Commission believes that there is good cause, consistent with Section 19(b) of the Act,[10] to approve the proposed rule change, as amended, on an accelerated basis.

V. Conclusion

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,[11] that the proposed rule change (SR–CHX–2004–05) is hereby approved on an accelerated basis.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.[12]

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 04–1564 Filed 1–23–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010–01–P

45); 46468 (September 6, 2002), 67 FR 58095 (September 13, 2002) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of SR–PCX–2002–44); 46739 (October 29, 2002), 67 FR 67432 (November 5, 2002) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of SR–NASD–2002–146); and 48622 (October 10, 2003), 68 FR 59828 (October 17, 2003) (Order approving SR–BSE–2003–18).

[10] 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5) and 78s(b).

[11] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

[12] 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Economic Injury Disaster #9Z06]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts (and Contiguous Counties in New Hampshire and Rhode Island)

Barnstable, Essex, Norfolk, Plymouth and Suffolk Counties and the contiguous counties of Bristol, Middlesex, and Worcester in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; Hillsborough and Rockingham Counties in the State of New Hampshire; and Providence in the State of Rhode Island constitute an economic injury disaster loan area as a result of a nor'easter storm that occurred on December 6–7, 2003. Eligible small businesses and small agricultural cooperatives without credit available elsewhere may file applications for economic injury assistance as a result of this disaster until the close of business on October 18, 2004, at the address listed below or other locally announced locations: Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 1 Office, 360 Rainbow Blvd, South 3rd Floor, Niagara Falls, NY 14303.

The interest rate for eligible small businesses and small agricultural cooperatives is 3.061 percent.

The numbers assigned for economic injury for this disaster are 9Z0600 for Massachusetts; 9Z0700 for New Hampshire; and 9Z0800 for Rhode Island.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 59002)

Dated: January 16, 2004.

Hector V. Barreto,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 04–1503 Filed 1–23–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

Voluntary Intermodal Sealift Agreement (VISA)/Joint Planning Advisory Group (JPAG)

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Synopsis of January 8–9, 2004, meeting with VISA participants.

The VISA program requires that a notice of the time, place, and nature of each JPAG meeting be published in the **Federal Register**. The program also requires that a list of VISA participants be periodically published in the **Federal Register**. The full text of the VISA program, including these requirements, is published in 68 FR 8800–8808, dated February 25, 2003.

On January 8–9, 2004, the Maritime Administration (MARAD) and the U.S. Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM) co-hosted a meeting of the VISA JPAG at Ft. Eustis, Virginia.

Meeting attendance was by invitation only, due to the nature of the information discussed and the need for a government-issued security clearance. Of the 57 U.S.-flag carrier corporate participants enrolled in the VISA program at the time of the meeting, 21 companies participated in the meeting. In addition, representatives from the Maritime Administration (MARAD), the Department of Defense, and maritime labor attended the meeting.

LtGen Gary Hughey, opened the meeting with a welcome to all attendees. He was followed by MG Ann E. Dunwoody, who provided participants with an overview of the meeting. The JPAG meeting included updates on: (1) Intelligence; (2) deployment operations; (3) redeployment operations; and (4) CBR-D training.

As of January 1, 2004, the following commercial U.S.-flag vessel operators were enrolled in the VISA program with MARAD: AAA Shipping No. 1 L.L.C.; A Way to Move, Inc.; America Cargo Transport, Inc.; American Automar, Inc.; American International Car Carrier, Inc.; American President Lines, Ltd.; American Roll-On Roll-Off Carrier, LLC; American Ship Management, L.L.C.; Bay Towing Corporation; Beyel Brothers Inc.; Central Gulf Lines, Inc.; Coastal Transportation, Inc.; Columbia Coastal Transport, LLC; CRC Marine Services, Inc.; Crowley Liner Services, Inc.; Crowley Marine Services, Inc.; Delta Towing; E-Ships, Inc.; Farrell Lines Incorporated; First American Bulk Carrier Corp.; First Ocean Bulk Carrier—I, LLC; First Ocean Bulk Carrier—II, LLC; First Ocean Bulk Carrier—III, LLC; Foss Maritime Company; Horizon Lines, LLC; Laborde Marine Lifts, Inc.; Laborde Marine, L.L.C.; Liberty Shipping Group Limited Partnership; Lockwood Brothers, Inc.; Lykes Lines Limited, LLC; Lynden Incorporated; Maersk Line, Limited; Matson Navigation Company, Inc.; Maybank Navigation Company, LLC; McAllister Towing and Transportation Co., Inc.; Moby Marine Corporation; Odyssea Shipping Line LLC; OSG Car Carriers, Inc.; Patriot Shipping, L.L.C.; RR & VO L.L.C.; Resolve Towing & Salvage, Inc.; Samson Tug & Barge Company, Inc.; Sea Star Line, LLC; SeaTac Marine Services, LLC; Sealift Inc.; Signet Maritime Corporation; STEA Corporation; Strong Vessel Operators LLC (SVO), Superior Marine Services, Inc.; TECO Ocean Shipping; Totem Ocean Trailer Express, Inc.; Trailer Bridge, Inc.; TransAtlantic Lines LLC; Troika International, Ltd.; U.S. Ship Management, Inc.; Waterman Steamship Corporation; and Weeks Marine, Inc.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Taylor E. Jones II, Director, Office of Sealift Support, (202) 366–2323.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

