

delay or defraud the IDI or its creditors. Subject to the provisions of 12 U.S.C. 1821(e)(13)(C), nothing contained in this policy statement shall be construed as permitting the conservator or receiver to fail to comply with otherwise enforceable provisions of a contract or preventing a covered bond obligee's exercise of any of its contractual rights, including liquidation of properly pledged collateral by commercially reasonable methods.

(f) No waiver. This policy statement does not authorize, and shall not be construed as authorizing the waiver of the prohibitions in 12 U.S.C. 1825(b)(2) against levy, attachment, garnishment, foreclosure, or sale of property of the FDIC, nor does it authorize nor shall it be construed as authorizing the attachment of any involuntary lien upon the property of the FDIC. Nor shall this policy statement be construed as waiving, limiting or otherwise affecting the rights or powers of the FDIC to take any action or to exercise any power not specifically mentioned, including but not limited to any rights, powers or remedies of the FDIC regarding transfers taken in contemplation of the institution's insolvency or with the intent to hinder, delay or defraud the institution or the creditors of such institution, or that is a fraudulent transfer under applicable law.

(g) No assignment. The right to consent under 12 U.S.C. 1821(e)(13)(C) may not be assigned or transferred to any purchaser of property from the FDIC, other than to a conservator or bridge bank.

(h) Repeal. This policy statement may be repealed by the FDIC upon 30 days notice provided in the **Federal Register**, but any repeal shall not apply to any covered bond issuance made in accordance with this policy statement before such repeal.

By order of the Board of Directors.

Dated at Washington, DC this 22d day of July, 2008.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Robert E. Feldman,

Executive Secretary.

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FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Maritime Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC or Commission) is

giving public notice that the agency has submitted to OMB for approval the information collections described in this notice. The public is invited to comment on the proposed information collections pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to OMB at the address below on or before August 27, 2008 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, *Attention:* Desk Officer for FMC, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, *OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV* or fax (202) 395-5806.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the proposed information collections and supporting statements should be directed to Jane Gregory at telephone number 202-523-5800 or *jgregory@fmc.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), the FMC invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed information collections. On May 13, 2008, the FMC published a notice and request for comments in the **Federal Register** (73 FR 27537) regarding the agency's request for continued approval from OMB for information collections as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The FMC received no comments on any of the requests for extensions of OMB clearance. The FMC has submitted the described information collections to OMB for approval.

In response to this notice, comments and suggestions should address one or more of the following points: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

Information Collections Open for Comment

Title: 46 CFR part 540—Application for Certificate of Financial Responsibility/Form FMC-131.

OMB Approval Number: 3072-0012 (Expires September 30, 2008).

Abstract: Sections 2 and 3 of Public Law 89-777 (46 U.S.C. 44105 and 44106) require owners or charterers of

passenger vessels with 50 or more passenger berths or stateroom accommodations and embarking passengers at United States ports and territories to establish their financial responsibility to meet liability incurred for death or injury to passengers and other persons, and to indemnify passengers in the event of nonperformance of transportation. The Commission's Rules at 46 CFR part 540 implement Public Law 89-777 and specify financial responsibility coverage requirements for such owners and charterers.

Current Actions: There are no changes to this information collection, and it is being submitted for extension purposes only.

Type of Review: Extension.

Needs and Uses: The information will be used by the Commission's staff to ensure that passenger vessel owners and charterers have evidenced financial responsibility to indemnify passengers and others in the event of nonperformance or casualty.

Frequency: This information is collected when applicants apply for a certificate or when existing certificants change any information in their application forms.

Type of Respondents: The types of respondents are owners, charterers and operators of passenger vessels with 50 or more passenger berths that embark passengers from U.S. ports or territories.

Number of Annual Respondents: The Commission estimates an annual respondent universe of 50.

Estimated Time Per Response: The time per response ranges from .5 to 8 person-hours for reporting and recordkeeping requirements contained in the rules, and 8 person-hours for completing Application Form FMC-131.

Total Annual Burden: The Commission estimates the total person-hour burden at 1,478 person-hours.

Title: 46 CFR part 565—Controlled Carriers.

OMB Approval Number: 3072-0060 (Expires September 30, 2008).

Abstract: Section 9 of the Shipping Act of 1984 (46 U.S.C. 40701-40706) requires that the FMC monitor the practices of controlled carriers to ensure that they do not maintain rates or charges in their tariffs and service contracts that are below a level that is just and reasonable; nor establish, maintain or enforce unjust or unreasonable classifications, rules or regulations in those tariffs or service contracts which result or are likely to result in the carriage or handling of cargo at rates or charges that are below a just and reasonable level. 46 CFR part

565 establishes the method by which the Commission determines whether a particular ocean common carrier is a controlled carrier subject to section 9 of the Shipping Act of 1984. When a government acquires a controlling interest in an ocean common carrier, or when a controlled carrier newly enters a United States trade, the Commission's rules require that such a carrier notify the Commission of these events.

Current Actions: There are no changes to this information collection, and it is being submitted for extension purposes only.

Type of Review: Extension.

