Based on its review, the NRC staff has concluded that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action; therefore, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated. Since the environmental impacts of the proposed action and the no-action alternative (i.e., denial of the renewal) are similar, there is no need to further evaluate alternatives to the proposed action.

Finding of No Significant Impact

The NRC staff has prepared an Environmental Assessment for the proposed renewal of NRC Source Material License SUA–1371. On the basis of this assessment, the NRC staff has concluded that the environmental impacts that may result from the proposed action would not be significant, and therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not warranted.

The Environmental Assessment and other documents related to this proposed action are available for public inspection and copying at the NRC Public Document Room, in the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street NW., Washington, DC 20555.

Notice of Opportunity for Hearing

The Commission hereby provides notice that this is a proceeding on an application for a licensing action falling within the scope of Subpart L, ''Informal Hearing Procedures for Adjudications in Materials and Operator Licensing Proceedings,'' of the Commission's Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings in 10 CFR Part 2 (54 FR 8269). Pursuant to § 2.1205(a), any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding may file a request for a hearing. In accordance with § 2.1205(c), a request for a hearing must be filed within thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this **Federal Register** notice. The request for a hearing must be filed with the Office of the Secretary either:

(1) By delivery to the Docketing and Service Branch of the Office of the Secretary at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852; or

(2) By mail or telegram addressed to the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Attention: Docketing and Service Branch.

Each request for a hearing must also be served, by delivering it personally or by mail to:

(1) The applicant, Plateau Resources Limited, 877 North 8th West, Riverton, Wyoming 82501;

(2) The NRC staff, by delivery to the Executive Director of Operations, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852, or by mail addressed to the Executive Director for Operations, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555.

In addition to meeting other applicable requirements of 10 CFR Part 2 of the Commission's regulations, a request for a hearing filed by a person other than an applicant must describe in detail:

(1) The interest of the requestor in the proceeding;

(2) How that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding, including the reasons why the requestor should be permitted a hearing, with particular reference to the factors set out in § 2.1205(g);

(3) the requestor's areas of concern about the licensing activity that is the subject matter of the proceeding; and

(4) The circumstances establishing that the request for a hearing is timely in accordance with § 2.1205(c).

Any hearing that is requested and granted will be held in accordance with the Commission's ''Informal Hearing Procedures for Adjudications in Materials and Operator Licensing Proceedings'' in 10 CFR Part 2, Subpart L.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 21st day of April 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Charles L. Cain,

Acting Chief, Uranium Recovery Branch, Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material, Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 97–10862 Filed 4–25–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Options for Promoting Privacy on the National Information Infrastructure

AGENCY: Office of Management and Budget.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: OMB announces the availability of ''Options for Promoting Privacy on the National Information Infrastructure'' (Options Paper) on behalf of the Information Policy Committee of the National Information Infrastructure Task Force (IITF). This Options Paper results from work performed by the Privacy Working Group and refined by the Committee. The Committee is chaired by the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB). This Options Paper builds upon the October 1995 report of the Privacy Working Group, ''Privacy and the National Information Infrastructure: Principles for Providing and Using Personal Information'' (Privacy Principles), which was published in draft form in the **Federal Register** on January 20, 1995 (60 FR 4362) and was finalized in June 1995. None of the options presented has been adopted as Administration policy; they are set forth in this document in the belief that they are worthy of public discussion.

DATES: Comments should be submitted no later than June 27, 1997.

ELECTRONIC AVAILABILITY AND ADDRESSES: The options paper is available electronically from the IITF site on the World Wide Web: http://www.iitf.nist.gov/ipc/ipc-pub.html and in paper form from the OMB Publications Office, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, telephone: 202/395–7332, facsimile: 202/395–6137.

Comments may be sent to the Information Policy Committee c/o the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10236, Washington, DC 20503. Comments may also be submitted by facsimile to 202–395–5167, or by electronic mail to BERNSTEIN__M@A1.EOP.GOV. Comments submitted by facsimile or electronic mail need not also be submitted by regular mail.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Maya A. Bernstein, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. Voice telephone: 202–395–4816. Facsimile: 202–395–5167. Electronic mail: BERNSTEIN__M@A1.EOP.GOV.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the Report of the National Performance Review, ''Creating a Government that Works Better & Costs Less: Reengineering Through Information Technology,'' the Vice President tasked the Information Infrastructure Task Force with considering privacy policy with respect to the National Information Infrastructure (NII). The Privacy Working Group first developed ''Privacy and the National Information Infrastructure: Principles for Providing and Using Personal Information'' (the Privacy Principles), which described a set of fair information practices appropriate to the NII and which were finalized in June 1995. The next step for the Privacy Working Group was to consider how best to promote those principles. To that end, the Working Group undertook significant research on

the state of privacy with respect to the NII, current U.S. law, and private sector practices. That work served as the basis for the Information Policy Committee's Option Paper. The Committee is now making the Paper available for comment.

