

Notification Regarding Administrative Protective Orders

This notice serves as the only reminder to parties subject to administrative protective order (APO) of their responsibility concerning the disposition of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Timely written notification of the return or destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and the terms of an APO is a sanctionable violation. Note that Commerce has temporarily modified certain of its requirements for serving documents containing business proprietary information, until May 19, 2020, unless extended.¹¹

This notice is published in accordance with sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i)(1) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.213(d)(4).

Dated: May 8, 2020.

James Maeder,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations.

[FR Doc. 2020–10350 Filed 5–13–20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Open Meeting of the Information Security and Privacy Advisory Board

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: The Information Security and Privacy Advisory Board (ISPAB) will meet Wednesday, June 24, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, and Thursday, June 25, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Eastern Time. All sessions will be open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 24, 2020, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, and Thursday, June 25, 2020, from 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Eastern Time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be a virtual meeting via webinar. Please note admittance instructions under the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeff Brewer, Information Technology Laboratory, National Institute of

Standards and Technology, Telephone: (301) 975–2489, Email address: jeffrey.brewer@nist.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, 5 U.S.C. App., notice is hereby given that the ISPAB will hold an open meeting Wednesday, June 24, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, and Thursday, June 25, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Eastern Time. All sessions will be open to the public. The ISPAB is authorized by 15 U.S.C. 278g–4, as amended, and advises the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on information security and privacy issues pertaining to Federal government information systems, including through review of proposed standards and guidelines developed by NIST. Details regarding the ISPAB's activities are available at <https://csrc.nist.gov/projects/ispab>.

The agenda is expected to include the following items:

- Discussion of the United States Methods of Product Testing and Standards Conformance,
- Presentation from the United States Government Testing Programs,
- Discussion of International Testing requirements and conformance regimes,
- Discussion of Executive Order 13905—Strengthening National Resilience Through Use of Positioning, Navigation, and Timing (PNT) Services,
- Discussion on telework cybersecurity and privacy, and potential lessons learned

Note that agenda items may change without notice. The final agenda will be posted on the ISPAB event page at: <https://csrc.nist.gov/Events/2020/ispab-june-meeting>.

Public Participation: Written questions or comments from the public are invited and may be submitted electronically by email to Jeff Brewer at the contact information indicated in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice by 5 p.m. June 22, 2020.

The ISPAB agenda will include a period, not to exceed thirty minutes, for submitted questions or comments from the public (Wednesday, June 24, 2020, between 4:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.). Submitted questions or comments from the public will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis and limited to five minutes per person.

Members of the public who wish to expand upon their submitted

statements, those who had wished to submit a question or comment but could not be accommodated on the agenda, and those who were unable to attend the meeting via webinar are invited to submit written statements. In addition, written statements are invited and may be submitted to the ISPAB at any time. All written statements should be directed to the ISPAB Secretariat, Information Technology Laboratory by email to: jeffrey.brewer@nist.gov.

Admittance Instructions: All participants will be attending via webinar and must register on ISPAB's event page at: <https://cms.csrc.nist.gov/Events/2020/ispab-june-meeting> by 5 p.m. Eastern Time, June 22, 2020.

Kevin A. Kimball,
Chief of Staff.

[FR Doc. 2020–10375 Filed 5–13–20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No.: PTO–P–2020–0026]

COVID–19 Prioritized Examination Pilot Program

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO or Office) is implementing a pilot program to provide prioritized examination of certain patent applications. To qualify, the claim(s) of an application must cover a product or process related to COVID–19, and such product or process must be subject to an applicable FDA approval for COVID–19 use.

Under this pilot program, the USPTO will grant qualified requests for prioritized examination without payment of certain fees associated with prioritized examination for applicants that qualify for small or micro entity status. The goal of prioritized examination is to provide a final disposition within 12 months, on average, from the date the prioritized status has been granted. Furthermore, the USPTO believes it can achieve final disposition in six months if applicants provide more timely responses to notices and actions from the USPTO, as compared to those required by prioritized examination. This notice outlines the conditions, eligibility requirements, and guidelines of the pilot program.

¹¹ See *Temporary Rule Modifying AD/CVD Service Requirements Due to COVID–19*, 85 FR 17006 (March 26, 2020).

DATES: Comments must be received by July 13, 2020 to ensure consideration.

