

to take to facilitate the use of generic drugs?

- Are there means by which OECD countries could improve incentives for developing innovative medicines without significantly increasing spending on drugs?
- List any additional drug pricing practices by OECD countries that utilize non-tariff barriers.

Dated: May 25, 2004.

Jonathan Menes,

Executive Director, Trade Development.

[FR Doc. 04-12205 Filed 5-28-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Availability of Seats for the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

AGENCY: National Marine Sanctuary Program (NMSP), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice and request for applications.

SUMMARY: The Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS or Sanctuary) is seeking applicants for the following vacant seats on its Sanctuary Advisory Council (Council): Public At-Large member, Tourism member, Research member, and Commercial Fishing alternate. Applicants are chosen based upon their particular expertise and experience in relation to the seat for which they are applying; community and professional affiliations; views regarding the conservation and management of marine resources; and the length of residence in the area affected by the Sanctuary. Applicants who are chosen as members should expect to serve two-year terms, pursuant to the Council's Charter.

DATES: Applications are due by June 21, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Application kits may be obtained on line at channelislands.noaa.gov, or from Michael Murray at 115 Harbor Way, Suite 150, Santa Barbara, CA 98625. Completed applications should be sent to the same address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Murray at (805) 884-1464, or michael.murray@noaa.gov, or visit the CINMS Web site at <http://channelislands.noaa.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The CINMS Advisory Council was originally established in December 1998 and has a broad representation consisting of 21 members, including ten government agency representatives and eleven members from the general public. The Council functions in an advisory capacity to the Sanctuary Manager. The Council works in concert with the Sanctuary Manager by keeping him or her informed about issues of concern throughout the Sanctuary, offering recommendations on specific issues, and aiding the Manager in achieving the goals of the Sanctuary program. Specifically, the Council's objectives are to provide advice on: (1) Protecting natural and cultural resources, and identifying and evaluating emergent or critical issues involving Sanctuary use or resources; (2) Identifying and realizing the Sanctuary's research objectives; (3) Identifying and realizing educational opportunities to increase the public knowledge and stewardship of the Sanctuary environment; and (4) Assisting to develop an informed constituency to increase awareness and understanding of the purpose and value of the Sanctuary and the National Marine Sanctuary Program.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1431 *et seq.* (Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.429 Marine Sanctuary Program)

Dated: May 24, 2004.

Jamison S. Hawkins,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Management, Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 04-12173 Filed 5-28-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-NK-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 052504B]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Habitat Advisory Panel and Habitat/ Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Oversight Committee in June, 2004. Recommendations from these committees will be brought to the full

Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 16, 2004 from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. for the Advisory Panel only, then from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. jointly with the Oversight Committee and then from 11:30 a.m. until adjourn, the Habitat/MPA Committee will meet.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Courtyard by Marriott, 1000 Market Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801; telephone: (603) 436-2121.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Newburyport, MA 01950.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Habitat Advisory Panel will meet separately from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. then jointly with the Committee from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. to review the scoping comments for the essential fish habitat (EFH) Omnibus Amendment. At 11:30 a.m., the Habitat Committee will meet, and based on the earlier review of the scoping comments for the EFH Omnibus Amendment, will develop recommendations for the Council's consideration regarding the goals and objectives of the Amendment. They will consider a draft Research for Proposals (RFP) for Habitat Areas of Particular Concern proposals and Dedicated Habitat Research Areas proposals. They will develop alternatives to allow shrimp trawling into the Western Gulf Of Maine Habitat Closed Area in Framework 40B to the Multispecies Fishery Management Plan. Also on the agenda will be development of a draft proposal for NOAA Marine Protected Areas Center funding to assist in the development of a Council MPA policy. Other business will be discussed at the discretion of the Committee.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Paul

J. Howard (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting dates.

Dated: May 25, 2004.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. E4-1227 Filed 5-28-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Patent Term Extension

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 August 2, 2004.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- E-mail: *Susan.Brown@uspto.gov*. Include "0651-0020 comment" in the subject line of the message.
- Fax: 703-308-7407, marked to the attention of Susan Brown.
- Mail: Susan K. Brown, Records Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Office of Data Architecture and Services, Data Administration Division, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information should be directed to Robert J. Spar, Director, Office of Patent Legal Administration, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450; by telephone at 703-308-5107; or by e-mail at *Bob.Spar@uspto.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act at 35 U.S.C. 156 permits the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to restore the patent term lost due to certain types of regulatory review by the Federal Food and Drug Administration or the Department of Agriculture. Only patents for drug products, medical devices, food additives, and color additives are eligible for extension. The maximum length that a patent may be extended in

order to restore the lost portion of the patent term is five years.