As Vice President Gore predicted in 1995, development of the Global Information Infrastructure (GII) is increasing economic growth and productivity, creating high-wage jobs in newly emerging industries, and fostering U.S. technological leadership across the globe. Through this medium, we can already secure high quality services at low cost and prepare our children for the demands of the 21st Century. A more open and participatory democracy is emerging at all levels of government.

The information economy of the 21st century will run on data. Some of that data may be highly personal and sensitive. In some cases, personal data may become quite valuable. Thus, the transition to the Information Age calls for a reexamination of the proper balance between the competing values of personal privacy and the free flow of information in a democratic society. Will our traditional balance point serve in the digital age? Can we continue to rely on the same tools we have used to strike this balance in the past? Or, is an entirely new approach warranted?

The Options Paper explores the growing public concern about personal information privacy. The paper describes the status of electronic data protection and fair information practices in the United States today, beginning with a discussion of the ''Principles for Providing and Using Personal Information,'' issued by the Information Infrastructure Task Force in 1995. It then provides an overview of new information technologies, which shows that personal information is currently collected, shared, aggregated, and disseminated at a rate and to a degree unthinkable just a few years ago. Government is no longer the sole possessor of extensive amounts of personal information about U.S. citizens: in recent years the acquisition of personal information by the private sector has increased dramatically.

The paper next considers in more detail the laws and policies affecting information privacy in four specific areas: government records, communications, medical records, and the consumer market. This examination reveals that information privacy policy in the United States consists of various laws, regulations and practices, woven together to produce privacy protection that varies from sector to sector. Sometimes the results make sense, and sometimes they do not. The degree of protection accorded to personal information may depend on the data delivery mechanism rather than on the type of information at issue. Moreover, information privacy protection efforts in the United States are generally reactive rather than proactive: both the public and the private sector adopt policies in response to celebrated incidents of nonconsensual disclosure involving readily discernable harm. Sometimes this approach leaves holes in the fabric of privacy protection.

The paper then turns to the core question: in the context of the Global Information Infrastructure (GII), what is the best mechanism to implement fair information practices that balance the needs of government, commerce, and individuals, keeping in mind both our interest in the free flow of information and in the protection of information privacy? At one end of the spectrum there is support for an entirely market-based response. At the other end of the spectrum, the federal government is encouraged to regulate fair information practices across all sectors of the economy. In between these poles lie a myriad of options.

In response to public concern, both government and private industry seem to be taking a harder look at privacy issues. As government and consumers become more aware of the GII's data collection, analysis and distribution capabilities, demand could foster a robust, competitive market for privacy protection. This raises the intriguing possibility that privacy could emerge as a market commodity in the Information Age. The paper recognizes ongoing efforts to enhance industry self regulation to carry out the IITF Privacy Principles, and also discuss ways this self regulation might be enforced. The paper also discusses a number of ways that government could facilitate development of a privacy market.

The paper then considers a number of options that involve creation of a federal privacy entity. It discusses some of the many forms that such an entity could take and considers the advantages and disadvantages of the various choices. It also considers the functions that such an entity might perform, as well as various options for locating a privacy entity within the federal government.

This paper presents a host of options for government and private sector action. The ultimate goal is to identify the means to maintain an optimal balance between personal privacy and freedom of information values in the digital environment. The next step is to receive and respond to public comment on the report in order to develop consensus regarding the appropriate allocation of public and private sector responsibility for implementation of fair information practices.

Sally Katzen,

Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97–10894 Filed 4–25–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3110–01–P

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Excepted Service

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This gives notice of positions placed or revoked under Schedules A and B, and placed under Schedule C in the excepted service, as required by Civil Service Rule VI, Exceptions from the Competitive Service.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia H. Paige, Staffing Reinvention Office, Employment Service (202) 606–0830.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Personnel Management published its last monthly notice updating appointing authorities established or revoked under the Excepted Service provisions of 5 CFR part 213 on March 27, 1997, (62 FR 14707). Individual authorities established or revoked under Schedules A and B and established under Schedule C between March 1, 1997, and March 31, 1997, appear in the listing below. Future notices will be published on the fourth Tuesday of each month, or as soon as possible thereafter. A consolidated listing of all authorities as of June 30 will also be published.

Schedule A

No Schedule A authorities were established during March 1997.

The following Schedule A authority was revoke during March 1997:

Department of Labor

Bureau of Labor Statistics. Not to exceed 500 positions involving part-time and intermittent employment for field survey and enumeration work in the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This authority is applicable to positions where the salary is equivalent to GS–6 and below. Effective March 7, 1997.

Schedule B

One Schedule B authority was established during 1997: