

server content, to permit OSC to promptly restore the site if its security is threatened or the system fails due to hardware or software error.

B. Administrative Review Procedures

The head of the program unit developing information for dissemination to the public is responsible for reviewing its content, and for periodic review of the information to ensure that it is updated to reflect changes in laws and regulations, and recent court decisions. After review by the head of the program unit, such information will be reviewed by the Deputy Special Counsel, the Special Counsel, or a designated representative before dissemination to the public.

C. Administrative Correction Mechanisms

Affected members of the public who believe that information disseminated by OSC does not comply with OMB guidelines or these agency guidelines may contact OSC to request a correction of the information. Such persons ("requesters") should write to the Deputy Special Counsel, Office of Special Counsel, 1730 M Street, N.W., Suite 201, Washington, DC 20036-4505. The Deputy Special Counsel will refer the request for response to the program unit responsible for development or maintenance of the information. Initial requests should include all relevant information available to the requester, and a clear statement of the alleged conflict with OMB or OSC guidelines. OSC will reject requests made in bad faith or without justification.

OSC will respond to a request within 30 calendar days after its receipt (or sooner, if it is possible to quickly resolve the request and immediate attention is necessary due to the nature of the information). The program unit to which the request has been referred will respond by letter to the requester. The letter will inform the requester whether OSC believes a correction is appropriate given the nature and timeliness of the information involved, and if so, will provide any corrected information.

If the OSC response is not acceptable to the requester, he or she may appeal the initial decision. The requester must send an appeal within 30 calendar days of the date of OSC's response. It should be addressed to the Deputy Special Counsel (at the address shown in the first paragraph of this section), and must state the reason(s) why the initial decision was not acceptable. If OSC believes that other agencies may have an interest in the resolution of an appeal, it will consult with those agencies about

their possible interest before completing its review of the appeal.

Within 30 calendar days after OSC receives the appeal, the Deputy Special Counsel will respond by letter informing the requester whether the appeal is granted (that is, the letter will state whether a correction is appropriate given the nature and timeliness of the information involved, and if so, will provide any corrected information).

D. Reporting Procedures

OSC will send an annual report to OMB describing the number and type of complaints received about OSC's compliance with OMB guidelines, and how such complaints were resolved. OSC will submit its initial report by January 1, 2004.

E. Conclusion

The Deputy Special Counsel shall be responsible for ensuring agency compliance with OMB guidelines. These agency guidelines are not intended to create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable in any court by a party against OSC, the federal government, or any individual, beyond any that may be established by section 515 of Public Law 106-554 or by implementing OMB guidelines. In particular, these agency guidelines do not impose any additional requirements on OSC during adjudicative proceedings and do not provide parties to such proceedings any additional rights of challenge or appeal.

Dated: April 24, 2002.

Timothy Hannapel,

Deputy Special Counsel.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

[Docket No. OST-2002-11996]

Draft Report Implementing OMB's Information Dissemination Quality Guidelines

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of availability and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Transportation (DOT) is drafting Departmental guidelines to implement section 515 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act for FY 2001 (Pub. L. 106-554). The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has issued Government-wide guidelines under Section 515 which direct each

Federal agency to establish and implement written procedures to ensure and maximize the quality, utility, objectivity and integrity of the information that they disseminate.

DATES: Comments should be submitted by May 31, 2002.

ADDRESSES: You may file comments using the Internet by logging in on DOT's Dockets Management System (DMS) website at <http://dms.dot.gov>. Please follow the online instructions for submitting an electronic comment and for reviewing all comments on line. Once received, a notification receipt will be forwarded to you. You may fax your comments to the DMS at (202) 493-2251. You may also submit your comments by mail or in person by sending your comments to the U. S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Office of Dockets and Media Management to the Docket Clerk, Docket No. OST-2002-11996, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Room PL401, Washington, DC 20590-0001. If you would like the Department to acknowledge receipt of your written comments, you must include a self-addressed stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: "Comments on Docket OST-2002-11996." The Docket Clerk will date stamp the postcard prior to returning it to you via the U.S. mail. Comments should identify the docket number. Written comments should be submitted in duplicate.

The Office of Dockets and Media Management is open for examination and copying, at the above address, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. All comments received will be available for inspection at the above address.

