AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This document informs the public that an appeal of the closing of the Mt. Sterling, Wisconsin post office has been filed. It identifies preliminary steps and provides a procedural schedule. Publication of this document will allow the Postal Service, petitioners, and others to take appropriate action.

DATES: January 4, 2012, 4:30 p.m., Eastern Time: Deadline for Petitioner's Form 61; January 24, 2012, 4:30 p.m., Eastern Time: Deadline for answering brief in support of the Postal Service.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Docket section personnel may be contacted via electronic mail at docketadmins@prc.gov or by telephone at (202) 789–6873 or via electronic mail at prc-webmaster@prc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 404(d), on November 30, 2011, the Commission received a petition for review of the Postal Service's determination to close the Mt. Sterling post office in Mt. Sterling, Wisconsin. The petition for review was filed by Judith E. Hansen (Petitioner) and is postmarked November 17, 2011. The Commission hereby institutes a proceeding under 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(5) and establishes Docket No. A2012–89.

The appeal and all related documents are also available for public inspection in the Commission's docket section. Docket section hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, except on Federal government holidays. Docket section personnel may be contacted via electronic mail at prc-webmaster@prc.gov.

The appeal and all related documents in this case shall be filed on or before January 13, 2012. A notice of intervention shall be filed using the Internet (Filing Online) at the Commission's Web site, http://www.prc.gov, unless a waiver is obtained. See 39 CFR 3001.9(a) and 3001.10(a). Instructions for obtaining an account to file documents online may be found on the Commission's Web site, http://www.prc.gov, or by contacting the Commission's docket section at prc-dockets@prc.gov or via telephone at (202) 789–6846.

The Commission reserves the right to redact personal information which may infringe on an individual’s privacy rights from documents filed in this proceeding.

Intervention. Persons, other than the Petitioners and respondents, wishing to be heard in this matter are directed to file a notice of intervention. See 39 CFR 3001.111(b). Notices of intervention in this case are to be filed on or before January 13, 2012. A notice of intervention shall be filed using the Internet (Filing Online) at the Commission’s Web site, http://www.prc.gov, unless a waiver is obtained for hardcopy filing. See 39 CFR 3001.9(a) and 3001.10(a).

Further procedures. By statute, the Commission is required to issue its decision within 120 days from the date it receives the appeal. See 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(5). A procedural schedule has been developed to accommodate this statutory deadline. In the interest of expedition, in light of the 120-day decision schedule, the Commission may request the Postal Service or other participants to submit information or memoranda of law on any appropriate issue. As required by Commission rules, if any motions are filed, responses are due 7 days after any such motion is filed. See 39 CFR 3001.21.

It is ordered:

1. The procedural schedule listed below is hereby adopted.

2. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Derrick Dennis is designated officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public.

3. The Secretary shall arrange for publication of this notice and order and Procedural Schedule in the Federal Register.

By the Commission.

Shoshana M. Grove, Secretary.
POSTAL SERVICE
Board of Governors; Sunshine Act Meeting

DATE AND TIME: Monday, January 9, 2012 at 4 p.m., Tuesday, January 10, 2012, at 8:30 a.m.
PLACE: San Diego, California.
STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:
Monday, January 9, 2012, at 4 p.m. (Closed)
1. Strategic Issues.
Tuesday, January 10, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. (Closed)
2. Pricing.
4. Governors’ Executive Session—Discussion of prior agenda items and Board Governance.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Julie S. Moore, Secretary of the Board,
Telephone (202) 268–4800.

Julie S. Moore,
Secretary.

OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

Request for Information: Public Access to Digital Data Resulting From Federally Funded Scientific Research

ACTION: Notice of Request for Information (RFI).

SUMMARY: The RFI is being extended to change the response date to January 12, 2012. The RFI was published in the Federal Register, Volume 76, Number 214, on November 4, 2011, pages 68517–68518.

In accordance with Section 103(b)(6) of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (ACRA; Pub. L. 111–358), this Request for Information (RFI) offers the opportunity for interested individuals and organizations to provide recommendations on approaches for ensuring long-term stewardship and encouraging broad public access to unclassified digital data that result from federally funded scientific research. The public input provided through this Notice will inform deliberations of the National Science and Technology Council’s Interagency Working Group on Digital Data.

Deadline for Petitioners’ Form 61 or initial brief in support of petition (see 39 CFR 3001.115(a) and (b)).
Deadline for answering brief in support of the Postal Service (see 39 CFR 3001.115(c)).
Deadline for reply briefs in response to answering briefs (see 39 CFR 3001.115(d)).
Deadline for motions by any party requesting oral argument; the Commission will schedule oral argument only when it is a necessary addition to the written filings (see 39 CFR 3001.116).
Expiration of the Commission’s 120-day decisional schedule (see 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(5)).

SUMMARY:
Federally Funded Scientific Research Access to Digital Data Resulting From

Request for Information: Public

Issued By: Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) on behalf of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC)

Purpose

In accordance with Section 103(b)(6) of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (ACRA; Pub. L. 111–358), this Request for Information (RFI) offers the opportunity for interested individuals and organizations to provide recommendations on approaches for ensuring long-term stewardship and encouraging broad public access to unclassified digital data that result from federally funded scientific research. The public input provided through this Notice will inform deliberations of the National Science and Technology Council’s Interagency Working Group on Digital Data.

Release Date: November 3, 2011.
Response Date: January 12, 2012.

ADDRESS: digitaldata@ostp.gov.

Issued By: Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) on behalf of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The multi-agency Interagency Working Group on Digital Data (Working Group), established under the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) Committee on Science (CoS), has been tasked with developing options for implementing the digital data policy and standards requirements of Section 103 of ACRA. OSTP will issue a report to Congress, in accordance with Section 103(e) of ACRA, describing priorities for the development of agency policies for ensuring broad public access to the results of federally funded unclassified research, the status of agency policies for public access to digital data resulting from federally funded research, and a summary of public input collected from this RFI and other mechanisms. The Working Group is considering steps that can be taken by Federal agencies to encourage and coordinate the development of agency policies and standards to promote long-term preservation of and access to digital data resulting from federally funded scientific research. Ideally, such policies would harmonize, to the extent practicable and feasible, data management plans for digital data that are collected or otherwise produced either by the agency itself or extramurally with Federal funds. The 2009 report of the Interagency Working Group on Digital Data of the National Science and Technology Council, “Harnessing the Power of Digital Data,” recommended that agencies lay the foundations for digital scientific data policy and make their policies publicly available. It also recommended that agencies consider requiring data management plans for projects that will generate “preservation data”—those data for which the benefits of preservation exceed the costs. Federal science agencies already have some experience with policies to promote long-term preservation and access to scientific data. Indeed current Federal policies promote and in many cases require Federal agencies to make the digital data generated by Federal agencies more publicly accessible. However, such policies do not routinely cover data generated through Federal grants, cooperative agreements, and some other types of funding mechanism.

Exceptions include, the National Institutes of Health’s (NIH) Data Sharing Policy, which requires all investigator-initiated applications with direct costs greater than $500,000 in any single year provide a data management plan. In addition, NIH has more specific data management and data sharing requirements for specific types of projects, such as genome-wide association studies.

In January 2011, the National Science Foundation (NSF) reaffirmed its data management policy requirement,