

included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection. They also will become a matter of public record.

Comments are invited on:

(a) Whether the proposed 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 (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information;

(c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(d) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, e.g., the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Marcie Lovett,

*Records and Information Governance
Division Director, OCTO, United States Patent
and Trademark Office.*

[FR Doc. 2018-21215 Filed 9-27-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; "Patent Reexamination and Supplemental Examinations"

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Agency: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

Title: Patent Reexamination and Supplemental Examinations.

OMB Control Number: 0651-0064.

Form Number(s):

- PTO/SB/57
- PTO/SB/59

Type of Request: Regular.

Number of Respondents: 1,540 responses per year.

Average Hour per Response: The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately between 18 minutes (0.30 hours) to 55 hours to gather the necessary information, prepare the appropriate form or other document, and submit the information to the USPTO.

Burden Hours: 32,962.50 hours per year.

Cost Burden: \$2,747,178 per year.

Needs and Uses: The public uses this information collection to request

supplemental examination and reexamination proceedings and to ensure that the associated documentation is submitted to the USPTO.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profits; not-for-profit institutions.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to Obtain or Retain Benefits.

OMB Desk Officer: Nicholas A. Fraser, email: Nicholas_A_Fraser@omb.eop.gov.

Once submitted, the request will be publicly available in electronic format through <http://www.reginfo.gov>. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Further information can be obtained by:

- *Email:* InformationCollection@uspto.gov. Include "0651-0064 copy request" in the subject line of the message.

- *Mail:* Marcie Lovett, Records and Information Governance Division Director, Office of the Chief Technology Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent on or before October 29, 2018 to Nicholas A. Fraser, OMB Desk Officer, via email to Nicholas_A_Fraser@omb.eop.gov, or by fax to 202-395-5167, marked to the attention of Nicholas A. Fraser.

Marcie Lovett,

*Records and Information Governance
Division Director, OCTO, United States Patent
and Trademark Office.*

[FR Doc. 2018-21212 Filed 9-27-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; "Fee Deficiency Submissions"

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Agency: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

Title: Fee Deficiency Submissions.

OMB Control Number: 0651-0070.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular.

Number of Respondents: 2,500 responses per year.

Average Hours per Response: 2 hours per response.

Burden Hours: 5,000 hours annually.

Cost Burden: \$335.00.

Needs and Uses: The Leahy-Smith America Invents Act ("Act") was enacted into law on September 16, 2011. See Public Law 112-29, 125 Stat. 283 (2011). Under section 10(b) of the Act, eligible small entities shall receive a 50 percent fee reduction from the undiscounted fees for filing, searching, examining, issuing, appealing, and maintaining patent applications and patents. The Act further provides that micro entities shall receive a 75 percent fee reduction from the undiscounted fees for filing, searching, examining, issuing, appealing, and maintaining patent applications and patents.

This information collection covers the submissions made by patent applicants and patentees to excuse small and micro entity fee payment errors, in accordance with the procedures set forth in 37 CFR 1.28(c) and 1.29(k). Specifically, 37 CFR 1.28(c) provides a procedure by which patent applicants and patentees may be excused for erroneous payments of fees in the small entity amount. 37 CFR 1.29(k) provides a procedure by which patent applicants and patentees may be excused for erroneous payments of fees in the micro entity amount.

This information collection is necessary so that patent applicants and patentees may pay the balance of fees due (i.e., make a fee deficiency payment) when a fee was previously paid in error in a micro or small entity amount. The USPTO needs the information to be able to process and properly record a fee deficiency payment to avoid questions arising later either for the USPTO or for the applicant or patentee as to whether the proper fees have been paid in the application or patent. This renewal seeks to extend the authority of USPTO to collect the balance of fees due from those who may have such an outstanding balance (i.e., a fee deficiency).

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profits; not-for-profit institutions.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

OMB Desk Officer: Nicholas A. Fraser, email: Nicholas_A_Fraser@omb.eop.gov.

Once submitted, the request will be publicly available in electronic format through reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Further information can be obtained by: