e.g., telephone and/or cable bills, etc. or other miscellaneous FCC-related matters, such as licensing issues, etc.;
2. Executive Branch Inquiries—When requested by the Executive Branch of the U.S. Government in response to an inquiry that an individual made to the President of the United States and/or the Vice President of the United States in response to an inquiry that the individual made to the Executive Branch for assistance with various telecommunications issues affecting them;
3. Government-wide Program Management and Oversight—When requested by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) for the purpose of records management inspections conducted under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906; when the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) is contacted in order to obtain that department’s advice regarding disclosure obligations under the Freedom of Information Act; or when the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is contacted in order to obtain that office’s advice regarding obligations under the Privacy Act; and
4. Breach Notification—A record from this system may be disclosed to appropriate agencies, entities, and persons when (1) the Commission suspects or has confirmed that the security or confidentiality of information in the system of records has been compromised; (2) the Commission has determined that as a result of the suspected or confirmed compromise there is a risk of harm to economic or property interests, identity theft or fraud, or harm to the security or integrity of this system or other systems or programs (whether maintained by the Commission or another agency or entity) that rely upon the compromised information; and (3) the disclosure made to such agencies, entities, and persons is reasonably necessary to assist in connection with the Commission’s efforts to respond to the suspected or confirmed compromise and prevent, minimize, or remedy such harm.
In each of these cases, the FCC will determine whether disclosure of the records is compatible with the purpose for which the records were collected.

DISCLOSURE TO CONSUMER REPORTING AGENCIES:
None.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:
STORAGE:
The information in the Legislative Management Tracking System (LMTS) includes paper documents, records, and files that are stored in file cabinets in the OLA office suite, and electronic records, files, and data that are stored in the FCC’s computer network databases.

RETRIEVABILITY:
Information in the Legislative Management Tracking System (LMTS) is retrieved by the correspondence log-in file number, Congressional Representative’s name, and/or type of complaint, etc. Regardless of the circumstances, OLA always redacts the Social Security Number and birthdate before entering a document into LMTS. Other personally identifiable information (PII) in an attachment may also be redacted prior to filing the correspondence if it is not relevant to the complaint or inquiry.

SAFEGUARDS:
The paper documents are maintained in file cabinets that are located in the OLA office suite, whose access is through a card-coded main door. Access to these files is restricted to authorized OLA supervisors and staff.
Access to the electronic files, which are housed in the FCC’s computer network databases, is restricted to authorized OLA supervisors and staff and to the Information Technology Center (ITC) staff and contractors, who maintain the FCC’s computer network. Other FCC employees and contractors may be granted access on a “need-to-know” basis. The FCC’s computer network databases are protected by the FCC’s security protocols, which include controlled access, passwords, and other security features. Information resident on the OLA database servers is backed-up routinely onto magnetic media. Back-up tapes are stored on-site and at a secured, off-site location.

RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:
Pursuant to FCC records schedule N1–173–03–2, item 5, information in the Legislative Management Tracking System (LMTS) is retained at the FCC for three years after cut-off at the end of each calendar year. The documents relating to FCC policy, e.g., Chairman correspondence, etc., are then transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). The paper documents, records, and files are destroyed by shredding. The electronic records, data, and files (electronic storage media) are destroyed physically or by electronic erasure.

SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:
Address inquiries to the Office of Legislative Affairs (OLA), Federal Communications Commission (FCC), 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:
Address inquiries to the Office of Legislative Affairs (OLA), Federal Communications Commission (FCC), 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554.

RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:
Address inquiries to the Office of Legislative Affairs (OLA), Federal Communications Commission (FCC), 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:
Address inquiries to the Office of Legislative Affairs (OLA), Federal Communications Commission (FCC), 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:
The sources for the information in the Legislative Management Tracking System are the Congressional and Executive Branch correspondence, including attachments, which may include complaints related to telephone, wireless, and cable billing or service; licensing inquiries; or other inquiries on issues under FCC jurisdiction, etc., submitted by constituents (members of the public at large); or personnel actions or complaints from constituents who are FCC employees.

