Customers may incur postage costs when submitting the information in this collection to the USPTO by mail. The USPTO expects that the Application to Extend Patent Term under 35 U.S.C. 156, the Initial Application for Interim Extension under 35 U.S.C. 156(d)(5), and approximately 7% of the other responses for this collection will be submitted by mail. The USPTO estimates that the average first-class postage cost for these 991 mailed submissions will be 44 cents each, for a total estimated postage cost of $436 per year.

When submitting the information in this collection to the USPTO electronically, the customer is strongly urged to retain a copy of the acknowledgment receipt as evidence that the submission was received by the USPTO on the date noted. The USPTO estimates that it will take 5 seconds (0.001 hours) to print and retain a copy of the acknowledgment receipt and that approximately 12,595 responses per year will be submitted electronically, for a total of approximately 13 hours per year for printing this receipt. Using the paraprofessional rate of $100 per hour, the USPTO estimates that the recordkeeping cost associated with this collection will be $1,300 per year.

The total non-hour respondent cost burden for this collection in the form of filing fees, postage costs, and recordkeeping costs is estimated to be $360,416 per year.

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, e.g., 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 also will become a matter of public record.