Pilot Duration: The COVID-19 Prioritized Examination Pilot Program will accept requests for prioritized examination beginning July 13, 2020 until such time as the USPTO has accepted a total of 500 requests. The USPTO may extend the pilot program (with or without modifications) or terminate it depending on the workload and resources needed to administer the program, feedback from the public, and the effectiveness of the program. If the pilot program is extended or terminated, the USPTO will notify the public.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent by email addressed to Covid19PrioritizedExamPilot@uspto.gov. If submission of comments by email is not feasible due to, e.g., a lack of access to a computer and/or the internet, please contact the USPTO for special instructions using the contact information provided in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice.

Comments will be available for viewing via the USPTO's website (<https://www.uspto.gov>). Because the comments will be made available for public viewing, information the submitter does not desire to make public, such as an address or phone number, should not be included in the comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert A. Clarke, Editor of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) (telephone at 571-272-7735; email at robert.clarke@uspto.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: New patent applications are normally taken up for examination in the order of their U.S. filing dates. See section 708 of the MPEP (9th ed., Rev. 08.2017, 2018). The USPTO has procedures under which an application will be advanced out of turn (accorded special status) for examination if the applicant files a petition to make special under 37 CFR 1.102(c) and (d) with the appropriate showing. See 37 CFR 1.102(c) and (d) and MPEP 708.02 and 708.02(a).

In addition, an application can be advanced out of turn (accorded special status) for examination if the applicant files a grantable request for prioritized examination under 37 CFR 1.102(e). Section 11(h) of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act, Public Law 112-29, 125 Stat. 284 (2011), effective September 26, 2011, provides for prioritized examination whereby an applicant may request prioritized examination upon payment of appropriate fees and compliance with certain requirements. See MPEP

708.02(b). 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2)(G) authorizes the USPTO to provide for prioritization of examination of applications for products, processes, or technologies that are important to the national economy or national competitiveness without requiring the prioritized examination fee.

In an extraordinary situation, 37 CFR 1.183 permits the USPTO to suspend or waive *sua sponte* any requirement of its regulations that is not a requirement of the patent statutes. The USPTO considers the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak that began in approximately January 2020 to be an "extraordinary situation" within the meaning of 37 CFR 1.183 for affected patent applicants and innovators. Consistent with this determination and the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2)(G), the USPTO has decided to implement a pilot program to provide prioritized examination without payment of the additional fees for prioritized examination for certain applications that claim products or processes that are subject to an applicable FDA approval for COVID-19 use. Such approvals may include, but are not limited to, an Investigational New Drug (IND) application, an Investigational Device Exemption (IDE), a New Drug Application (NDA), a Biologics License Application (BLA), a Premarket Approval (PMA), or an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). Information on INDs, IDEs, NDAs, BLAs, PMAs, and EUAs may be obtained at www.fda.gov. To focus the USPTO's resources on those applicants that may be more resource constrained, the pilot is limited to applicants that qualify for either small or micro entity status. The USPTO will periodically evaluate the pilot program to determine whether and to what extent its coverage should be expanded or limited.

The USPTO currently provides for prioritized examination of utility and plant original applications if certain requirements are met. See 37 CFR 1.102(e) and MPEP 708.02(b). Upon filing a request for prioritized examination, an applicant must pay certain fees, including a prioritized examination fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(c) and a processing fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(i)(1). The requirement to pay these two fees will be waived under this pilot program if the requirements are met. The remaining fees listed in 37 CFR 1.102(e) and MPEP 708.02(b), subsection I. A. 2., that are not currently set to \$0 must be paid by all applicants, and the requirement to pay those fees by the time the request for prioritized examination is made is not waived under this pilot program.

Part I. Requirements To Participate

(1) The request for prioritized examination under the pilot program must be made:

(a) With the filing of a non-continuing original utility or plant nonprovisional application;

(b) with the filing of an original utility or plant nonprovisional application claiming the benefit of an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120, 121, or 365(c) of one prior nonprovisional application or one prior international application designating the United States; or

(c) with or after the filing of a request for continued examination (RCE) of such plant or utility application or of a national stage of an international application. Consistent with 37 CFR 1.102(e)(2), only a single request for prioritized examination filed with or after filing an RCE may be granted in an application.

The pilot program is reserved for the above nonprovisional applications. Any application that claims the benefit of the filing date of two or more prior filed nonprovisional U.S. applications or international applications designating the United States under 35 U.S.C. 120, 121, or 365(c) is not eligible for participation under the pilot program, but the applicant may request prioritized examination under 37 CFR 1.102(e). Claiming the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of one or more prior provisional applications or claiming a right of foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f) to one or more foreign applications will not cause a nonprovisional application to be ineligible for the pilot program.

