on the Subcommittee's Internet site (<http://rbm.nih.gov/>) after the November 17 workshop has taken place. In addition, we plan a satellite broadcast of parts of the Washington meeting. We will identify these broadcast segments in the posted agenda.

Public Participation: Each announced meeting is open to the public. Each workshop allots 90 minutes for public comments from the floor. *Please submit your request to make oral statements to nstc_rbm@ostp.eop.gov (e-mail) or contact Michael Holland at 202-456-6130 (telephone).* You must make your request for an oral statement at least 5 business days prior to the meeting. We will schedule oral statements during each of the public comment periods in the order in which they are received. The Subcommittee strongly encourages all those scheduled during the public comment periods to file a written copy of their statement via email to nstc_rbm@ostp.eop.gov. You may submit your oral statement in advance or up to five (5) business days after a workshop. We request that this written

statement be limited to three pages. Public comment will follow the 3-minute rule.

Meeting Summaries: Summaries of each regional workshop and the Washington meeting will be available on the Subcommittee's Internet site (<http://rbm.nih.gov/>) for public review and copying within 45 days of each meeting.

Authority

The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) was established under Executive Order 12881 on November 23, 1993. The Committee on Science is chartered under the NSTC. The purpose of the Committee on Science is to advise and assist the NSTC, with emphasis on those federally supported efforts that develop new knowledge in the sciences, mathematics, and engineering.

Kathie L. Olsen,

Associate Director and Co-chair, Committee on Science.

[FR Doc. 03-23573 Filed 9-15-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3170-01-P

OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

National Science and Technology Council; Committee on Science; Subcommittee on Research Business Models

ACTION: Notice of an extension of the public comment period.

SUMMARY: The National Science and Technology Council/Committee on Science/Subcommittee on Research Business Models published a document in the **Federal Register** on August 6, 2003 requesting data and specific examples related to its review of policies, procedures, and plans affecting the business relationship between federal agencies and research performers. The Subcommittee, by undertaking this review, seeks to improve the performance and management of federally sponsored basic and applied scientific and engineering research. Due to technical problems with the e-mail address established to receive these comments, the Subcommittee on Research Business Models is extending the public comment period from September 22, 2003 to October 6, 2003 and encouraging anyone who submitted comments electronically before September 4, 2003 to resubmit their comments.

DATES: Submit comments on or before October 6, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Due to potential delays in OSTP's receipt and processing of mail sent through the U.S. Postal Service, we encourage respondents to submit comments electronically to ensure timely receipt. We cannot guarantee that comments sent via surface mail will be received before the comment closing date.

Electronic comments may be submitted to: nstc_rbm@ostp.eop.gov. Please include in the subject line the words "NSTC Research Business Models Comments." Please put the full body of your comments in the text of the electronic message and as an attachment. Be certain to include your name, title, organization, postal address, telephone number, and e-mail address in the text of the message.

Comments may be mailed to Michael J. Holland; Office of Science & Technology Policy; 1650 Pennsylvania Ave, NW., Washington, DC 20502. But again, we strongly encourage respondents to submit comments electronically.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Holland, Office of Science & Technology Policy; 1650 Pennsylvania Avenue; Washington, DC 20502. Telephone: (202) 456-6130. E-mail: mholland@ostp.eop.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 6, 2003 (68 FR 46631), OSTP announced it was seeking data and specific examples relating to policies, procedures, and plans relating to the business relationship between federal agencies and research performers. During the public comment period, we discovered that the e-mail address established to receive the comments was neither accepting electronic submissions nor responding to electronic submissions with a message stating that incoming e-mails were refused.

All problems with the e-mail account have now been resolved. The Subcommittee is extending the deadline for public comment to no later than October 6, 2003. We encourage anyone who submitted comments electronically prior to September 4, 2003 to resubmit their comments. We have received comments submitted electronically after September 4, 2003.

