

which is used by the public to submit a complaint under this program. This form is available for download from the USPTO Web site. Use of this form is not mandatory as long as the complaint includes the necessary information and is clearly marked as a complaint filed under the Inventors' Rights Act. There is no associated form for responses to the complaints.

In September 2002, OMB approved a change worksheet that decreased the burden for this information collection due to the USPTO receiving fewer complaints and responses to the complaints than previously estimated. This information collection includes personal information that is subject to the Privacy Act of 1974.

II. Method of Collection

By mail, facsimile, or hand delivery to the USPTO.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0651-0044.

Form Number(s): PTO/SB/2048.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; businesses or other for-profits; and not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 100 responses per year.

Estimated Time Per Response: The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 15 minutes (0.25 hours) to gather the necessary information, prepare the form, and submit the complaint to the USPTO. The USPTO also estimates that it will take an invention promoter or promotion firm approximately 30 minutes (0.5 hours) to prepare and submit a response to a complaint.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours: 38 hours per year.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Cost Burden: \$4,790 per year. The USPTO expects that complaints will be prepared by paraprofessionals or independent inventors at an estimated rate of \$30 per hour. The USPTO expects that the responses to the complaints will be prepared either by attorneys or by invention promoters. Using the average of the professional rate of \$252 per hour for associate attorneys in private firms and the estimated rate of \$100 per hour for invention promoters, the USPTO estimates that the average rate for preparing the responses to the complaints will be \$176 per hour. Therefore, the respondent cost burden for this collection will be \$4,790 per year.

Item	Estimated time for response (in minutes)	Estimated annual responses	Estimated annual burden hours
Complaint Regarding Invention Promoter	15	50	13
Responses to the Complaints	30	50	25
Total	100	38

Estimated Total Annual Non-hour Respondent Cost Burden: \$37. There are no capital start-up or maintenance costs or filing fees associated with this information collection. However, the public may incur postage costs when submitting a complaint or a response to a complaint by mail to the USPTO. The USPTO estimates that the first-class postage cost for a mailed complaint or response to a complaint will be 37 cents, for a total non-hour respondent cost burden in the form of postage costs of \$37 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.

Dated: April 24, 2003.

Susan K. Brown,

Records Officer, USPTO, Office of Data Architecture and Services, Data Administration Division.

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BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Requirements for Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequence and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before June 30, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Susan K. Brown, Records Officer, Office of Data Architecture and Services, Data Administration Division, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Suite 310, 2231 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202; by telephone at (703) 308-7400; or by electronic mail at susan.brown@uspto.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Robert J. Spar, Director, Office of Patent Legal Administration, USPTO, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450; by telephone at (703) 308-5107; or by electronic mail at bob.spar@uspto.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The requirements for submitting nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosures as part of a patent application are outlined in 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. The rules of practice require patent applicants to submit these sequence listings in a standard international format that is consistent with World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Standard ST.25 (1998). Sequence listings may be submitted for both national and international patent applications.