FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[FR ID: 108154]

Privacy Act of 1974; Matching Program

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice of a new matching program.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended ("Privacy Act"), this document announces a new computer matching program between the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC" or "Commission" or "Agency") and the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC") will conduct with the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services. The purpose of this matching program is to verify the eligibility of applicants to and subscribers of Lifeline, and the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), both of which are administered by USAC under the direction of the FCC. More information about these programs is provided in the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section below.

DATES: Written comments are due on or before November 7, 2022. This computer matching program will commence on November 7, 2022, and will conclude 18 months after the effective date.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Elliot S. Tarloff, FCC, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554, or to Privacy@fcc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elliot S. Tarloff at 202–418–0886 or Privacy@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Lifeline program provides support for discounted broadband and voice services to low-income consumers. Lifeline is administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) under FCC direction. Consumers qualify for Lifeline through proof of income or participation in a qualifying program, such as Medicaid, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Federal Public Housing Assistance, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit, or various Tribal-specific federal assistance programs.

In the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Public Law 116–260, 134 Stat. 1182, 2129–36 (2020), Congress created the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program, and directed use of the National Verifier to determine eligibility based on various criteria, including the qualifications for Lifeline (Medicaid, SNAP, etc.). EBBP provided $3.2 billion in monthly consumer discounts for broadband service and one-time provider reimbursement for a connected device (laptop, desktop computer or tablet). In the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117–58, 135 Stat. 429, 1238–44 (2021) (codified at 47 U.S.C. 1751–52), Congress modified and extended EBBP, providing an additional $14.2 billion, and renamed it the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). A household may qualify for the ACP benefit under various criteria, including an individual qualifying for the FCC's Lifeline program.

In a Report and Order adopted on March 31, 2016, (81 FR 33026, May 24, 2016) (2016 Lifeline Modernization Order), the Commission ordered USAC to create a National Lifeline Eligibility Verifier ("National Verifier"), including the National Lifeline Eligibility Database (LED), that would match data about Lifeline applicants and subscribers with other data sources to verify the eligibility of an applicant or subscriber. The Commission found that the National Verifier would reduce compliance costs for Lifeline service providers, improve service for Lifeline subscribers, and reduce waste, fraud, and abuse in the program.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 directs the FCC to leverage the National Verifier to verify applicants’ eligibility for ACP. The purpose of this matching program is to verify the eligibility of Lifeline and ACP applicants and subscribers by determining whether they receive SNAP or Medicaid benefits administered by the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services.

Participating Agencies

Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services.

Authority for Conducting the Matching Program


Purpose(s)

The purpose of this modified matching agreement is to verify the eligibility of applicants and subscribers to Lifeline, as well as to ACP and other Federal programs that use qualification for Lifeline as an eligibility criterion. This new agreement will permit eligibility verification for the Lifeline program and ACP by checking an applicant’s/subscriber’s participation in SNAP or Medicaid in Nevada. Under FCC rules, consumers receiving these benefits qualify for Lifeline discounts and also for ACP benefits.

Categories of Individuals

The categories of individuals whose information is involved in the matching program include, but are not limited to, those individuals who have applied for Lifeline and/or ACP benefits; are currently receiving Lifeline and/or ACP benefits; are individuals who enable another individual in their household to qualify for Lifeline and/or ACP benefits; are minors whose status qualifies a parent or guardian for Lifeline and/or ACP benefits; or are individuals who have received Lifeline and/or ACP benefits.

Categories of Records

The categories of records involved in the matching program include, but are not limited to, the last four digits of the applicant’s Social Security Number, date of birth, and last name. The National Verifier will transfer these data elements to the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, which will respond either “yes” or “no” that the individual is enrolled in a qualifying assistance program: SNAP or Medicaid administered by the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services.

System(s) of Records

The records shared as part of this matching program reside in the Lifeline system of records, FCC/WCB–1,
Lifeline, which was published in the Federal Register at 86 FR 11526 (Feb. 25, 2021).

The records shared as part of this matching program reside in the ACP system of records, FCC/WCB–3, Affordable Connectivity Program, which was published in the Federal Register at 86 FR 71494 (Dec. 16, 2021).

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene Dortch,
Secretary.

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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

[Notice–PBS–2022–05; Docket No. 2022–0002; Sequence No. 24]

Notice of Availability for the Final Environmental Assessment for the Calexico West Land Port of Entry Temporary Pedestrian Process Facility Calexico, California

AGENCY: Public Buildings Service (PBS), General Services Administration (GSA).

ACTION: Notice; public meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of the Final Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed construction of a temporary pedestrian processing facility adjacent to the Historic Customs House, and interior renovations of the Historic Customs House at 340 East 1st Street, Calexico, California. The Final EA describes the reason the Project is being proposed; the alternatives that were evaluated; the potential impacts of each of the alternatives on the existing environment; and the proposed avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures related to those alternatives.

DATES: A public virtual meeting to solicit comments and provide information about the Final EA will be held on October 24th, 2022, at 4:30 p.m., Pacific Standard Time at: https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NTNNNmE2MDktNTksOC00OGYxBWFmZjY2ZjdzG2Rh

MTkxNWNh%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22tId%22%3a%228ae2c2b0-04af-4b41-bc6b-ba0658dd4e6%22%22oId%22%3a%228ae2c2b0-04af-4b41-bc6b-ba0658dd4e6%22%22mId%22%3a%22189492b0-2c57-4a1a-a78-0bedd5baf6b%22%22%22%7d. The availability period for the Final EA ends on November 7th, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Further information, including an electronic copy of the Final EA may be found online on the following website: https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/regions/welcome-to-the-pacific-rim-region-9/land-ports-of-entry/calexico-west-land-port-of-entry.