Needs and Uses: The Commission uses these notifications in order to effectively discharge its statutory duty to determine whether a particular ocean common carrier is a controlled carrier and therefore subject to the requirements of section 9 of the Shipping Act of 1984.

Frequency: The submission of notifications from controlled carriers is not assigned to a specific time frame by the Commission; they are submitted as circumstances warrant. The Commission only requires notification when a majority portion of an ocean common carrier becomes owned or controlled by a government, or when a controlled carrier newly begins operation in any United States trade.

Type of Respondents: Controlled carriers are ocean common carriers which are owned or controlled by a government.

Number of Annual Respondents: Although it is estimated that only 5 of the 8 currently classified controlled carriers may respond in any given year, because this is a rule of general applicability, the Commission considers the number of annual respondents to be 8. Classifications are reviewed periodically to determine current status of respondents and to increase or decrease the number of controlled carriers based on new circumstances. The FMC cannot anticipate when a new carrier may enter the United States trade; therefore, the number of annual respondents may fluctuate from year to year and could increase to 10 or more at any time.

Estimated Time Per Response: The estimated time for compliance is 7 person-hours per year.

Total Annual Burden: The Commission estimates the person-hour burden required to make such notifications at 56 person-hours per year.

Title: 46 CFR part 525—Marine Terminal Operator Schedules and Related Form FMC-1.

OMB Approval Number: 3072-0061 (Expires September 30, 2008).

Abstract: Section 8(f) of the Shipping Act of 1984 (46 U.S.C. 40501) provides that a marine terminal operator (MTO) may make available to the public a schedule of its rates, regulations, and practices, including limitations of liability for cargo loss or damage, pertaining to receiving, delivering, handling, or storing property at its marine terminal, subject to section 10(d)(1) of the Act, 46 U.S.C. 41102. The Commission's rules governing MTO schedules are set forth at 46 CFR part 525.

Current Actions: There are no changes to this information collection, and it is being submitted for extension purposes only.

Type of Review: Extension.

Needs and Uses: The Commission uses information obtained from Form FMC-1 to determine the organization name, organization number, home office address, name and telephone number of the firm's representatives and the location of MTO schedules of rates, regulations and practices, and publisher, should the MTOs determine to make their schedules available to the public, as set forth in section 8(f) of the Shipping Act.

Frequency: This information is collected prior to an MTO's commencement of its marine terminal operations.

Type of Respondents: Persons operating as MTOs.

Number of Annual Respondents: The Commission estimates the respondent universe at 258, of which 153 opt to make their schedules available to the public.

Estimated Time Per Response: The time per response for completing Form FMC-1 averages .5 person hours, and approximately 5 person-hours for related MTO schedules.

Total Annual Burden: The Commission estimates the total person-hour burden at 894 person-hours.

Title: 46 CFR Part 520—Carrier Automated Tariff Systems and Related Form FMC-1.

OMB Approval Number: 3072-0064 (Expires September 30, 2008).

Abstract: Except with respect to certain specified commodities, section 8(a) of the Shipping Act of 1984 (46 U.S.C. 40501) requires that each common carrier and conference shall keep open to public inspection, in an automated tariff system, tariffs showing its rates, charges, classifications, rules, and practices between all ports and points on its own route and on any through transportation route that has

been established. In addition, individual carriers or agreements among carriers are required to make available in tariff format certain enumerated essential terms of their service contracts. 46 U.S.C. 40502. The Commission is responsible for reviewing the accessibility and accuracy of automated tariff systems, in accordance with its regulations set forth at 46 CFR Part 520.

Current Actions: There are no changes to this information collection, and it is being submitted for extension purposes only.

Type of Review: Extension.

Needs and Uses: The Commission uses information obtained from Form FMC-1 to ascertain the location of common carrier and conference tariff publications, and to access their provisions regarding rules, rates, charges and practices.

Frequency: This information is collected when common carriers or conferences publish tariffs.

Type of Respondents: Persons desiring to operate as common carriers or conferences.

Number of Annual Respondents: The Commission estimates an annual respondent universe of 4,200.

Estimated Time Per Response: The time per response ranges from .5 to 2 person-hours for reporting and recordkeeping requirements contained in the rules, and .5 person-hours for completing Form FMC-1.

Total Annual Burden: The Commission estimates the total person-hour burden at 436,500 person-hours.

Title: 46 CFR Part 530—Service Contracts and Related Form FMC-83.

OMB Approval Number: 3072-0065 (Expires September 30, 2008).

Abstract: The Shipping Act of 1984, 46 U.S.C. 40501(a)-(e), requires service contracts, except those dealing with bulk cargo, forest products, recycled metal scrap, new assembled motor vehicles, waste paper or paper waste, and their related amendments and notices to be filed confidentially with the Commission.

Current Actions: There are no changes to this information collection, and it is being submitted for extension purposes only.

Type of Review: Extension.

Needs and Uses: The Commission monitors service contract filings for acts prohibited by the Shipping Act of 1984.

Frequency: The Commission has no control over how frequently service contracts are entered into; this is solely a matter between the negotiating parties. When parties enter into a service contract, it must be filed with the Commission.

