

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM**Sunshine Act Meeting**

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

TIME AND DATE: 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, July 30, 1997.

PLACE: Marriner S. Eccles Federal Reserve Board Building, C Street entrance between 20th and 21st Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20551.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Personnel actions (appointments, promotions, assignments, reassignments, and salary actions) involving individual Federal Reserve System employees.

2. Any items carried forward from a previously announced meeting.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Mr. Joseph R. Coyne, Assistant to the Board; (202) 452-3204. You may call (202) 452-3207, beginning at approximately 5 p.m. two business days before this meeting, for a recorded announcement of bank and bank holding company applications scheduled for the meeting.

Dated: July 23, 1997.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 97-19765 Filed 7-23-97; 11:08 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-P

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION**Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension**

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Federal Trade Commission (FTC or Commission) is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed extension of OMB approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act for "collection of information" requirements contained in the Alternative Fuel Rule, 16 CFR Part 309.

DATES: Submit written comments on the collection of information on or before September 23, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Elaine W. Crockett, Attorney, Office of the General Counsel, Room 598, 6th St. and Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20580. All comments should be identified as responding to this notice.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. "Collection of information" is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c) and includes agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. As required by section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, the FTC is providing this opportunity for public comment before requesting that OMB extend the existing paperwork clearance for the Alternative Fuel Rule.

The FTC invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the FTC's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the FTC's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques, when appropriate, and other forms of information technology.

Alternative Fuel Rule, 16 CFR Part 309—(OMB Control Number 3084-0094)—Extension

The Energy Policy Act of 1992 ("EPA 92") established a comprehensive national energy policy to increase U.S. energy security gradually and steadily in cost-effective and environmentally beneficial ways. EPA 92 directed the Commission to establish uniform labeling requirements for alternative fuels, i.e., non-liquid alternative fuels, and alternative fueled vehicles (AFVs). (A separate FTC Rule, the Fuel Rating Rule, 16 CFR Part 306, implements a statutory requirement that refiners, producers and importers of liquid automotive fuels must determine the fuel rating of the automotive fuels that they distribute, which include liquid alternative fuels. Both Rules contain requirements relating to fuel rating determinations, certifications, posting, and recordkeeping.)

On May 9, 1995, the Commission issued the Alternative Fuel Rule, which requires disclosure of specific information on labels posted on fuel dispensers for non-liquid alternative fuels, and on labels on AFVs. To ensure the accuracy of the labeling disclosures, the Rule also requires that sellers

maintain records substantiating the product-specific disclosures that they include on these labels. The labeling requirements provide consumers with reliable and comparable information about the fuel ratings of similar types of fuel and alternative fueled vehicles. The primary purpose of the recordkeeping requirements is to preserve evidence of compliance with the Rule.

Burden statement: The Rule primarily establishes determination, certification, labeling, and recordkeeping requirements. When the Rule was issued in 1995, the FTC found that the non-liquid alternative vehicle fuel industry consisted of approximately 1,600 members, of which approximately 1,300 import, produce, refine, distribute or retail compressed natural gas to the public for use in alternative vehicles. The FTC estimated that approximately 50 industry members manufacture or distribute electric vehicle fuel dispensing systems and that no more than 250 companies retail electricity to the public through electric vehicle fuel dispensing systems. In addition, the FTC found that approximately 58 companies manufacture alternative fueled vehicles. These companies also are subject to labeling and recordkeeping requirements. Staff at Department of Energy inform us that current numbers are approximately the same as they were in 1995.

All of the requirements relating to the processes involved in fuel rating determination, certification, labeling, and recordkeeping also remain the same. No provisions in the Alternative Fuel Rule have been amended or changed in any manner. We have, however, reduced the 1995 total burden estimate of 22,500 hours because, as stated in the original application for PRA clearance, it is now and always has been common practice for industry members to determine and monitor fuel ratings in the normal course of their business activities. This is because industry members must know and determine the fuel ratings of their products in order to monitor quality and determine how to market them. The 1995 burden estimates were based on the recognition that the Rule would initially create a burden of implementing a system that standardizes the various processes involved. Burden, as defined by OMB, means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. 5 CFR 1320.2(b)(1). Accordingly, in 1995, we estimated the burden hours as follows: