

allowed to operate and discharge. In response, EPA notes that the pumpout and subsequent treatment of wastes at a sewage treatment plant generally results in a higher level of treatment than an MSD can provide. A holding tank is a total retention/no discharge alternative. A flow through device (Type I or Type II) treats the waste to some degree and then discharges into the water. This discharge contains pathogens, nutrients and various chemicals. This commenter also expressed concern about the capacity of a holding tank capacity (2 days of waste), the distance between pumpouts (15.5 miles) and the speed at which most vessels travel (5 knots per hour). The capacity of a holding tank is determined by several factors, volume, size of the crew, and the use of shore bathroom facilities when available. The greatest distance between pumpout facilities, based on the charts submitted in the application, is 12 miles. The speed at which vessels travel is determined by whether the vessel is a sailing or power vessel. These are all factors, including fuel, weather, supplies and charts, which the operator of the vessel needs to consider when planning his trip. No changes to the determination are necessary based on these comments.

Several commenters expressed concerns regarding the ability of large commercial vessels to dispose of sewage due to the lack of facilities and the draft restriction at pumpout facilities. These vessels may exceed 200 feet in length and have drafts in excess of 20 feet. The commenters also stated that many, if not all, of these commercial vessels have been equipped with Type II marine sanitation devices, which are a flow-through type treatment devices as opposed to a Type III MSD which are a holding tank. They stated that to retrofit tugs and barges with holding tanks would cost several thousand dollars and the time in dry dock would cost several thousand dollars in lost revenue. Some commenters requested that commercial vessels be exempted from the prohibition since no pumpout facilities were available for their vessels due to size and draft requirements. The same commenters requested that the NDA apply only to recreational boaters. While many of the commercial vessels are equipped with Type II MSDs, there are several commercial operators that utilize Type III MSDs and have their holding tanks pumped out at facilities that are available in their home ports or that make arrangements with waste haulers to pumpout their holding tanks when they dock to load, unload or take on supplies and fuels. EPA concludes

that adequate facilities for the safe and sanitary removal and treatment of sewage from all vessels are reasonably available. One commenter stated that 50% of the petroleum transported by tug/barge units was delivered to Albany, 29% of the petroleum was delivered to Newburgh and 21% of the petroleum was delivered to various terminals along the Hudson River. This commenter contended that the imposition of the NDA on all vessels will cause a disruption in the petroleum delivery system, unduly harm the tug and barge industry, result in hardship to the residents of New York State and serve no useful purpose in terms of improving water quality or protecting environmental resources. Based on this information, EPA has decided that the complete prohibition of discharge of vessel sewage will not apply for one year from the date of **Federal Register** publication of this notice to commercial vessels which are greater than 225 feet in length or are greater than 20 feet in draft. The prohibition of discharge of vessel sewage will apply to all other vessels upon publication of this determination in the **Federal Register**.

The EPA hereby makes a final affirmative determination that adequate facilities for the safe and sanitary removal and treatment of sewage from all vessels are reasonably available for the Hudson River, New York. A final determination on this matter will result in a New York State prohibition of any sewage discharges from vessels, with the exception of commercial vessels that are greater than 225 feet in length or are greater than 20 feet in draft, on the Hudson River from the Battery in Manhattan, New York to the Federal Dam at Troy, New York. For vessels that are greater than 225 feet in overall length or are greater than 20 feet in draft, the prohibition will be applicable on October 8, 2004.

Any questions regarding this notice should be addressed to Walter E. Andrews, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2, Water Programs Branch, 290 Broadway, 24th Floor, New York, New York, 10007-1866. Telephone: (212) 637-3880.

Dated: September 3, 2003.

Jane M. Kenny,

Regional Administrator, Region 2.

[FR Doc. 03-25637 Filed 10-8-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Notice of Public Information Collection(s) Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission for Extension Under Delegated Authority

September 29, 2003.

SUMMARY: The Federal Communications Commission, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burden invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection(s), as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Public Law 104-13. An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act that does not display a valid control number.

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

DATES: Persons wishing to comment on this information collection should submit comments December 8, 2003. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, you should advise the contact listed below as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Direct all Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) comments to Judith B. Herman, Federal Communications Commission, Room 1-C804, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554 or via the Internet to Judith-B.Herman@fcc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information or copies of the information collection(s), contact Judith B. Herman at (202) 418-0214 or via the Internet at Judith-B.Herman@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB Control No.: 3060-0711.

