DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Science Advisory Board (SAB)

AGENCY: Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice of membership on the National Telecommunications and Information Administration’s Performance Review Board Membership.

SUMMARY: In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 4314(c)(4), the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), Department of Commerce (DOC), announce the appointment of those individuals who have been selected to serve as members of NTIA’s Performance Review Board. The Performance Review Board is responsible for (1) reviewing performance appraisals and rating of Senior Executive Service (SES) members and (2) making recommendations to the appointing authority on other performance management issues, such as pay adjustments, bonuses and Presidential Rank Awards for SES members. The appointment of these members to the Performance Review Board will be for a period of twenty-four (24) months.

DATES: The period of appointment for those individuals selected for NTIA’s Performance Review Board begins on November 13, 2013. The name, position title, and type of appointment of each member of NTIA’s Performance Review Board are set forth below by organization:

Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
Fiona M. Alexander, Associate Administrator, Office of International Affairs, Career SES
Leonard M. Bechtel, Chief Financial Officer and Director of Administration, Career SES, Chairperson
Karl B. Nebbia, Associate Administrator for Spectrum Management, Career SES
Alan W. Vincent, Associate Administrator for Telecommunication Sciences and Director Institute for Telecommunication Sciences, Career SES
Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration (ITA)
Renee A. Macklin, Chief Information Officer, Career SES
Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA)
Matthew S. Erskine, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Development, Non-Career SES, Political Advisor

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ruthie B. Stewart, Department of Commerce, Office of Human Resources Management, Office of Executive Resources, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Room 51010, Washington, DC 20230, at (202) 482–3130.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 4314 (c) (4), the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), Department of Commerce (DOC), announce the appointment of those individuals who have been selected to serve as members of NTIA’s Performance Review Board. The Performance Review Board is responsible for (1) reviewing performance appraisals and rating of Senior Executive Service (SES) members and (2) making recommendations to the appointing authority on other performance management issues, such as pay adjustments, bonuses and Presidential Rank Awards for SES members. The appointment of these members to the Performance Review Board will be for a period of twenty-four (24) months.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

Notice of Roundtable on the Renewal of a Continuing Information Collection


ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) published a notice inviting written public comment on the renewal of information collection 0651–
The USPTO plans to make the roundtable available via Web cast. Web cast information will be available on the USPTO’s Internet Web site before the roundtable. A list of registered roundtable participants and their associations will be available on the USPTO’s Internet Web site at http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/index.jsp.

If you need special accommodations due to a disability, please inform the contact person identified below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to the attention of Raul Tamayo, Senior Legal Advisor, Office of Patent Legal Administration, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450; by telephone at 571–272–7728; or by email to raul.tamayo@uspto.gov. Additional information about information collection 0651–0032 Initial Patent Applications is also available at http://www.reginfo.gov under “Information Collection Review.”

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Before requiring or requesting information from the public, the PRA requires Federal agencies to (1) seek public comment on the proposed collection of information, and (2) submit a request to collect the information to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. This provision of the PRA is designed to minimize and control burdens, while maximizing the practical utility and public benefit of the information collected. OMB approval of a collection of information is generally effective for three years from the approval date. Therefore, agencies seek renewal of their approval from OMB to collect the information prior to the expiration of the three-year term.

Information collection 0651–0032, Initial Patent Applications, covers the information collected by the USPTO in connection with the requirements related to the initial filing of a patent application. For example, items of information covered by the 0651–0032 collection include new utility, design, and plant patent applications, continuations and divisions thereof, and papers filed in connection therewith, such as application data sheets. A complete identification of the items covered by the 0651–0032 collection is available at http://www.reginfo.gov under “Information Collection Review.”

As part of the process of renewing the 0651–0032 collection, the USPTO published its estimate on October 1, 2013, inviting the public to provide written comment on the renewal. See Initial Patent Applications, 78 FR 60256 (October 1, 2013) (hereinafter “the October 1 notice”). The October 1 notice provides USPTO’s estimates of the burdens associated with providing the information covered by the collection. For example, the October 1 notice includes an estimate of the number of new utility applications the USPTO expects to receive per year over the term of the renewal (approximately 273,000, excluding continuing applications and 35 U.S.C. 371 national stage entry applications) and an estimate of the time it takes to gather the necessary information, prepare the utility application, and submit the completed application to the USPTO (33 hours and 12 minutes). The October 1 notice requests feedback from the public on all of the estimates provided by the USPTO in the 0651–0032 information collection request. The deadline for receipt of written comments in response to the October 1 notice is being extended to December 16, 2013.

As stated in the October 1 notice, when OMB last approved the 0651–0032 collection on January 8, 2011, it included terms of clearance in the Notice of Action it issued announcing the approval. The terms of clearance stated that the USPTO should conduct outreach to stakeholders regarding the burden of the 0651–0032 collection and ways to potentially reduce it before the next renewal of the collection. The goal of the roundtable is to provide this outreach to stakeholders and listen to their feedback on the burdens associated with the 0651–0032 collection. In particular, the USPTO hopes to receive feedback that will allow it to: (a) Evaluate whether the items of information in the 0651–0032 collection are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the items of information have practical utility; (b) evaluate the accuracy of the USPTO’s estimate of the burden of the 0651–0032 collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information being collected; and (d) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Prior to the roundtable, the USPTO will post additional information regarding its estimates of the burdens associated with the 0651–0032 collection on its Internet Web site at
This proposed action will be effective on December 16, 2013 unless comments are received which result in a contrary determination. Comments will be accepted on or before December 13, 2013.