EXEMPTIONS CLAIMED FOR THE SYSTEM:
None.
Federal Communications Commission.
Avis Mitchell, Information Specialist.
[FR Doc. 2011–10202 Filed 4–27–11; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
[PS Docket Nos. 11–60 and 10–92; ET Docket No. 06–119]

Reliability and Continuity of Communications Networks, Including Broadband Technologies; Effects on Broadband Communications Networks of Damage or Failure of Network Equipment or Severe Overload; Independent Panel Reviewing the Impact of Hurricane Katrina on Communications Networks

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Federal Communications Commission
The Commission seeks comment on a broad range of issues regarding the reliability and resiliency of our Nation’s communications networks. Our goal is to develop a comprehensive approach to the sustainable development of next-generation communications networks, which will enable the Commission to address these matters. In addition, the Commission seeks comment on whether it should terminate the following proceeding: Effects on Broadband Communications Networks of Damage or Failure of Network Equipment or Severe Overload, and Independent Panel Reviewing the Impact of Hurricane Katrina on Communications Networks. If these earlier proceedings were to be terminated, the record developed therein would be consolidated into this single new proceeding, which will enable the Commission to consider all relevant matters in a more comprehensive fashion.

DATES: Comments with respect to the proposed termination of PS Docket 10–92 and EB Docket 06–119 are due on or before May 31, 2011. Comments with respect to all other matters raised in this document are due on or before July 7, 2011 and reply comments are due on or before September 1, 2011.

ADDRESSES: Pursuant to §§ 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission’s rules, 47 CFR 1.415, 1.419, interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates indicated on the first page of this document. Comments may be filed using: (1) The Commission’s Electronic Filing System (ECFS), (2) the Federal Government’s eRulemaking Portal, or (3) by filing paper copies. See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings, 63 FR 24121 (1998).

Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: http://jfallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs2/ or the Federal Government’s eRulemaking Portal, or the FCC Reference Information Center, 445 12th St., SW, Room CY–B402, Washington, DC 20554. This document may also be purchased from Best Copy and Printing, Inc., Portals II, A257, Washington, DC 20554. This document may also be purchased from the Commission’s duplicator contractor Best Copy and Printing, Inc., Portals II, 445 12th St., SW., Room CY–B402, Washington, DC 20554, telephone (800) 378–3160 or (202) 488–5300, facsimile (202) 488–5563, or via e-mail at fcc@pwiweb.com. It is also available on the Commission’s Web site at http://www.fcc.gov. To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202–418–0530 (voice), 202–418–0432 (tty).

Summary of the Notice of Inquiry

1. Overview. By this NOI, the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) seeks comment on a broad range of issues regarding the reliability and resiliency of our Nation’s communications networks.

2. In addition, the Commission seeks comment on whether it should terminate two of the above-captioned proceedings—PS Docket 10–92 (Effects on Broadband Communications Networks of Damage or Failure of Network Equipment or Severe Overload), and EB Docket 06–119 (Independent Panel Reviewing the Impact of Hurricane Katrina on Communications Networks).

3. Reliability and Continuity Matters. This NOI initiates a comprehensive examination of issues regarding the reliability, resiliency and continuity of communications networks, including broadband technologies.

4. Today’s increasingly interconnected world is one in which communications services, including broadband technologies, play a critical role in all segments of our Nation’s society and economy.

5. Businesses rely on communications services to conduct financial and other transactions, and hospitals and healthcare providers rely on communications services to provide medical care. Government agencies, at all levels, rely on communications services to ensure the safety of the public and to provide other services, while power companies and other utilities use communications services for their operations and to deploy energy-efficient technologies.

