


Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene Dortch, Secretary.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[GN Docket No. 19–329; FR ID 189297]

Federal Advisory Committee Act; Task Force for Reviewing the Connectivity and Technology Needs of Precision Agriculture in the United States

ACTION: Notice of renewal.

SUMMARY: The Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) hereby announces that the charter of the Task Force for Reviewing the Connectivity and Technology Needs of Precision Agriculture in the United States (the Task Force) has been renewed for a period expiring on January 1, 2025, pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and after consultation with the Committee Management Secretariat, General Services Administration.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christi Shewman, Designated Federal Officer, Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, (202) 418–0646, or email: christi.shewman@fcc.gov; Thomas Hastings, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, Federal Communications Commission, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, (202) 418–1343, or email thomas.hastings@fcc.gov; or Emily Caditz, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, Wireline Competition Bureau, (202) 418–2268 or email emily.caditz@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Chairwoman of the Commission, as required by Section 12511 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, Public Law 115–334, 132 Stat 4490, has taken appropriate steps to renew the Task Force, which Congress has deemed necessary and in the public interest.

In consultation with the General Services Administration, the Commission renewed the charter on November 29, 2023, providing the Task Force with authorization to operate until January 1, 2025.

In consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture (Secretary), or a designee of the Secretary, and in collaboration with public and private stakeholders in the agriculture and technology fields, the purpose of the Task Force is to: identify and measure current gaps in the availability of broadband internet access service on agricultural land; develop policy recommendations to promote the rapid, expanded deployment of broadband internet access service on unserved agricultural land, with a goal of achieving reliable capabilities on 95 percent of agricultural land in the United States by 2025; promote effective policy and regulatory solutions that encourage the adoption of broadband internet access service on farms and ranches and promote precision agriculture; recommend specific new rules or amendments to existing rules of the Commission that the Commission should issue to achieve the goals and purposes of the policy recommendations described in the second item in this list; recommend specific steps that the Commission should take to obtain reliable and standardized data measurements of the availability of broadband internet access service to unserved agricultural land; and recommend specific steps that the Commission should consider to ensure that the expertise of the Secretary and available farm data are reflected in future programs of the Commission dedicated to the infrastructure deployment of broadband internet access service and to direct available funding to unserved agricultural land where needed.

In addition, annually, the Task Force will submit to the Chairwoman of the Commission a report, which shall be made public, that details: the status of fixed and mobile broadband internet access service coverage of agricultural land; the projected future connectivity needs of agricultural operations, farmers, and ranchers; and the steps being taken to accurately measure the availability of broadband internet access service on agricultural land and the limitations of current, as of the date of the report, measurement processes.

Advisory Committee

The Task Force is organized under and operates in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (5 U.S.C. app. 2). The Task Force is solely advisory in nature. Consistent with FACA and its requirements, each meeting of the Task Force will be open to the public unless otherwise noticed. A notice of each meeting will be published in the Federal Register at least fifteen (15) days in advance of the meeting. Records will be maintained of each meeting and made available for public inspection.

All activities of the Task Force will be conducted in an open, transparent, and accessible manner. The Task Force shall terminate on January 1, 2025, as required by Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, Public Law 115–334, 132 Stat 4490, sec. 12511(b)(6). All meeting dates and agenda topics will be described in a Public Notice issued and published in the Federal Register at least fifteen (15) days prior to the first meeting date. In addition, working groups or subcommittees (ad hoc or steering), will continue to facilitate the Task Force’s work between meetings of the full Task Force. Meetings of the Task Force will be fully accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Accessible Formats: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an email to fcc504@fcc.gov; or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418–0530 (voice).
Final Approval Under OMB Delegated Authority of the Extension for Three Years, With Revision, of the Following Information Collection

Collection title: Reports of Foreign Banking Organizations.

Collection identifier: FR Y–7N, FR Y–7NS, and FR Y–7Q.

OMB control number: 7100–0125.

Effective Date: December 31, 2023, as of date for FR Y–7Q respondents that are also required to file the FR Y–15 report; December 31, 2024, for all other FR Y–7Q respondents.

General description of collection: The FR Y–7N and FR Y–7NS collect financial information for certain non-functionally regulated U.S. nonbank subsidiaries held by foreign banking organizations (FBOs) other than through a U.S. bank holding company (BHC), financial holding company (FHC), or U.S. bank. For purposes of these reports, an FBO is a foreign bank that operates through a branch, agency, or commercial lending company subsidiary in the United States; controls a bank in the United States; or controls an Edge corporation acquired after March 5, 1987.1 FBOs file the FR Y–7N quarterly or annually or the FR Y–7NS annually predominantly based on asset size thresholds. The FR Y–7Q collects consolidated regulatory capital information from all FBOs either quarterly or annually.

The Federal Reserve uses the data collected on the FR Y–7N, FR Y–7NS, and FR Y–7Q to assess an FBO’s ability to be a continuing source of strength to its U.S. operations and to determine compliance with applicable U.S. laws and regulations.

Frequency: Quarterly, annually. Respondents: FR Y–7N/NS: Non-functionally regulated U.S. nonbank subsidiaries held by FBOs other than through a BHC, FHC, or U.S. bank; FR Y–7Q: All FBOs.

Total estimated number of respondents: 210.

Total estimated change in burden: 510.

Total estimated annual burden hours: 2,610.2

Current actions: On May 27, 2022, the Board published a notice in the Federal Register (87 FR 32614) requesting public comment for 60 days on the extension, with revision, of the FR Y–7N, FR Y–7NS, and FR Y–7Q. The Board proposed to revise the FR Y–7Q report to: (1) add a line item on Part 1A., Capital and Asset Information for the Top-tier Foreign Banking Organization, to collect the total combined U.S. assets net of intercompany balances and transactions on a quarterly average basis; (2) remove the option of filing on a fiscal year basis and to instead require the respondent to file on a calendar period basis; (3) change the filing deadline from 90 days after quarter-end to 30 days after quarter-end for quarterly filers and from 90 days after quarter-end to 45 days for annual filers; (4) remove line item 8, as-of financial date, in Part 1A and line item 6, as-of financial date, in Part 2, as the elimination of the fiscal year basis reporting makes these items unnecessary; and (5) make other minor clarifications and conforming edits to the form and instructions. The comment period for this notice expired on July 26, 2022.

Detailed Discussion of Public Comments

The Board received a joint comment from two trade associations and a comment from an individual banking organization, as well as additional feedback through industry outreach. The commenters did not support the proposed revisions.

Commenters expressed concern that the proposed line item for top-tier FBOs to report total combined U.S. assets net of intercompany balances and transactions on a quarterly average using daily data would impose significant operational costs on FBOs that do not currently perform the calculation. Specifically, commenters recommended instead to require the line item only for FBOs that file the FR Y–15 and are in Categories II and III (and potentially Category IV) of the enhanced prudential standards applicable to FBOs under Regulation YY. Commenters also recommended a longer implementation period and allowing averaging for the line item to use monthly data when calculating the averages.

In response to the comments received, the Board has decided to implement the new line item 6(b) as an average combined U.S. operations asset calculation using monthly data. The calculation would consist of providing the average of the three month-end balances within the quarter. Annual filers would provide the average of the three month-end balances of the fourth quarter of that filing year. Respondents that currently file the FR Y–15 would have this line item automatically retrieved to the FR Y–7Q from the FR Y–15. The Board believes the modified