assurances to the lessee regarding the conduct or activities of the Director concerning the lease or the administration of the applicable park area. Leases may contain appropriate provisions that commit the Director to accept responsibility for tortious actions of government officials to the extent authorized by the Federal Torts Claim Act or as otherwise expressly authorized by law.

(g) All leases entered into under this part shall contain appropriate provisions requiring the lessee to pay for use of all utilities used by the lessee, and, all taxes and assessments imposed by federal, state, or local agencies applicable to the leased property or to lessee activities.

(h) All leases entered into under this part shall contain appropriate provisions stating that a lease may not be extended by the Director and that the lessee has no rights of renewal of the lease or rights of any nature to award of a new lease of the leased property upon the expiration of the lease or upon termination of the lease for any reason. Leases entered into under this part are subject to cancellation by the Director in the exercise of the sovereign authority of the United States to the extent provided by applicable law. Unless otherwise authorized by law, the Director may not enter into a lease a lease that contains provisions that provide compensation to the lessee in the event of expiration or termination of the lease for any reason.

(i) Except as provided in this subsection, leases entered into under authority of this part may not contain provisions authorizing the lessee to construct new buildings or structures on leased property. Leases may contain appropriate provisions that authorize the lessee to construct, subject to the prior written approval of the Director, minor additions, buildings or structures determined by the Director to be necessary for support of the authorized activities of the lessee and otherwise to be consistent with the protection and purposes of the park area. Approval by the Director of new construction may only be granted if the Director makes the determinations required by § 18.4.

(j) All leases entered into under this part shall contain appropriate provisions to the requiring that: Any improvements to or demolition of leased property to be made by the lessee may be undertaken only after receipt of written approval from the Director; that any improvements to or demolition of historic property may only be approved if the Director determines that the improvements or demolition complies with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties (36 CFR Part 68); any improvements made by a lessee shall be the property of the United States; and the lessee has no right of compensation for any real property improvements the lessee may make under the terms of the lease upon lease termination or expiration or otherwise.

(k) All leases entered into under this part shall contain appropriate provisions that describe and limit the type of activities that may be conducted by the lessee on the leased property. The types of activities described in a lease may be modified from time to time with the approval of the Director through an amendment to the lease. The Director may approve modified activities only if the determinations required by § 18.4 remain valid under the proposed modified activities and the proposed activities are otherwise determined appropriate by the Director.

(l) Leases entered into under this part may contain provisions authorizing the lessee to pledge or encumber the lease as security, provided that any pledge or encumbrance of the lease and the proposed holder of the pledge or encumbrance must be approved in advance by the Director and that a pledge or encumbrance may only grant the holder the right, in the event of a foreclosure, to assume the responsibilities of the lessee under the lease or to select a new lessee subject to the approval of the Director. Pledges or encumbrances may not grant the holder the right to alter or amend in any manner the terms of the lease.

(m) All leases entered into under this part will contain provisions stating to the effect that fulfillment of any obligations of the government under the lease is subject to the availability of appropriated funds. No lease issued under authority of this part shall entitle the lessee to claim benefits under the Uniform Relocation Assistance Act of 1970 (Pub. L. 91–646). All leases entered into under the authority of this part shall require the lessee to waive any such benefits. All leases entered into under this part shall contain provisions granting the Director and the Comptroller General access to the records of the lessee as necessary for lease administration purposes and/or as provided by applicable law.

§ 18.13 Have information collection procedures been followed?

(a) As required by 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), NPS is soliciting public comments as to: Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the bureau, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the bureau's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and how to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology. A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

(b) The public reporting burden for the collection of information for the purpose of preparing a bid or proposal in response to a lease solicitation is estimated to average 40 hours per large proposal and 20 hours for small proposals or bids. Please send comments regarding this burden or estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information Collection Officer, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, Washington, DC 20240; and to the Attention: Desk Officer for the Interior Department, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: May 30, 2000.

Donald J. Barry,

Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

[FR Doc. 00–30866 Filed 12–11–00; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 81

[Docket WA–00–01; FRL–6915–5]

Clean Air Act Reclassification; Wallula, Washington Particulate Matter (PM_{10}) Nonattainment Area

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or we).

ACTION: Proposed rule; reopening of comment period.

SUMMARY: EPA is reopening the public comment period on EPA's notice of proposed rulemaking ''Clean Air Act Reclassification; Wallula, Washington Particulate Matter (PM_{10}) Nonattainment Area,'' published on November 16, 2000 at 65 FR 69275. The original comment period closed on December 1, 2000. The new comment period will begin today and end on December 27, 2000. EPA is

also announcing that there will be an informational meeting to present an overview of the issues involved in the proposal and to provide an opportunity for the public to ask questions regarding the proposal.