Questions or comments concerning the Draft EA should be directed to Osmahn Kadri, EPA Program Manager, GSA, via email: osmahn.kadri@gsa.gov or Ms. Bianca Rivera, 355 South Euclid Avenue, Suite 107, Tucson, AZ 85719 via postal mail/commercial delivery.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Osmahn A. Kadri, NEPA Program Manager, GSA, Pacific Rim Region, at 415–522–3617 or email osmahn.kadri@gsa.gov. Please call this number if special assistance is needed to attend and participate in the public meeting.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Project is located adjacent to the Historic Customs House at 340 East 1st Street, Calexico, California. The Project is proposed to provide a temporary pedestrian processing facility for use during the demolition of existing structures and construction of the new processing building while ensuring continued services to those utilizing the international crossing between the United States of American and Mexico. The temporary facility is anticipated to be constructed on Heffernan Road, to the south of East 1st Street, to the west of the Historic Customs House. The facility will require the acquisition of Heffernan Road, to the south of East 1st Street. The building will be approximately 8,804 square feet and include a fire lane to the west, pedestrian ramps leading to/from the building, and pedestrian pick-up and drop-off areas at the north side of the building. The interior building will include wait areas, administrative offices, property storage interview rooms, inspection areas, processing areas, and restrooms. Since the facility is temporary, there would be no change in personnel staffing at this port of entry. Construction is likely to impact parking and loading/unloading merchandise for the retail facility to the west of the proposed facility, as well as traffic flow along East 1st Street during construction.

Under the No Action Alternative the construction of the temporary facilities, construction of the ramp, and renovations within the existing Historic Customs House would not occur.

The Draft EA was made publicly available on August 19, 2022, for a 30-day period. The public review period closed on September 26, 2018. The Notice of Availability for the Draft EA was published in the Federal Register at 87 FR 51110 on August 19, 2022. A virtual public meeting took place on August 23, 2022. In preparing this Final EA, GSA considered public comments received regarding the Draft EA during the public review period.

After careful consideration of the environmental analysis and associated environmental effects of the Proposed Action Alternative and No Action Alternative, the purpose and need for the Project, and comments received on the Draft EA, GSA will be implementing the Proposed Action Alternative.

Finding: Pursuant to the provision of GSA Order ADM 1095.1F, the PBS NEPA Desk Guide, and the regulations issued by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ; 40 CFR parts 1500 to 1508), this notice advises the public of our finding that the Proposed Action will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

Basis for Finding: The environmental impacts of constructing the proposed structural enhancements were considered in the Final EA pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the CEQ regulations implementing NEPA. No significant impacts on the environment would occur with implementation of best management practices and avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures identified in the Final EA.

though the facility is temporary, the project will require the permanent acquisition of Heffernan Road, to the south of East 1st Street, removing the parking/pick up area. The building will be approximately 8,804 square feet and include a fire lane to the west, pedestrian ramps leading to/from the building, and pedestrian pick-up and drop-off areas at the north side of the building. The interior building will include wait areas, administrative offices, property storage interview rooms, inspection areas, processing areas, and restrooms. Since the facility is temporary, there would be no change in personnel staffing at this port of entry. Construction is likely to impact parking and loading/unloading merchandise for the retail facility to the west of the proposed facility, as well as traffic flow along East 1st Street during construction.

Under the No Action Alternative the construction of the temporary facilities, construction of the ramp, and renovations within the existing Historic Customs House would not occur.

The Draft EA was made publicly available on August 19, 2022, for a 30-day period. The public review period closed on September 26, 2018. The Notice of Availability for the Draft EA was published in the Federal Register at 87 FR 51110 on August 19, 2022. A virtual public meeting took place on August 23, 2022. In preparing this Final EA, GSA considered public comments received regarding the Draft EA during the public review period.

After careful consideration of the environmental analysis and associated environmental effects of the Proposed Action Alternative and No Action Alternative, the purpose and need for the Project, and comments received on the Draft EA, GSA will be implementing the Proposed Action Alternative.

Finding: Pursuant to the provision of GSA Order ADM 1095.1F, the PBS NEPA Desk Guide, and the regulations issued by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ; 40 CFR parts 1500 to 1508), this notice advises the public of our finding that the Proposed Action will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

Basis for Finding: The environmental impacts of constructing the proposed structural enhancements were considered in the Final EA pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the CEQ regulations implementing NEPA. No significant impacts on the environment would occur with implementation of best management practices and avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures identified in the Final EA.

though the facility is temporary, the project will require the permanent acquisition of Heffernan Road, to the south of East 1st Street, removing the parking/pick up area. The building will be approximately 8,804 square feet and include a fire lane to the west, pedestrian ramps leading to/from the building, and pedestrian pick-up and drop-off areas at the north side of the building. The interior building will include wait areas, administrative offices, property storage interview rooms, inspection areas, processing areas, and restrooms. Since the facility is temporary, there would be no change in personnel staffing at this port of entry. Construction is likely to impact parking and loading/unloading merchandise for the retail facility to the west of the proposed facility, as well as traffic flow along East 1st Street during construction.

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After careful consideration of the environmental analysis and associated environmental effects of the Proposed Action Alternative and No Action Alternative, the purpose and need for the Project, and comments received on the Draft EA, GSA will be implementing the Proposed Action Alternative.

Finding: Pursuant to the provision of GSA Order ADM 1095.1F, the PBS NEPA Desk Guide, and the regulations issued by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ; 40 CFR parts 1500 to 1508), this notice advises the public of our finding that the Proposed Action will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

Basis for Finding: The environmental impacts of constructing the proposed structural enhancements were considered in the Final EA pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the CEQ regulations implementing NEPA. No significant impacts on the environment would occur with implementation of best management practices and avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures identified in the Final EA.