The USPTO encourages the use of form PTO/SB/450, titled "Certification and Request for COVID-19 Prioritized Examination Pilot Program under 37 CFR 1.102(e)," to make the request for prioritized examination under the pilot. Form PTO/SB/450 is available at <https://www.uspto.gov/patent/forms/forms-patent-applications-filed-or-after-september-16-2012>. Form PTO/SB/450 contains the necessary certifications for qualification to participate in the pilot. Use of form PTO/SB/450 will also enable the USPTO to quickly identify and timely process the request.

(2) The applicant must certify that at least one of the pending claims covers a product or process related to COVID-19 and that such product or process is subject to an applicable FDA approval for COVID-19 use. Form PTO/SB/450 contains this certification.

(3) The request must include a certification that the applicant qualifies for either small entity (37 CFR 1.27) or micro entity (37 CFR 1.29) status when

the request is made. Form PTO/SB/450 contains this certification.

(4) The request must include an executed application data sheet meeting the conditions specified in 37 CFR 1.53(f)(3)(i).

Part II. Internal Processing of the Request Under the Pilot Program

Requests complying with the four requirements above will be further reviewed to determine if the other requirements for prioritized examination are met, *e.g.*, the requirements of 37 CFR 1.102(e) other than payment of the fees set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(c) and 1.17(i)(1). These requirements include: Filing the application and request for prioritized examination under the pilot program via the USPTO's patent electronic filing systems (EFS-Web or Patent Center) if the application is a utility application; presenting no more than four independent claims and 30 total claims, and no multiple dependent claims; and paying the other required fees (*e.g.*, the basic filing fee, search fee, and examination fee). In addition, obtaining an extension of time to a notice before the request has been acted upon will result in the request being denied. See MPEP 708.02(b), subsection I, for a discussion of the requirements.

Part III. Office Actions and Replies Under the Pilot Program

The time periods set for reply in Office actions for applications undergoing prioritized examination under the pilot program will be the same as those for other applications undergoing prioritized examination and are set forth in MPEP 710.02(b). If an applicant files a petition for an extension of time to file a reply or a request for suspension of action, the petition or request will be acted upon, but the prioritized examination of the application under the pilot program will be terminated, as is the case with other applications undergoing prioritized examination. In addition, in order to maintain special status, filing an amendment to the application that results in more than four independent claims, more than 30 total claims, or a multiple dependent claim will terminate the prioritized examination, as is the case with other applications undergoing prioritized examination. Upon termination of prioritized examination, the application will be removed from the examiner's special docket and placed on the examiner's regular docket in accordance with its stage of prosecution, as is the case with other applications undergoing prioritized examination.

A reply to an Office action must be fully responsive to the rejections, objections, and requirements made by the examiner. Any amendment filed in reply to a non-final Office action will be treated as not fully responsive if it attempts to: (1) Add claims that would result in more than four independent claims or more than 30 total claims pending in the application; or (2) add any multiple dependent claim. If a reply to a non-final Office action is not fully responsive because it does not comply with the pilot program requirements but is a *bona fide* attempt to advance the application to final action, the examiner may, at his or her discretion, provide one month or 30 days, whichever is longer, for the applicant to supply a fully responsive reply, in which case prioritized examination would not be terminated. Submission of a petition for extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) to the notice of nonresponsive amendment will result in termination of special status. Any further nonresponsive amendment will not be treated as *bona fide*, and the time period set in the prior notice will continue to run.

Part IV. After-Final and Appeal Procedures

The mailing of a final Office action or the filing of a Notice of Appeal, whichever is earlier, is a final disposition for purposes of the 12-month goal for the pilot program. During the appeal process, the application will be treated in accordance with the normal appeal procedure (see MPEP chapter 1200). Any amendment, affidavit, or other evidence submitted after a final Office action and prior to appeal must comply with 37 CFR 1.116. The filing of an RCE for an application in the pilot program is a final disposition for purposes of the 12-month goal for the program. The application will not retain its special status after the filing of a proper RCE.

Part V. Proceedings Outside the Normal Examination Process

If an application becomes involved in proceedings outside the normal examination process (*e.g.*, a secrecy order or petitions under 37 CFR 1.181–1.183), the USPTO will place the application in special status under the pilot program before and after such proceedings. During those proceedings, however, the application will not be under special status. For example, while under a secrecy order, the application will be treated in accordance with the normal secrecy order procedures and will not be in special status under the pilot program. Once the proceeding

outside the normal examination process is completed, the application will continue in special status until it reaches a final disposition, which may occur later than 12 months from the grant of special status under the pilot program.