DATES: All comments regarding EPA's proposed rulemaking published on November 16, 2000 must be received in writing on or before close of business on December 27, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments to Donna Deneen, EPA, Region 10, Office of Air Quality (OAQ–107), 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98101. You may view documents supporting this action during normal business hours at the following location: EPA, Office of Air Quality (OAQ–107), 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98101.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donna Deneen, EPA Region 10, Office of Air Quality, at (206) 553–6706.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On November 16, 2000, we solicited public comment on a proposal to find that the Wallula nonattainment area has not attained the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of less than or equal to 10 microns (PM_{10}) by the attainment date of December 31, 1997, as required by the Clean Air Act. If EPA takes final action on this proposal, the Wallula PM_{10} nonattainment area will be reclassified by operation of law as a serious PM_{10} nonattainment area. *See* 65 FR 69275. In the proposal, we stated that EPA would accept public comments on the proposal until December 1, 2000.

During the public comment period that ended December 1, 2000, numerous commenters asked for an extension of the public comment period. In light of the significant public interest in the proposal, as evidenced by the letters EPA has received to date, we are extending the public comment period to December 27, 2000, to provide additional time for interested parties to submit written comments. All written comments received by EPA by December 27, 2000, will be considered in our final action.

In addition, based on the strong public interest in the proposal, there will be an informational meeting regarding the proposal. The meeting, which has not yet been scheduled, will provide an opportunity for EPA to explain to the community the basis for its proposal and an opportunity for the community to ask questions of EPA. Comments on the proposal must be submitted in writing to the EPA address listed above on or before December 27th, 2000. There will also be an opportunity to submit written comments at the informational meeting. The time, date, and location of the informational meeting will be announced in local newspapers.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 81

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Intergovernmental relations, Particulate matter.

Dated: December 4, 2000.

Randall F. Smith,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region 10.

[FR Doc. 00–31615 Filed 12–11–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Parts 0, 1, 61 and 69

[CC Docket No. 96–262; DA 00–2751]

CLEC Access Charge Reform

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: This document seeks additional comment in connection with an ongoing FCC proceeding considering whether and how to reform the manner in which competitive local exchange carriers (CLECs) may tariff the charges for the switched local exchange access service that they provide to inter-exchange carriers (IXCs). Specifically, it seeks comment on the possibility of a rural exemption to a benchmarking mechanism under consideration and information about the level of CLEC access charges.

DATES: Submit comment on or before December 27, 2000.

Submit reply comments on or before January 11, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Magalie Roman Salas, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 Twelfth St., SW., Room TW–A325, Washington, DC 20554. Or comments may be filed electronically via the Internet at *http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html*.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Scott K. Bergmann, 202–418–0940, or Jeffrey H. Dygert, 202–418–1500.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FCC's Common Carrier Bureau (the Bureau) seeks comment on the following issues.

Scope of a Rural Exemption to Benchmarked Rates: Many of the comments previously submitted in the access charge reform docket have advocated establishing a benchmark for CLEC access charges so that charges at or below the benchmark would be presumed to be just and reasonable. These proposals have suggested a benchmark that could apply to a broad range of CLECs with widely varying cost characteristics and operating in many different markets.

It may be problematic to limit all CLECs to a single benchmarked rate, regardless of the characteristics of the market that they serve. Thus, the Commission has previously raised the prospect that a benchmark might vary depending on whether the CLEC serves high cost areas or low cost areas. The Bureau seeks additional comment on whether and how to create a ''rural exemption'' that would prevent a CLEC operating in a rural or high-cost areas from being subject to a benchmark that may be more appropriate for CLECs doing business in more concentrated, urbanized areas. Is such an exemption necessary? How should the Commission define the types of areas in which such a rural exemption would be available to CLECs? Can the definition be premised on the Communications Act's definition of ''rural telephone company''? 47 U.S.C. 154(37). Should the exemption apply to all areas that fall outside of the defined metropolitan statistical areas? Should the availability of a rural exemption turn instead on the overall population density within a particular CLEC's service area, or should it turn on the density of the CLEC's customers within its service area? If population density is the appropriate factor, commenters are requested to propose what density figure should serve as the cut-off for the availability of a rural exemption and to explain why that number is the appropriate one. Should the Commission tie such and exemption to the presence, within the CLEC's service area, of a town or incorporated place with a certain population? Should a CLEC be required to qualify for and receive rural or high-cost universal service support before it could avail itself of such a rural exemption?

How should a rural exemption apply where, within a single service area, a CLEC serves customers that reside in areas of markedly different density? Is it feasible for a CLEC to charge different access rates within a single service area depending on the population density surrounding particular end users? Should the availability of such an exemption be determined by the actual location of a CLEC's customers or by the location of a CLEC's switch or some other portion of its network?

Should a rural exemption be tied to the volume of access traffic generated by a CLEC's customers? Thus, should a