Authority

The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) was established under Executive Order 12881 on November 23, 1993. The Committee on Science is chartered under the NSTC. The purpose of the Committee on Science is to advise and assist the NSTC, with emphasis on those federally supported efforts that

develop new knowledge in the sciences, mathematics, and engineering.

Clifford J. Gabriel,

Deputy to the Associate Director.

[FR Doc. 03-23572 Filed 9-15-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3170-01-P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[CC Docket No. 96-45; DA 03-2779]

Bureau Seeks Comment on AT&T Corporation's Petition for Preemption, Pursuant to the Communications Act and Common Law Principles, of South Carolina Statutes That Established an Interim LEC Fund

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice; solicitation of comments.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment on AT&T's Petition. On October 7, 2002, AT&T Corporation (AT&T) filed with the Commission a petition seeking preemption of the South Carolina statutes and administrative procedures that established the Interim Local Exchange Carrier Fund.

DATES: Submit comments on or before November 17, 2003, and reply comments on or before December 15, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554, Room TW-B204. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for further filing instructions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Vickie Byrd, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, (202) 418-7400 TTY: (202) 418-0484.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's Public Notice, CC Docket No. 96-45, released September 4, 2003. On October 7, 2002, AT&T Corporation (AT&T) filed with the Commission a petition seeking preemption of the South Carolina statutes and administrative procedures that established the Interim Local Exchange Carrier (LEC) Fund. According to AT&T, the Interim LEC Fund, which began operating in 1997, provides payments to incumbent LECs in return for decreasing their intrastate access charges. Pursuant to section 58-9-280 of the South Carolina Code Annotated, entities receiving an access or interconnection rate reduction from the LECs are required to contribute to

the Interim LEC Fund. AT&T alleges that, since long distance providers, such as AT&T, pay a majority of the access charges, long distance providers are responsible for funding almost all of the Interim LEC Fund. AT&T contends that the Interim LEC Fund violates section 253(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (Act) because it discriminates against: (1) New entrants by limiting their ability to compete with the incumbent LECs receiving support from the Fund and (2) long distance providers by requiring only those providers to contribute to the Fund. AT&T also argues that the Fund does not qualify for preemption protection under section 253(b) of the Act because the Fund is not competitively neutral and not consistent with the requirements for federal universal service programs set forth in section 254 of the Act. Accordingly, AT&T asks the Commission to preempt South Carolina's Interim LEC Fund. The Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment on the AT&T Petition.

Pursuant to §§ 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules interested parties may file comments on or before November 17, 2003, and reply comments on or before December 15, 2003. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies. See *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121, May 1, 1998.

Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to <<http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>>. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. If multiple docket or rulemaking numbers appear in the caption of this proceeding, however, commenters must transmit one electronic copy of the comments to each docket or rulemaking number referenced in the caption. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions for e-mail comments, commenters should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov, and should include the following words in the body of the message, "get form <your e-mail address>." A sample form and directions will be sent in reply.

Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding, commenters must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking

number. Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail). The Commission's contractor, Vistronix, Inc., will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, NE., Suite 110, Washington, DC 20002. The filing hours at this location are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class mail, Express Mail, and Priority Mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Marlene H. Dortch, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

Parties also must send three paper copies of their filing to Sheryl Todd, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street SW., Room 5-B540, Washington, DC 20554. In addition, commenters must send diskette copies to the Commission's copy contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW., Room CY-B402, Washington, DC 20554.

Pursuant to § 1.1206 of the Commission's rules this proceeding will be conducted as a permit-but-disclose proceeding in which *ex parte* communications are permitted subject to disclosure.

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene H. Dortch,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-23544 Filed 9-15-03; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Sunshine Act; Notice of Agency Meeting

Pursuant to the provisions of the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (5 U.S.C. 552b), notice is hereby given that at 11:05 a.m. on Thursday, September 11, 2003, the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation met in closed session to consider