Estimates Total Annual (Non-hour) Respondent Cost Burden: $0. There are no capital start-up, operation, maintenance or recordkeeping costs associated with this information collection, and there are no filing fees. Although it is possible for the public to submit the nominations through regular or express mail, to date no submissions have been received in this manner. The majority of recent submissions have been through electronic mail. The USPTO, therefore, is not calculating an estimate of postage costs associated with this information collection.

IV. Request for Comments

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, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 12, 2009.

Susan K. Fawcett,
Records Officer, USPTO, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Customer Information Services Group, Public Information Services Division.

[FR Doc. E9–5984 Filed 3–18–09; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–16–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

[PTO–C–2009–0009]

Public Advisory Committees


ACTION: Notice and request for nominations for Public Advisory Committees.

SUMMARY: On November 29, 1999, the President signed into law the Patent and Trademark Office Efficiency Act (the “Act”), Public Law 106–113, which, among other things, established two Public Advisory Committees to review the policies, goals, performance, budget and user fees of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with respect to patents, in the case of the Patent Public Advisory Committee, and with respect to trademarks, in the case of the Trademark Public Advisory Committee, and to advise the Director on these matters (now codified at 35 U.S.C. 5). Due to the expiration of current members’ terms, the USPTO is requesting nominations for three (3) members to the Patent Public Advisory Committee (PPAC) and two (2) members to the Trademark Public Advisory Committee (TPAC) for terms of three years that begin from date of appointment.

DATES: Nominations must be postmarked or electronically transmitted on or before May 15, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to submit nominations should send the nominee’s résumé to Chief of Staff, Office of the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313–1450; by electronic mail to: PPACnominations@uspto.gov for the Patent Public Advisory Committee or TPACnominations@uspto.gov for the Trademark Patent Public Advisory Committee; by facsimile transmission marked to the Chief of Staff’s attention at (571) 273–0464, or by mail marked to the Chief of Staff’s attention and addressed to the Office of the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313–1450. Self-nominations are perfectly acceptable.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eleanor K. Meltzer, Chief of Staff, by facsimile transmission marked to her attention at (571) 273–0464, or by mail addressed to the Office of the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313–1450, or by telephone at: (571) 272–7660.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Advisory Committees’ duties include:

• Advising the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO on matters relating to policies, goals, performance, budget, and user fees of the USPTO relating to patents and trademarks, respectively; and

• Within 60 days after the end of each fiscal year: (1) Preparing an annual report on matters listed above; (2) transmitting a report to the Secretary of Commerce, the President, and the Committees on the Judiciary of the Senate and the House of Representatives; and (3) publishing the report in the Official Gazette of the USPTO.

Members of the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Secretary of Commerce for three (3)-year terms.

Advisory Committees

The Public Advisory Committees are each composed of nine (9) voting members who are appointed by the Secretary of Commerce (the “Secretary”). The Public Advisory Committee members must be United States citizens and represent the interests of diverse users of the USPTO, both large and small entity applicants in proportion to the number of such applications filed. The Committees must include members who have “substantial backgrounds and achievement in finance, management, labor relations, science, technology, and office automation.” 35 U.S.C. 5(b)(3). In the case of the Patent Public Advisory Committee, at least twenty-five (25) percent of the members must represent “small business concerns, independent inventors, and nonprofit organizations,” and at least one member must represent the independent inventor community. 35 U.S.C. 5(b)(2). Each of the Public Advisory Committees includes three (3) non-voting members representing each of the labor organizations recognized by the USPTO.

Procedures and Guidelines of the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees

Each newly appointed member of the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees will serve for a term of three years from date of appointment. As required by the Act, members of the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees receive compensation for each day they attend meetings or are engaged in the business of that Advisory Committee.

The rate of compensation is the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay in effect for level III of the Executive Schedule under section 5314 of title 5, United States Code. While away from their home or regular place of business, members are allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by Section 5703 of title 5, United States Code. The USPTO provides the necessary administrative support, including technical assistance, for the Committees.
Applicability of Certain Ethics Laws

Members of each Public Advisory Committee are considered Special Government Employees within the meaning of Section 202 of title 18, United States Code. The following additional information includes several, but not all, of the ethics rules that apply to members, and assumes that members are not engaged in Public Advisory Committee business more than sixty days during each calendar year:

- Each member will be required to file a confidential financial disclosure form within thirty (30) days of appointment. 5 CFR 2634.202(c), 2634.204, 2634.903, and 2634.904(b).
- Each member will be subject to many of the public integrity laws, including criminal bars against representing a party, 18 U.S.C. 205(c), in a particular matter that came before the member’s committee and that involved at least one specific party. See also 18 U.S.C. 207 for post-membership bars. A member also must not act on a matter in which the member (or any of certain closely related entities) has a financial interest. 18 U.S.C. 208.
- Representation of foreign interests may also raise issues. 35 U.S.C. 5(a)(1) and 18 U.S.C. 219.

