

Dated: June 17, 1999.

Nancy-Ann Min DeParle,
Administrator, Health Care Financing
Administration.

[FR Doc. 99-15986 Filed 6-18-99; 1:45 pm]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Care Financing Administration

Statement of Organization, Functions, and Delegations of Authority Office of Communications and Operations Support

Part F of the Statement of Organization, Functions, and Delegations of Authority; for the Department of Health and Human Services, Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), **Federal Register**, Vol. 62, No. 129, pp. 36294-36295, dated Monday, July 7, 1997, is amended to reflect a reorganization in the Office of Communications and Operations Support.

The specific change will transfer the Audit Liaison Staff from the Office of Financial Management to the Office of Communications and Operations Support to ensure timely resolution of all audit findings and recommendations.

The specific amendments to part F are described below:

Section F.10.A.5., Health Care Financing Administration, is amended by the creation of a new Division of Audit Liaison in the Office of Communications and Operations Support, Operations Support Group, and adding the function of this new Division to the Office functional statement. The existing functional statement is superseded by the following revision:

Office of Communications and Operations Support (FAL)

- Serves a neutral broker coordination role, including scheduling meetings and briefings for the Administrator and coordinating communications between and among central and regional office, in order to ensure that emerging issues are identified early, all concerned components are directly and fully involved in policy development/decision making and that all points of view are presented.

- Coordinates and monitors assigned Agency initiatives which are generally tactical, short-term and cross-component in nature (e.g., legislative implementation).

- Provides operational and analytical support to the Executive Council.

- Manages speaking and meeting requests for or on behalf of the Administrator and Deputy Administrator and researches and writes speeches.

- Coordinates agency-wide communication policies to insure that messages for external audiences appropriately incorporate Agency themes.

- Coordinates the preparation of manuals and other policy instructions to insure accurate and consistent implementation of the Agency's programs.

- Manages the Agency's system for developing, clearing and tracking regulations, setting regulation priorities and corresponding work agendas; coordinates the review of regulations received for concurrence from departmental and other government agencies and develops routine and special reports on the Agency's regulatory activities.

- Manages the Agency-wide clearance system to insure appropriate involvement from Agency components and serves as a primary focal point for liaison with the Executive Secretariat in the Office of the Secretary.

- Operates the agency-wide correspondence tracking and control system and provides guidance and technical assistance on standards for content of correspondence and memoranda.

- Formulates strategies to advance overall communications goals and coordinates the design and publication process in electronic and other media for HCFA electronic information, publications and reports to ensure consistency with other information.

- Provides management and administrative support to the Office of the Attorney Advisor and staff.

- Acts as audit liaison with the General Accounting Office (GAO) and the HHS Office of Inspector General (OIG).

The function of this newly-created Division was deleted from the functional statement of the Office of Financial Management.

Dated: May 28, 1999.

Nancy-Ann Min DeParle,
Administrator, Health Care Financing
Administration.

[FR Doc. 99-15806 Filed 6-21-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Geological Survey

Request for Public Comments on Information Collection To Be Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

A request to reinstate the collection of information listed below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for approval under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). Copies of the proposed collection of information and related forms may be obtained by contacting the Bureau's Clearance Officer at the phone number listed below. Comments and suggestions on the requirement should be made within 60 days directly to the Bureau Clearance Officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 807 National Center, Reston, VA 20192.

As required by OMB regulations at 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), the U.S. Geological Survey solicits specific public comments regarding the proposed information collection as to:

1. 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;
2. The accuracy of the Bureau's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. The utility, quality, and clarity of the information to be collected; and,
4. How to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Title: State Water Research Institute Program.

Current OMB approval number: 1028-0044.

Abstract: Respondents supply information on eligibility for Federal grants to support water-related research and provide performance reports on accomplishments achieved through use of such funds. This information allows the agency to determine compliance with the objectives and criteria of the grant program.

Bureau form number: None.

Frequemcy: Annually.

Description of respondents: State water research institutes.

Annual Responses: 108.

Annual burden hours: 5,832.