

addressed. In framing the issues and approaches discussed in the Rulemaking Issues Paper, the NRC staff has attempted to anticipate the variety of views that exist on these approaches and issues. The paper will provide assistance to the participants as they prepare for the workshops, suggest the workshop agenda, and establish the level of technical discussion that can be expected at the workshops. The workshop discussions are intended to be used by the staff in developing the draft proposed rule. Prior to the workshops no staff positions will be taken on the rulemaking approaches and issues identified in the Rulemaking Issues Paper. As noted earlier, to the extent that the Rulemaking Issues Paper fails to identify a pertinent issue, this may be corrected at the workshop sessions.

The discussion of issues is divided into two parts. First are two primary issues dealing with:

- (1) The objectives for developing radiological criteria; and
- (2) Application of practicality considerations.

The objectives constitute the fundamental approach to the establishment of the radiological criteria, and the NRC staff has identified four distinct possibilities including:

- (1) Risk Limits, which is the establishment of limiting values above which the risks to the public are deemed unacceptable, but allows for practicality considerations;
- (2) Risk Goals, where a goal is selected and practicality considerations are used to establish criteria as close to the goal as practical;
- (3) Best Effort, where the technology for decontamination considered to be the best available is applied; and
- (4) Return to Preexisting Background, where the decontamination would continue until the radiological conditions were the same as existed prior to the licensed activities.

Following the primary issues are several secondary issues that are related to the discussions of the primary issues, but which the NRC staff believe warrant separate presentations and discussions. These secondary issues include the time frame for dose calculation, the individuals or groups to be protected, the use of separate criteria for specific exposure pathways such as groundwater, the treatment of radon, and the treatment of previously buried materials.

The Rulemaking Issues Paper will be provided to each potential workshop participant. Additional copies will be available to members of the public in

attendance at the workshop. Copies will also be available from the NRC staff contact identified above.

In addition to the comments on the Rulemaking Issues Paper provided at the workshops, the Commission is also receptive to the submission of written comments on the rulemaking issues, as noted under the heading "DATES".

Dated at Rockville, MD this 9th day of February, 1993.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Samuel J. Chilk,

Secretary of the Commission.

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BILLING CODE 7990-01-M

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE BOARD

12 CFR Part 900

Hearings For the Study of the Role of the Federal Home Loan Bank System

AGENCY: Federal Housing Finance Board.

ACTION: Notice of public hearing and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Federal Housing Finance Board (Finance Board) is hereby announcing a public hearing and requesting comment on the study of the Federal Home Loan Bank System (FHLBank System) being prepared by the Finance Board.

DATES: The public hearing will be held on March 25 and 26 at 10 a.m. Requests to participate in the hearing must be received no later than February 26, 1993. The written statements of those accepted for participation in the hearing or other written comments must be received no later than March 19, 1993.

ADDRESSES: Send requests to participate in the hearing, written statements of hearing participants, or other written comments to Elaine L. Baker, Executive Secretary, Federal Housing Finance Board, 1777 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20006. The submissions may be mailed. The submissions also may be hand delivered or sent by facsimile transmission to FAX number (202) 408-1435. Submissions must be received by 5 p.m. on the day they are due in order to be considered received by the Finance Board. Late filed, misaddressed, or misidentified submissions may affect eligibility to participate in the hearing.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James H. Gray Jr., Associate General Counsel, (202) 408-2552 or Bruce W. McDougal, Attorney-Advisor, (202) 408-2505, Office of Legal and External Affairs, Federal Housing Finance Board, 1777 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20006.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 28, 1992, the President signed the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, Public Law No. 102-550 (HCDA), which *inter alia* directed the Finance Board to conduct a study of fourteen topics concerning the FHLBank System, government sponsored enterprises generally, and other topics pertaining to the delivery of housing finance. The fourteen topics that the Finance Board has been directed to study are as follows:

- (1) The appropriate capital standards for the FHLBank System.
- (2) The relationships between the capital standards for the FHLBank System and the capital standards for the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae) and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac).

(3) The relationship between the capital standards for federally insured depository institutions and the capital standards for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

(4) The advantages and disadvantages of expanding credit products and services for member institutions of the FHLBank System, including a determination of the feasibility of FHLBanks—

- (A) Purchasing housing-related assets from member institutions;
- (B) Providing credit enhancements and other products to members in addition to making advances; and
- (C) Making direct loans for housing construction.

(5) The advantages and disadvantages of expanding eligible collateral for advances to member institutions of the FHLBank System by removing the limits on the amount of housing-related assets that member institutions can use to collateralize advances.

(6) The advantages and disadvantages of further measures to expand the role of the FHLBank System as a support mechanism for community-based lenders and to reinforce the overall role of the FHLBank System in housing finance.