Meetings of the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees

Meetings of each Advisory Committee take place at the call of the Chair to consider an agenda set by the Chair. Meetings may be conducted in person, electronically through the Internet, or by other appropriate means. The meetings of each Advisory Committee are open to the public except that each Advisory Committee may, by majority vote, meet in executive session when considering personnel, privileged, or other confidential matters. Nominees must have the ability to participate in Committee business via the Internet.

Procedures for Submitting Nominations

Please submit resumes for nominations for the Patent Public Advisory Committee and the Trademark Public Advisory Committee to: Chief of Staff to the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, using the addresses provided above.

Dated: March 12, 2009.

John J. Doll,

[FR Doc. E9–5844 Filed 3–18–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–16–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–8764–1]

Total Coliform Rule Revisions—Notice of Stakeholder Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency’s Total Coliform Rule/ Distribution System Advisory Committee established an Agreement in Principle (AIP), which provides the Agency with recommendations for revising the 1989 Total Coliform Rule (TCR). One of the recommendations of the Committee is that EPA conduct stakeholder outreach as the Agency develops the proposed revisions to the TCR. Today, EPA is giving notice of a public meeting to provide regulation development updates and opportunities for stakeholders to provide feedback on the development of the proposed revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR).

Topics to be discussed in the meeting include a review of EPA’s commitments to stakeholder outreach and involvement pertaining to the proposed RTCR and linkages to other rules; plan and schedule for guidance documents development; progress in converting the AIP recommendations to the rule language; discussion on proposed changes to the Public Notification and Consumer Confidence Report language; and discussion on AIP recommendations regarding review of the TCR analytical methods for Total Coliform/E. coli. EPA will also provide status on the Distribution System Research and Information Collection Partnership. Teleconferencing will be available for individuals unable to attend the meeting in person.

DATES: The public meeting will be held on Friday, April 3, 2009 (9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Eastern Time (ET)). Attendees and those planning to participate via teleconference should register for the meeting by calling Kate Zimmer at (202) 965–6387 or by e-mail to kzimmer@resolv.org no later than March 31, 2009.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the EPA East Building, Room 1117–A, 1201 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general inquiries about this meeting and teleconference information, contact Kate Zimmer of RESOLVE at (202) 965–6387 or by e-mail kzimmer@resolv.org. For technical information, contact Sean Conley: conley.sean@epa.gov, (202) 564–1781). Standards and Risk Management Division, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (MC 4602M), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460; fax number: (202) 564–3767. For more information on the Committee’s recommendations please visit, http://www.epa.gov/safewater/disinfection/tcr/regulation_revisions_fcrrdsac.html.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Special Accommodations: For information on access or accommodations for individuals with disabilities, please contact Crystal Rodgers-Jenkins at (202) 564–5275 or by e-mail at rodgers-jenkins.crystal@epa.gov. Please allow at least 10 days prior to the meeting to give EPA time to process your request.


Cynthia C. Dougherty,
Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water.

[FR Doc. E9–6005 Filed 3–18–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

FARM CREDIT SYSTEM INSURANCE CORPORATION

Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation Board; Regular Meeting

AGENCY: Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the regular meeting of the Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation Board (Board).

DATES: The meeting of the Board will be held at the offices of the Farm Credit Administration in McLean, Virginia, on March 24, 2009, from 9 a.m. until such time as the Board concludes its business.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roland E. Smith, Secretary to the Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation Board, (703) 883–4009, TTY (703) 883–4056.

ADDRESSES: Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation, 1501 Farm Credit Drive, McLean, Virginia 22102.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Parts of this meeting of the Board will be open to the public (limited space available) and parts will be closed to the public. In order to increase the accessibility to Board meetings, persons requiring assistance should make arrangements in advance. The matters to be considered at the meeting are:

Open Session

A. Approval of Minutes

- January 15, 2009 (Regular).