Type of Respondents: Parties that enter into service contracts are ocean common carriers and agreements among ocean common carriers on the one hand, and shippers or shipper's associations on the other.

Number of Annual Respondents: The Commission estimates an annual respondent universe of 143.

Estimated Time Per Response: The time per response ranges from .5 to 16 person-hours for reporting and recordkeeping requirements contained in the rules, and .5 person-hours for completing Form FMC-83.

Total Annual Burden: The Commission estimates the total person-hour burden at 617,015 person-hours.

Title: 46 CFR Part 531—NVOCC Service Arrangements and Related Form FMC-78.

OMB Approval Number: 3072-0070 (Expires September 30, 2008).

Abstract: The Shipping Act of 1984, 46 U.S.C. 40103, authorizes the FMC to exempt by rule "any class of agreements between persons subject to the Act or any specified activity of those persons from any requirement of this Act if it finds that the exemption will not result in substantial reduction in competition or be detrimental to commerce. The Commission may attach conditions to any exemption and may, by order, revoke any exemption." 46 CFR Part 531 allows non-vessel-operating common carriers (NVOCCs) and shippers' associations with NVOCC members to act as shipper parties in NVOCC Service Arrangements (NSAs), and to be exempt from certain tariff publication requirements of the Shipping Act provided the carriage in question is done pursuant to an NSA filed with the Commission and the essential terms are published in the NVOCC's tariff.

Current Actions: There are no changes to this information collection, and it is being submitted for extension purposes only.

Type of Review: Extension.

Needs and Uses: The Commission uses filed NSAs and associated data for monitoring and investigatory purposes and, in its proceedings, to adjudicate related issues raised by private parties.

Frequency: The filing of NSAs is not assigned a specific time by the Commission; NSAs are filed as they may be entered into by private parties. When parties enter into an NSA, it must be filed with the Commission.

Type of Respondents: Parties that enter into NSAs are NVOCCs and shippers' associations with NVOCC members.

Number of Annual Respondents: The Commission estimates an annual respondent universe of 533.

Estimated Time Per Response: The time per response ranges from .5 to 8 person-hours for reporting and recordkeeping requirements contained in the rules, and 1 person-hour for completing Form FMC-78.

Total Annual Burden: The Commission estimates the total person-hour burden at 13,082 person-hours.

Karen V. Gregory,

Assistant Secretary.

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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Use of Voluntary Consensus Standards in Personal Property Management; Notice of GSA Bulletin FMR B-18

AGENCY: Office of Governmentwide Policy, General Services Administration (GSA).

ACTION: Notice of a bulletin.

SUMMARY: This notice announces GSA Federal Management Regulation (FMR) Bulletin B-18 which provides guidance to Federal agencies on the use of voluntary consensus standards in managing the personal property assets under their control. This bulletin is discretionary to executive agencies. GSA Bulletin FMR B-18 may be found at www.gsa.gov/fmrbulletin.

DATES: The bulletin announced in this notice is effective July 17, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For clarification of content, contact General Services Administration, Office of Governmentwide Policy, Office of Travel, Transportation and Asset Management, at (202) 501-1777. Please cite Bulletin FMR B-18.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

Public Law 104-113, the "National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995," was enacted, in part, to encourage the use of voluntary consensus technical standards in lieu of government-unique standards by Federal agencies except when inconsistent with applicable law or otherwise impractical. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has issued OMB Circular A-119 to provide additional guidance. Subsequently, the National Property Management Association (NPMA) and the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), now ASTM International, entered into an agreement to develop voluntary consensus standards for

property management activities. Voluntary consensus standards are a valuable tool for the personal property manager as they represent the collective wisdom of Federal and private sector experts covering topics not addressed in law or governmentwide regulations. This bulletin is discretionary to executive agencies.

This notice announces GSA Bulletin FMR B-18 which provides guidance to Federal agencies on the use of voluntary consensus standards in managing the personal property assets under their control.

B. Procedures

Bulletins regarding asset management are located on the Internet at www.gsa.gov/fmrbulletin as Federal Management Regulation (FMR) bulletins.

Dated: July 21, 2008.

Robert Holcombe,

Director, Personal Property Management Policy.

[FR Doc. E8-17184 Filed 7-25-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Notice of Opportunity for a Hearing on Compliance of Texas State Plan Provisions Concerning Payments for Birthing Center Facility Services With Title XIX (Medicaid) of the Social Security Act

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), HHS.

ACTION: Notice of Opportunity for a Hearing.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the opportunity for an administrative hearing to be held on September 26, 2008 at the CMS Dallas Regional Office, 1301 Young Street, Room 1196, Dallas, Texas 75202, to consider whether Texas State plan provisions concerning payments for birthing center facility services comply with the requirements of the Social Security Act as discussed in the July 28, 2008 letter sent to the State and published herein.

CLOSING DATE: Requests to participate in the hearing as a party must be received by the presiding officer by August 27, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Benjamin R. Cohen, Presiding Officer, CMS, 2520 Lord Baltimore Drive, Suite L, Baltimore, Maryland 21244, Telephone: (410) 786-3169.