Dated: January 20, 2004.

Joel C. Richard,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 04–1504 Filed 1–23–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–81–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Open Meeting of the Financial Literacy and Education Commission

AGENCY: Departmental Offices, Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the first meeting of the Financial Literacy and Education Commission, established by the Financial Literacy and Education Improvement Act (title V of the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003).

DATES: The first meeting of the Financial Literacy and Education Commission will be held on Thursday, January 29, 2003, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The Financial Literacy and Education Commission meeting will be held in the Cash Room at the U.S. Department of the Treasury, located at 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC. To be admitted to the Treasury building, an attendee must provide his or her name, organization, phone number, date of birth, and Social Security number to Verlene Joseph, Office the Public Liaison, Department of the Treasury, by e-mail to *verlene.joseph@do.treas.gov* not later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday, January 27, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information regarding admittance to the Treasury building, contact Verlene Joseph by e-mail to *verlene.joseph@do.treas.gov* or by telephone at (202) 622–1498 (not a toll-free number).

Additional information regarding the Financial Literacy and Education Commission and the Department of the Treasury's Office of Financial Education may be obtained through the Office of Financial Education's Web site at: *http://www.treas.gov/financialeducation.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Financial Literacy and Education Improvement Act, which is title V of the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003 (the ''FACT Act'') (Pub. L. 108–159), established the Financial Literacy and Education Commission (the ''Commission'') to improve financial literacy and education of persons in the United States. The Commission is composed of the Secretary of the Treasury and the head of the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency; the Office of Thrift Supervision; the Federal Reserve; the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; the National Credit Union Administration; the Securities and Exchange Commission; the Departments of Education, Agriculture, Defense, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Labor, and Veterans Affairs; the Federal Trade Commission; the General Services Administration; the Small Business Administration; the Social Security Administration; the Commodity Futures Trading Commission; and the Office of Personnel Management. The Commission is required to hold meetings that are open to the public every four months, with its first meeting occurring within 60 days of the enactment of the FACT Act. The FACT Act was enacted on December 4, 2003.

The first meeting of the Commission, all of which will be open to the public, will be held in the Cash Room at the Department of the Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC. The room will accommodate 80 members of the public. Seating is available on a first-come basis. Participation in the discussion at the meeting will be limited to Commission members and their staffs.

Dated: January 20, 2004.

Wayne A. Abernathy,

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

[FR Doc. 04–1590 Filed 1–21–04; 3:47 pm]

BILLING CODE 4810–25–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

[LR–189–80]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, *Pub. L.* 104–13(44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing final regulation, LR–189–80 (T.D. 7927), Amortization of Reforestation Expenditures (§§ 1.194–2 and 1.194–4).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before March 26, 2004 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Robert Coar, Internal Revenue Service, room 6411, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the regulation should be directed to Larnice Mack (202) 622–3179, or through the Internet (*Larnice.Mack@irs.gov*), Internal Revenue Service, room 6407, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Amortization of Reforestation Expenditures.

OMB Number: 1545–0735.

Regulation Project Number: LR–189–80.

Abstract: Internal Revenue Code section 194 allows taxpayers to elect to amortize certain reforestation expenditures over a 7-year period if the expenditures meet certain requirements. The regulations implement this election provision and allow the IRS to determine if the election is proper and allowable.

Current Actions: There is no change to this existing regulation.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, business or other for-profit organizations, and farms.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 12,000.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 30 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 6,001.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the 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 collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (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; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: January 14, 2004.

Robert Coar,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 04–1581 Filed 1–23–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830–01–P