(7) The advantages and disadvantages of measures to increase membership in, and increase the profitability of, the FHLBank System by modifying:

- (A) Restrictions on membership and stock purchases of nonqualified thrift lenders;
- (B) The overall limit imposed on advances by the FHLBank System to nonqualified thrift lenders; and
- (C) The membership requirement for qualified thrift lenders.

(8) The competitive effect of the mortgage activities of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac on the home mortgage

activities of federally insured depository institutions and the cost of such activities to such institutions, the Savings Association Insurance Fund, and the Resolution Trust Corporation.

(9) The likelihood that the FHLBanks will be able to continue to pay the amounts required under the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989.

(10) The extent to which a reduction in the number of FHLBanks would reduce noninterest costs of the FHLBank System.

(11) The impact that a reduction in the number of FHLBanks would have on the effectiveness of affordable housing programs and community support programs under the FHLBank System.

(12) The impact that a reduction in the number of FHLBanks would have on the availability of affordable housing in rural areas and the ability of small rural financial institutions to provide housing financing.

(13) The current and prospective impact of the FHLBank System on:

(A) The availability and affordability of housing for low- and moderate-income households; and

(B) The relative availability of housing credit across geographic areas, with particular regard to differences depending on whether properties are inside or outside of central cities.

(14) The appropriateness of extending to the FHLBank System the public purposes and housing goals established for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac under title 13 of the HCDA, the Federal National Mortgage Association Charter Act, and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Act.

Sec. 1393 of the HCDA. The Finance Board is required to report to Congress on the outcome of this study by April 28, 1993.

The Finance Board is interested in the views of FHLBank members, community groups, trade associations, housing government sponsored enterprises, federal agencies, and others, on the fourteen topics being examined in this study. The purpose of the hearing on March 25 and 26, is to assist the Finance Board in preparing its report to Congress.

The Finance Board invites testimony or comment on all of the issues raised by the fourteen HCDA study topics and any other matters related to the HCDA study topics. To assist in responding to the issues that seem to underpin all fourteen topics, the Finance Board also requests testimony or comment on the following general, overarching issues:

(1) How can the FHLBanks' regional presence be better utilized to support housing finance in general, and

affordable housing and community lending in particular?

(2) How can the FHLBank System better meet the financing needs of community-based institutions?

On March 25 and 26, the Finance Board will hold a public hearing on these questions. Persons wishing to participate in this hearing should send a written request to participate to the address listed in the "ADDRESSES" portion of this notice, to be received no later than February 26, 1993. The request to participate in the hearing must include the following information:

(1) The name, title, address, and business telephone of the participant;

(2) The entity or entities that the participant will be representing;

(3) A brief summary of the participant's remarks, identifying the specific issues to be addressed; and

(4) An indication of whether the participant is available for either hearing date.

Depending on the number of requests received, participants may be limited in the length of their oral presentations.

The Finance Board will notify participants of the date and time scheduled for their presentation. The Finance Board anticipates establishing panels of participants for presentations and reserves the right to limit the number of participants and to select, in its discretion, those persons who may make oral presentations if it receives more requests for participation than may be accommodated in the time available.

Participants will be required to submit written statements in advance of the hearing date. These written statements should incorporate the major points to be presented at the hearing and should be accompanied by an executive summary of no more than 3-5 pages. Written statements must be received no later than March 19, 1993, and should be sent to the address listed in the "ADDRESSES" portion of this notice.

By the Federal Housing Finance Board.

Philip L. Conover,

Managing Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Travel and Tourism Administration

15 CFR Part 1200

[Docket No. 921249-2343]

RIN 0644-AA02

International Tourism Trade Development Assistance

AGENCY: United States Travel and Tourism Administration.

ACTION: Proposed rulemaking; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: This document extends until March 23, 1993, the United States Travel and Tourism Administration (USTTA) deadline for submission of comments on its proposal to amend its regulations governing administration of the International Tourism Trade Development Financial Assistance Program.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before March 23, 1993.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be forwarded in triplicate to: Mrs. Karen M. Cardran, Director, Marketing Programs, Office of Tourism Marketing, United States Travel and Tourism Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, room 1860, Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mrs. Karen M. Cardran, Director, Marketing Programs, Office of Tourism Marketing, United States Travel and Tourism Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, room 1860, Washington, DC 20230. (202) 482-1904.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: USTTA published a proposed notice of rulemaking to amend regulations in 15 CFR 1200 in the Federal Register on January 22, 1993 (58 FR 5672). Comments were to have been received on or before February 15, 1993. In the interest of assuring adequate time for review of these very complex regulations, Congressional delegates have requested an extension of the comment period until March 23, 1993 in order to provide a 60 day comment period. This notice so extends the comment period. To allow proper review and consideration of all comments received, it will not be possible to meet the originally scheduled date for publication of a final rule of March 29, 1993.