Part VI. First Action Interview (FAI) Pilot Program Is Not Available

Applications accepted into the FAI Pilot Program are not eligible for this pilot program. In addition, applications accepted into this pilot program will not be eligible to participate in the FAI Pilot Program. However, standard interview practices and procedures applicable to regular *ex parte* prosecution will still be available. See MPEP 713.02. For more information about the FAI Pilot Program, please visit <https://www.uspto.gov/patent/initiatives/first-action-interview/full-first-action-interview-pilot-program>.

Part VII. Actions Resulting in Termination From the Pilot Program

There is no provision for withdrawal from special status under the pilot program. However, the filing of a petition for any extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) will result in the termination of special status under the pilot program. Presenting more than one benefit claim to previously filed nonprovisional U.S. applications or international applications designating the United States under 35 U.S.C. 120, 121, or 365(c) will also result in the termination of special status under the pilot program.

An applicant may abandon the application that has been granted special status under the pilot program in favor of a continuing application. However, a continuing application will not automatically be given prioritized examination status based on the request filed in the parent application. Each application (including each continuing application) must, on its own, meet all requirements for prioritized examination under the pilot program.

Part VIII. Twelve-Month Goal

The objective of the pilot program is to complete, on average, the examination of an application within 12 months of special status being granted (*i.e.*, within 12 months from the mailing date of the decision granting the petition to make special). The 12-month goal is successfully achieved when one of the following final dispositions occurs within 12 months from the grant of special status under the pilot program: (1) The mailing of a notice of allowance; (2) the mailing of a final Office action; (3) the filing of an RCE; (4) the

abandonment of the application; or (5) the filing of a Notice of Appeal. The final disposition of an application, however, may occur later than the 12-month time frame in certain situations (e.g., when the applicant filed a petition under 37 CFR 1.181). In any event, however, the 12-month time frame is a goal. Any failure to meet the 12-month goal, or other issues related to this goal that arise, are neither petitionable nor appealable matters.

Applicants may shorten the overall pendency of an application in the pilot program by replying to Office actions and notices earlier than required by the USPTO. For example, the USPTO will endeavor to reduce pendency, from approval of the request for prioritized examination to final disposition, to six months if all replies occur within 30 days of a notice by the USPTO. This goal depends on additional factors, including the demands placed on specific examiners by multiple co-pending applications under the pilot program. Current statistics for prioritized examination are available at <https://www.uspto.gov/corda/dashboards/patents/main.dashxml?CTNAVID=1007>.

Andrei Iancu,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2020–10372 Filed 5–13–20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–16–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Air Force

[Docket ID: USAF–2020–HQ–0006]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of the Air Force, DoD.

ACTION: Information collection notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, the Department of the Air Force announces a proposed public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: 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; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the

burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by July 13, 2020.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Mail: DoD cannot receive written comments at this time due to the COVID–19 pandemic. Comments should be sent electronically to the docket listed above.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to CMOS, 200 East Moore Dr., Maxwell AFB Gunter Annex, AL 36114–3004, ATTN: Daniel J. Mangum, (334) 416–4679.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number: Cargo Movement Operations System (CMOS); OMB Control Number 0701–CMOS.

Needs and Uses: CMOS is used by the DoD to plan, manage, and execute the movement of cargo and personnel. In addition to the deployment of active military personnel, the passenger manifest capability supports military retirees and military family members traveling on a “Space A CAT VI” basis. Those passengers are considered to be “general public.” The data required for a passenger manifest includes PII, such as a Passport Number, and is deemed to be a “Collection.” This “general public” data is collected when passengers are at the Air Terminal; no solicitation is involved.

Affected Public: Individuals and Household.

Annual Burden Hours: 18.

Number of Respondents: 180.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Annual Responses: 180.

Average Burden per Response: 0.1 hour.

Frequency: Approximately 180 times per year.

This passenger data is collected only on an as-needed basis when the passengers request the Space A travel, and is collected only at the Air Terminal. CMOS does not seek out these respondents and does not in any way solicit their participation. There are no paper forms for information requests sent to the travelers for them to return.

The sole purpose of this data is to provide a complete manifest of the passengers onboard the military flight. It is not used for any other reporting or statistical purposes.

Dated: May 11, 2020.

Aaron T. Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2020–10342 Filed 5–13–20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001–06–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Air Force

[Docket ID: USAF–2020–HQ–0005]

Proposed Collection, Comment Request

AGENCY: Headquarters Air Force Personnel Center/Airman and Family Sustainment Branch, Department of Defense.

ACTION: Information collection notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, the Airman and Family Sustainment Branch, Headquarters Air Force Personnel Center, announces the proposed reinstatement of a public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: 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; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by July 13, 2020.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Mail: DoD cannot receive written comments at this time due to the