comment period and otherwise consult with members of the public and affected agencies. OMB has promulgated regulations describing what must be included in such a document. Under OMB's regulations (at 5 CFR 1320.8(d)), an agency must ask for public comment on the following:

(i) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(ii) The accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(iii) How to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(iv) How to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.,* permitting electronic submissions of responses.

In compliance with these requirements, NHTSA seeks public comment on the following proposed collection of information:

Type of Information Collection: New collection.

OMB Control Number: To be issued at time of approval.

Title: Medium- and Heavy-Duty Truck Fleet Survey.

Background: The Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA), enacted on December 19, 2007, mandated that NHTSA set maximum feasible fuel efficiency standards for medium- and heavy-duty (MD/HD) on-highway vehicles and work trucks for each model year (MY), with four full model years of lead time. (49 U.S.C. 32902(k)(2)). On September 15, 2011, NHTSA issued the first fuel efficiency standards for these vehicles, consisting of voluntary standards for MYs 2014–2015 and mandatory standards for MYs 2016–2018 and beyond.

Description of the Need for the Information and Proposed Use of the Information: As the agency develops the next phase of MD/HD standards, it will require a current model year baseline of the Class 2b-8 vehicle fleet, including model configurations, levels of fuel consumption and emissions equipment, current performance, vocations, typical mileage and cargo levels, fuels, and certification choices. This information is critical to efforts to model the fleet and conduct research in support of the next phase of standards. Data with this level of detail, especially the combined vehicle build and usage statistics, are not available from commercial database services. Therefore, it is necessary to survey truck fleet managers to not only baseline the vehicle configurations within the fleet, but also to baseline each vehicle category and subcategory's relative fuel consumption performance.

The results of the survey will serve to inform the public on current model year trucking fleet characteristics, fuel efficiency and emissions technologies, and usage. The survey is part of a larger coordinated research program aimed at informing both the next phase of the fuel efficiency standards, and an upcoming National Academy of Sciences (NAS) study on MD/HD vehicle fuel economy and emissions (per Section 107 of EISA, the NAS MD/HD study is funded by the Department of Transportation and the Academy updates the report at 5 year intervals through 2025).

Description of the Survey: A firm under contract to conduct the proposed survey will identify that it is a USDOT–NHTSA-funded survey and that participation is voluntary. Respondents will be informed that any information they provide will be used only for research and will not be used for sales calls or other commercial purposes. The final report generated from this survey will consist of aggregated results and will not attribute responses to individuals nor divulge any identifying information of the respondents.

The proposed survey will consist of an initial introduction and screening interview by phone, with qualified respondents referred to a web link to complete the main survey online. The proposed online survey will tailor itself to the fleet size and weight class information of each respondent to minimized extraneous questions and length. The proposed survey questions can be found in the docket for this collection, at NHTSA–2012–0170.

Respondents: Fleet managers from the trucking industry.

Estimated Number of Screening Interview Respondents: 2000.

Estimated Number of Survey Respondents: 175.

Estimated Number of Fully Completed Survey Responses: 100.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 235 hours. NHTSA estimates that 2000 respondents will spend an average of 5 minutes each on the screening interview. Of these 2000 respondents, the agency estimates 175 will be both qualified and willing to complete the online survey. Within the 175 willing respondents, the agency estimates 75 will suspend participation in the survey in the first 15 minutes, and the remaining 100 will spend 30 minutes to fully complete the online survey.

Estimated Frequency: One-time survey.

Public Comments Invited: You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the Department's performance, (b) the accuracy of the estimated burden, (c) ways for the Department to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection and (d) ways that the burden could be minimized without reducing the quality of the collected information. The agency will summarize and/or include your comments in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. Section 3506(c)(2)(A).

Issued: December 7, 2012.

Christopher J. Bonanti,

Associate Administrator for Rulemaking.

[FR Doc. 2012–30520 Filed 12–18–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–59–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation

Advisory Board; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463; 5 U.S.C. App. I), notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Advisory Board of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC), to be held from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (EDT) on Wednesday, January 23, 2013 at the SLSDC's Policy Headquarters, 55 M Street SE., Suite 930, Washington, DC 20003. The agenda for this meeting will be as follows: Opening Remarks; Consideration of Minutes of Past Meeting; Quarterly Report; Old and New Business; Closing Discussion; Adjournment.

Attendance at the meeting is open to the interested public but limited to the space available. With the approval of the Acting Administrator, members of the public may present oral statements at the meeting. Persons wishing further information should contact, not later than Friday, January 18, 2013, Anita K. Blackman, Senior Advisor to the Administrator, Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, Suite W32–300, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590; 202–366–0091.

Any member of the public may present a written statement to the Advisory Board at any time.

Issued at Washington, DC, on December 14, 2012.