Title: Implementation of Section 34(a)(1) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, as amended by

the Telecommunications Act of 1996, (47 CFR Sections 1.5001–1.5007).

Form No.: N/A.

Type of Review: Extension of currently approved collection.

Respondents: Business or other for profit.

Number of Respondents: 15.

Estimated Time Per Response: 10 hours.

Frequency of Response: Third party disclosure and on occasion reporting requirements.

Total Annual Burden: 150 hours.

Total Annual Cost: \$48,000.

Needs and Uses: 47 CFR Sections 1.5001–1.5007 implement Section 34(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act. The rules provide filing requirements and procedures to expedite public utility holding company entry into the telecommunications industry. Persons seeking a determination of ETC status must file in good faith for determination by the Commission. The information will be used by the Commission to determine whether persons satisfy the statutory criteria for exempt telecommunications company status.

OMB Control No.: 3060–0745.

Title: Implementation of the Local Exchange Carrier Tariff Streamlining Provisions in the Telecommunications Act of 1996, CC Docket No. 96–187.

Form No.: N/A.

Type of Review: Extension of currently approved collection.

Respondents: Business or other for profit.

Number of Respondents: 1,520.

Estimated Time Per Response: 0.33–9.0 hours.

Frequency of Response:

Recordkeeping, third party disclosure and on occasion reporting requirements.

Total Annual Burden: 1,150 hours.

Total Annual Cost: \$5,100,000.

Needs and Uses: In CC Docket No. 96–187, the Commission adopted measures to streamline tariff filing requirements for local exchange carriers (LECs) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. In order to achieve a streamlined and deregulatory environment for local exchanged carrier tariff filings, local exchange carriers are required to file tariffs electronically. Other carriers are permitted to file their tariffs electronically.

OMB Control No.: 3060–0943.

Title: 47 CFR Section 54.809, Carrier Certification.

Form No.: N/A.

Type of Review: Extension of currently approved collection.

Respondents: Business or other for profit.

Number of Respondents: 27.

Estimated Time Per Response: 1.5 hours.

Frequency of Response: Third Party Disclosure and annual reporting requirements.

Total Annual Burden: 41 hours.

Total Annual Cost: N/A.

Needs and Uses: Section 54.809 of the Commission's rules requires each price cap or competitive LEC that wishes to receive universal support to file an annual certification with the Universal Service Administrative Company and the Commission. The certification must state that the carrier will use its interstate access universal service support only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and service for which the support is intended.

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene H. Dortch,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03–25598 Filed 10–8–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

Previously Announced Date & Time: *Wednesday, October 8, 2003 Meeting Closed to the Public. This Meeting Was Rescheduled for Thursday, October 9, 2003, Following the Open Meeting*

DATE AND TIME: Wednesday, October 15, 2003 at 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: 999 E Street, NW., Washington, DC.

STATUS: This meeting will be closed to the public.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

Compliance matters pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 437g.

Audits conducted pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 437g, § 438(b), and Title 26, U.S.C.

Matters concerning participation in civil actions or proceedings or arbitration.

Internal personnel rules and procedures or matters affecting a particular employee.

DATE AND TIME: Thursday, October 16, 2003 at 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: 999 E Street, NW., Washington, DC (ninth floor).

STATUS: This meeting will be open to the public.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

Correction and Approval of Minutes.

Draft Advisory Opinion 2003–25: Weinzapfel for Mayor Committee by counsel, Neil P. Reiff.

Notice of Availability—Petition for Rulemaking Filed by America's Community Bankers.

Administrative Matters.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Ron Harris, Press Officer, Telephone: (202) 694–1220.

Mary W. Dove,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 03–25832 Filed 10–7–03; 2:39 pm]

BILLING CODE 6715–01–M

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a bank or bank holding company and all of the banks and nonbanking companies owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The application also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1843). Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States. Additional information on all bank holding companies may be obtained from the National Information Center website at www.ffiec.gov/nic/.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than November 3, 2003.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (Randall C. Sumner, Vice President) 411 Locust Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63166-2034:

1. *Partners Financial Holdings, Inc.*, Glen Carbon, Illinois; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of Partners Bank, Alton, Illinois.