The USPTO may in some cases extend the term of an original patent due to certain delays in the prosecution of the patent application, including delays caused by interference proceedings, secrecy orders, or appellate review by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences or a Federal court in which the patent is issued pursuant to a decision reversing an adverse determination of patentability. The patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(b), as amended by Title IV, Subtitle D of the Intellectual Property and Communications Omnibus Reform Act of 1999, require the USPTO to notify the applicant of the patent term adjustment in the notice of allowance and give the applicant an opportunity to request reconsideration of the USPTO's patent term adjustment determination. The USPTO may also reduce the amount of patent term adjustment granted if delays were caused by an applicant's failure to make a reasonable effort to respond to a communication from the USPTO within three months of the mailing date of the communication. Applicants may petition for reinstatement of a reduction in patent term adjustment with a showing that, in spite of all due care, the applicant was unable to respond to a communication from the USPTO within the three month period.

The USPTO administers 35 U.S.C. 154 and 156 through 37 CFR subpart F (1.701-1.791). These rules permit the public to submit applications to the USPTO to extend the term of a patent past its original expiration date, to request interim extensions and review of final eligibility decisions, and to withdraw an application requesting a patent term extension after it is submitted. Under 35 U.S.C. 156(d), an application for patent term extension must identify the approved product, the patent to be extended, the claims included in the patent for the approved product, and a method of use or manufacturing for the approved product. In addition, the application for patent term extension must provide a brief description of the activities undertaken by the applicant during the regulatory review period with respect to the approved product and the significant dates of these activities.

The term of a patent which claims a product, a method of using a product, or a method of manufacturing a product shall be extended if the term of the patent has not expired before an application is submitted. The Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act requires that an application for patent term extension be filed with the USPTO

within 60 days of the product receiving regulatory approval from the Federal Food and Drug Administration or the Department of Agriculture. Under 35 U.S.C. 156(e), an interim extension may be granted if the term of an eligible patent for which an application for patent term extension has been submitted under 35 U.S.C. 156(d) would expire before a certificate of extension is issued.

The information in this collection is used by the USPTO to consider whether an applicant is eligible for a patent term extension or reconsideration of a patent term adjustment and, if so, to determine the length of the patent term extension or adjustment. There are no forms associated with this collection.

This collection was previously approved by OMB in October 2001. The USPTO also submitted this collection in conjunction with a notice of proposed rulemaking entitled "Changes to Support Implementation of the United States Patent and Trademark Office 21st Century Strategic Plan" (RIN 0651-AB64), which was published in the **Federal Register** on September 12, 2003 (vol. 68, no. 177). The proposed rulemaking increased the filing fee for the Petition to Accord a Filing Date to an Application under 37 CFR 1.740 for Extension of a Patent Term, which was added to this collection. The proposed rulemaking would also allow applicants to use electronic signatures to sign documents that have been created with a word processor. The information collection package for 0651-0020 associated with this proposed rulemaking was approved by OMB in November 2003. The proposed changes related to patent term adjustments were finalized in the final rule notice entitled "Revision of Patent Term Extension and Patent Term Adjustment Provisions" (RIN 0651-AB71), which was published in the **Federal Register** on April 22, 2004.

II. Method of Collection

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

III. Data

OMB Number: 0651-0020.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; businesses or other for-profits; not-for-profit institutions; farms; the Federal government; and State, local or tribal governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 26,859 responses per year.

Estimated Time Per Response: The USPTO estimates that it will take the