Craig H. Middlebrook,

Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2012–30580 Filed 12–18–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–61–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

[Docket ID OCC–2012–0003]

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Joint Report: Differences in Accounting and Capital Standards Among the Federal Banking Agencies; Report to Congressional Committees

AGENCY: Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), Treasury; Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board); and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

ACTION: Report to the Congressional Committees.

SUMMARY: The OCC, the Board, and the FDIC (collectively, the agencies) have prepared this report pursuant to section 37(c) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act. Section 37(c) requires the agencies to jointly submit an annual report to the Committee on Financial Services of the U.S. House of Representatives and to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the U.S. Senate describing differences between the capital and accounting standards used by the agencies. The report must be published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

OCC: David Elkes, Risk Expert, Capital Policy, (202) 649–6984, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 250 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20219.

Board: Sviatlana Phelan, Senior Financial Analyst, Capital and Regulatory Policy, (202) 912–4306, Division of Banking Supervision and Regulation, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 20th Street and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20551.

FDIC: David W. Riley, Senior Analyst (Capital Markets), (202) 898–3728, Division of Risk Management Supervision, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20429.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The text of the report follows:

Report to the Committee on Financial Services of the U.S. House of Representatives and to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the U.S. Senate Regarding Differences in Accounting and Capital Standards Among the Federal Banking Agencies

Introduction

The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board), and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) (collectively, the agencies) must jointly submit an annual report to the Committee on Financial Services of the U.S. House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the U.S. Senate describing differences between the accounting and capital standards used by the agencies. The report must be published in the **Federal Register**.

Prior to 2011, the Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS) joined the agencies in submitting an annual report to Congress. Title III of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, Pub. L. 111–203, 124 Stat. 1376 (2010) (Dodd-Frank Act), transferred the powers, authorities, rights and duties of the OTS to other federal banking agencies on July 21, 2011 (the transfer date), and the OTS was abolished 90 days later. Under Title III, the OCC assumed all functions of the OTS and the Director of the OTS relating to federal savings associations, and thus the OCC has responsibility for the ongoing supervision, examination, and regulation of federal savings associations as of the transfer date. Title III transferred all supervision, examination, and certain regulatory functions of the OTS relating to state savings associations to the FDIC and all functions relating to the supervision of any savings and loan holding company and non-depository institution subsidiaries of such holding companies to the Board. Accordingly, this report is being submitted by the OCC, Board, and FDIC.

The agencies are submitting this joint report, which covers differences between their uses of accounting or capital standards existing as of December 31, 2011, pursuant to section 37(c) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1831n(c)), as amended. This report covers 2010 and 2011 and describes capital differences similar to those presented in previous reports.[1]

Since the agencies filed their first reports on accounting and capital differences in 1990, the agencies have acted in concert to harmonize their accounting and capital standards and eliminate as many differences as possible. Section 303 of the Riegle Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994 (12 U.S.C. 4803) also directs the agencies to work jointly to make uniform all regulations and guidelines implementing common statutory or supervisory policies. The results of these efforts must be ''consistent with the principles of safety and soundness, statutory law and policy, and the public interest.'' [2] In recent years, the agencies have revised their capital standards to address changes in credit and certain other risk exposures within the banking system and align the amount of capital institutions are required to hold more closely with the credit risks and certain other risks to which they are exposed. These revisions have been made in a uniform manner whenever possible and practicable to minimize interagency differences. Although the differences in capital standards have diminished over time, a few differences remain, some of which are statutorily mandated.

In addition to the specific differences in capital standards noted below, the agencies may have differences in how they apply certain aspects of their rules. These differences usually arise as a result of case-specific inquiries that have been presented to only one agency. Agency staffs generally seek to minimize these occurrences by coordinating responses to the fullest extent reasonably practicable. Furthermore, while the agencies work together to adopt and apply generally uniform capital standards, there are wording differences in various provisions of the agencies' standards that largely date back to each agency's separate initial adoption of these standards before 1990.

The federal banking agencies have substantially similar capital adequacy standards.[3] These standards are based on a common regulatory framework that establishes minimum leverage and risk-based capital ratios for depository institutions [4] (banks and savings associations). The agencies view the leverage and risk-based capital requirements as minimum standards, and most institutions generally are expected to operate with capital levels

[1] *See, e.g.,* 75 FR 47900 (August 9, 2010).

[2] 12 U.S.C. 4803(a).

[3] The agencies' general risk-based capital rules are at 12 CFR part 3 (for national banks) and 12 CFR part 167.6 (for federal savings associations); 12 CFR parts 208 and 225, appendix A (Board); 12 CFR part 325, appendix A (FDIC); and 12 CFR part 390, subpart Z (state savings associations).

[4] 12 U.S.C. 1813(c).