6. For example, power companies are looking to broadband technologies as they begin to deploy Smart Grid. Hospitals and healthcare providers can leverage broadband technologies for video consultation, remote patient monitoring, and better access to electronic healthcare records. Financial institutions use broadband technology to clear large volumes of transactions to keep the economy running efficiently. Moreover, consumers increasingly are relying on broadband platforms in addition to, or in place of, legacy platforms for voice communications.

7. Thus, it is vital that our Nation maintain a communications network that offers reliable and resilient service in the face of significant equipment or system failure and that is sufficiently survivable to provide some continuity of service during major emergencies, regardless of whether the network is legacy or broadband-based.

8. In addition, as the communications infrastructure migrates from legacy connection-based wireline technologies to connectionless Internet Protocol (IP)-based broadband and technologies, the Commission believes that it does not have sufficient information to know...
whether critical communications services will be carried over a communications network infrastructure that will remain functional during significant natural and manmade disasters. At the same time, the Commission believes that users of communications services today generally do not readily distinguish between legacy and broadband technologies, and are thus more likely than ever before to expect the same levels of “carrier grade” service reliability no matter what communications platform they use. As a result, the potential for disparities in service reliability is a source of concern for critical sectors of our economy, including homeland security, public safety, energy, finance and healthcare services, as well as for the government and consumers in general.

4. Against this backdrop, the NOI brings together several lines of inquiry derived from initiatives set forth in the Commission’s National Broadband Plan (NBP). For example, the NBP identified insufficient communications backhaul redundancy and inadequacy of backup power as key factors that contribute to the congestion or failure of commercial wireless data networks, particularly during emergencies such as large-scale natural and man-made disasters. The NBP also recommended that the Commission engage in an exploration of the reliability and resiliency standards applied to broadband networks to ascertain what action, if any, the Commission should take to bolster the reliability of broadband infrastructures.

5. In the course of exploring these considerations, the NOI looks at four major areas of concern. First, it explores the ability of communications networks to provide continuity of service during major emergencies, such as large-scale natural and man-made disasters. This includes a discussion of the use of backup power and improved backhaul redundancy solutions. Second, it examines whether we might need standards for broadband network reliability and resiliency to ensure adequate levels of service to meet public safety and other critical infrastructure needs. This includes consideration of protocols and equipment reliability, as well as system capacity and maintenance issues. Third, the NOI seeks comment on what actions, if any, the Commission should take to foster improved performance with respect to the continuity and reliability of operations during major emergencies. And, fourth, it seeks comment on the sources of legal authority that could provide the basis for Commission action, if any.

11. Termination of Earlier Proceedings. The NOI also seeks comment on whether the Commission should terminate the dockets in two earlier proceedings—PS Docket 10–92 (Effects on Broadband Communications Networks of Damage or Failure of Network Equipment or Severe Overload), and EB Docket 06–119 (Independent Panel Reviewing the Impact of Hurricane Katrina on Communications Networks). The issues raised in these two earlier proceedings are interrelated to and overlap with issues raised by this NOI. Thus, to ensure a comprehensive examination of all issues related to reliability, resiliency, survivability, and continuity of communications networks in this NOI proceeding, the Commission believes that termination of the two older proceedings and consolidation of all of the relevant issues under this NOI proceeding would serve the public interest.

12. Conclusion. The Commission intends for the record generated by this proceeding to provide the opportunity for a thorough discussion of the reliability and continuity of the operational capabilities of our Nation’s communications infrastructure.

Ordering Clauses

13. Accordingly, it is ordered that, pursuant to sections 1, 4(i), 4(j), 4(o), 7(b), and 403 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 151, 154(i)–(j) & (o), 157(b) and 403, this NOI is adopted.

14. It is further ordered that comments with respect to the proposed termination of PS Docket 10–92 and EB Docket 06–119 are due on or before May 31, 2011.

Federal Communications Commission.

Jeffery Goldthorp,
Associate Chief.

[FR Doc. 2011–10232 Filed 4–27–11; 8:45 am]