Please note that due to current mail security procedures affecting U.S. Postal Service delivery to Government offices, commenters may find it advantageous to use an alternative method (the internet, fax, or professional delivery service) to submit comments to the Docket and ensure their timely receipt at the U.S. Department of Transportation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Vanester M. Williams, Office of the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Department of Transportation; 202-366-1771 (not a toll-free call) or by email at vanester.williams@ost.dot.gov. For specific inquiries on the Department's administrative mechanisms for allowing persons to seek correction of information, please contact Robert Ashby, Office of the General Counsel, U. S. Department of Transportation; 202-366-9310 (not a toll-free call) or by email at bob.ashby@ost.dot.gov. For specific inquiries on the Department's

statistical guidelines, please contact Dr. Patrick Flanagan, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, U. S. Department of Transportation; 202-366-4168 (not a toll-free call) or by email at pat.flanagan@bts.dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department's information quality guidelines will apply to a wide variety of its information dissemination activities in order to meet basic information quality standards set forth by Section 515. The purpose of these guidelines is to provide a framework under which the Department will allow affected persons an opportunity to seek and obtain correction of information maintained and disseminated by the Department that does not comply with these guidelines. DOT designated the Departmental Chief Information Officer (CIO) as the senior official responsible for DOT compliance with these guidelines. Final guidelines will be effective October 1, 2002.

The written procedures established within DOT's guidelines apply to all organizational components of the Department. For DOT organizations that require additional guidelines, these organizations should implement corresponding procedures that meet the terms of these Departmental guidelines. For the purposes of these guidelines, the term "DOT organizations" refer to:

Office of the Secretary (OST)
Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS)
Office of the Inspector General (OIG)
Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)
Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
Maritime Administration (MARAD)
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)
Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA)
Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC)
Transportation Administrative Service Center (TASC)
Transportation Security Administration (TSA)
United States Coast Guard (USCG)

As provided in OMB's guidelines implementing Section 515, the Department is publishing this notice of availability of its draft quality guidelines in the **Federal Register**. The draft guidelines themselves are posted on the Department's DMS website at <http://dms.dot.gov> to provide an

opportunity for public comment. We invite comments on all aspects of the guidelines, with emphasis on the following general questions:

1. Are the Department's draft guidelines adequate for ensuring and maximizing the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of its disseminated information as set out in OMB's notice of January 3, 2002?

2. Are the Department's procedures for allowing affected persons to seek and obtain correction of information appropriate?

Instructions for filing comments may also be found in the guidelines document posted on the Department's DMS web site. The Department will review all comments submitted in response to its draft guidelines. The comments will be available for public review on the DMS web site.

Issued in Washington, DC, on April 24, 2002.

Eugene K. Taylor, Jr.,

Deputy CIO, U.S. Department of Transportation.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration

International Standards on the Transport of Dangerous Goods; Public Meetings

AGENCY: Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: This notice is to advise interested persons that RSPA will conduct public meetings in preparation for and to report the results of the twenty-first session of the United Nation's Sub-Committee on Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (UNSCOE) to be held July 1-10, 2002 in Geneva, Switzerland.

DATES: June 18, 2002 1-3:30 pm, Room 6244-6248, July 24, 2002, 9:30 am-12:30 pm, Room 3328.

ADDRESSES: Both meetings will be held at DOT Headquarters, Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20590.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Richard, International Standards Coordinator, Office of Hazardous Materials Safety, Office of Hazardous Materials Safety, Department of

Transportation, Washington, DC 20590; (202) 366-0656.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The primary purpose of the first meeting will be to prepare for the twenty-first session of the UNSCOE and to discuss U.S. positions on UNSCOE proposals. The primary purpose of the second meeting will be to provide a briefing on the outcome of the UNSCOE session. Topics to be covered during the public meetings include: (1) Criteria for Environmentally Hazardous Substances, (2) Requirements for the transport of solids in bulk containers including portable tanks, (3) Harmonized requirements for compressed gas cylinders, (4) Classification of individual substances, (5) Requirements for packagings used to transport hazardous materials including a US proposal to require a vibration test, (6) Requirements for infectious substances and genetically modified micro-organisms, (7) Hazard communication requirements including the comprehensibility for the proposed Globally Harmonized System labels, (8) emergency response requirements and (9) Requirements applicable to small quantities of hazardous materials in transport (consumer commodities).

The public is invited to attend without prior notification. Due to the heightened security measures participants are encouraged to arrive early to allow time for security checks necessary to obtain access to the building.

Documents

Copies of documents for the UNSCOE meeting and the meeting agenda may be obtained by downloading them from the United Nations Transport Division's web site at <http://www.unece.org/trans/main/dgdb/dgsubc/c32002.html>. This site may also be accessed through RSPA's Hazardous Materials Safety Homepage at <http://hazmat.dot.gov/intstandards.htm>. RSPA's site provides information regarding the UNSCOE and related matters such as a summary of decisions taken at the twentieth session of the UNSCOE.

Issued in Washington, DC, on April 24, 2002.

Frits Wybenga,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety.

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