

whether patent applicants or patent owners have submitted inconsistent statements to the USPTO and the FDA? Please explain whether such mechanisms present confidentiality concerns and, if so, how those concerns could be addressed.

3. What are the opportunities and challenges related to the use of AIA proceedings to address the patentability of claims in pharmaceutical and biotechnological patents, including with respect to how such proceedings may intersect with Hatch-Waxman paragraph IV disputes and the Biologics Price Competition and Innovation Act “patent dance” framework that biosimilar applicants and reference product sponsors use to address any patent infringement concerns?

4. How can the USPTO and the FDA reinforce their collaboration and information exchange in relation to determining whether a patent qualifies for a patent term extension (PTE) and the length of any extension under 35 U.S.C. 156, as described in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure § 2756? Identify any specific areas for improvement in the effectiveness of the current USPTO–FDA process for adjudicating applications for PTE and in the opportunity for public comment on such applications.

5. The FDA already publishes PTE applications on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), and the USPTO publishes PTE applications on its Patent Center portal (<https://patentcenter.uspto.gov/>), which replaced the Public Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. The USPTO also recently provided centralized access to a listing of PTE applications filed during the last five years at [www.uspto.gov/patents/laws/patent-term-extension/patent-terms-extended-under-35-usc-156](http://www.uspto.gov/patents/laws/patent-term-extension/patent-terms-extended-under-35-usc-156). This list includes the patent application number, patent number, link to the electronic file wrapper in Patent Center, PTE application filing date, and trade name identified in the PTE application. The status of each PTE application, including disposition, may be determined by reviewing the electronic file wrapper in Patent Center. What additional information would be useful to include on this web page?

6. What policy considerations or concerns should the USPTO and the FDA explore as they relate to method of use patents and, as applicable, associated FDA use codes, including with respect to generic drug, 505(b)(2), and biosimilar applicants who do not seek approval for (*i.e.*, who seek to carve out from their labeling) information related to a patent-protected method of

use (sometimes described as “skinny labeling”)?

7. What policy considerations or concerns should the USPTO and the FDA explore in relation to the patenting of risk evaluation and mitigation strategies associated with certain FDA-approved products? What other types of patent claims associated with FDA-regulated products raise policy considerations or concerns for the USPTO and the FDA to evaluate?

8. Apart from, or in conjunction with, the initiatives set forth in the USPTO Letter, what other steps could the USPTO and the FDA take collaboratively to address concerns about the potential misuse of patents to improperly delay competition or to promote greater availability of generic versions of scarce drugs that are no longer covered by patents?

9. What additional input on any of the initiatives listed in the USPTO Letter (1(a)–1(h)), or any other related suggestions for USPTO–FDA collaboration, should the agencies consider?

**Katherine K. Vidal,**

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

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**BILLING CODE 3510–16–P**

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## COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Notice of Intent To Extend Collection 3038–0025, Practice by Former Members and Employees of the Commission

**AGENCY:** Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC” or “Commission”) is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed renewal of an information collection by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (“PRA”), Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including proposed extension of an existing collection of information, and to allow 60 days for public comment. This notice solicits comments regarding the reporting requirement imposed on former members and employees of the Commission who are employed or retained by third parties to appear before the Commission.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before January 6, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by “Practice by Former Members and Employees of the Commission, OMB Control No. 3038–0025,” by any of the following methods:

- The Agency’s website, at <https://comments.cftc.gov/>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments through the website.

- *Mail:* Christopher Kirkpatrick, Secretary of the Commission, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20581.

- *Hand Delivery/Courier:* Same as Mail above.

Please submit your comments using only one method. All comments must be submitted in English, or if not, accompanied by an English translation. Comments will be posted as received to <https://www.cftc.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Frank Walsh, Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official, Office of the General Counsel, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, (202) 418–6250; email: [fwalsh@cftc.gov](mailto:fwalsh@cftc.gov), and refer to OMB Control No. 3038–0025.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*, Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. “Collection of Information” is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3 and includes agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A), requires Federal agencies to provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information, before submitting the collection to OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, the CFTC is publishing notice of a proposed extension of the currently approved information collection listed below. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.<sup>1</sup>

*Title:* Practice by Former Members and Employees of the Commission (OMB Control No. 3038–0025). This is a request for an extension of a currently approved information collection.

<sup>1</sup> 44 U.S.C. 3512, 5 CFR 1320.5(b)(2)(i) and 1320.8(b)(3)(vi).

*Abstract:* Commission Rule 140.735–6 governs the practice before the Commission of former members and employees of the Commission and is intended to ensure that the Commission is aware of any existing conflict of interest. The rule, at 17 CFR 140.735–6(e), requires former members and employees who are employed or retained to represent any person before the Commission within two years of their separation from the CFTC, to file a brief written statement with the Commission’s Office of the General Counsel. The proposed rule was promulgated pursuant to the Commission’s rulemaking authority contained in Section 8a(5) of the Commodity Exchange Act, 7 U.S.C. 12a(5) (1994), as amended.

With respect to the collection of information, the CFTC invites comments on:

- Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the CFTC, including whether the information will have a practical use;

- The accuracy of the CFTC’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

- Ways to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

- Ways to minimize the burden of collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology; *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. If you wish the CFTC to consider information that you believe is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), then a petition for confidential treatment of the exempt information may be submitted according to the procedures established in § 145.9 of the CFTC’s regulations.<sup>2</sup>

The CFTC reserves the right, but shall have no obligation, to review, pre-screen, filter, redact, refuse or remove any or all of your submission from <https://www.cftc.gov> that it may deem to be inappropriate for publication, such as obscene language. All submissions that have been redacted or removed that contain comments on the merits of the Information Correction Request will be retained in the public comment file and will be considered as required under the

Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws, and may be accessible under FOIA.

*Burden statement:* The respondent’s burden for this collection is estimated to average 0.10 hours per response to file the brief written statement. This estimate includes the time needed to review instructions, utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, verifying, processing and disclosing information, and adjust/update existing methods to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements.

*Respondents/Affected Entities:*

Former Commission members, employees, and their current employers.

*Estimated number of respondents:* 20.

*Estimated annual burden hours per respondent:* 0.10 hours (or 6 minutes).

*Estimated total annual burden:* 2 hours.

*Frequency of collection:* On occasion.

There are no capital costs or operating and maintenance costs associated with this collection.

(Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*)

Dated: November 2, 2022.

**Robert Sidman,**

*Deputy Secretary of the Commission.*

[FR Doc. 2022–24205 Filed 11–4–22; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6351–01–P**

## **BUREAU OF CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION**

**[Docket No. CFPB–2021–0017]**

### **Notice and Request for Comment Regarding the CFPB’s Inquiry Into Big Tech Payment Platforms**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** On October 21, 2021, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (Bureau or CFPB) ordered six large technology companies operating payments systems in the United States to provide information about certain of their business practices. Accompanying the orders, the Director of the Bureau issued a statement and invited interested parties to submit comments to inform the Bureau’s inquiry. The statement and request for comment was published in the **Federal Register** on November 5, 2021, in a document titled, “Notice and Request for Comment Regarding the CFPB’s Inquiry into Big Tech Payment Platforms.” The Bureau has determined that it is appropriate to re-open the docket for 30 days from **Federal Register** publication and add two questions.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before December 7, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. CFPB–2021–0017, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:*

<https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *Email:* [BigTechPaymentsInquiry@cfpb.gov](mailto:BigTechPaymentsInquiry@cfpb.gov). Include Docket No. CFPB–2021–0017 in the subject line of the message.

- *Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier:*

Comment Intake—Statement into Big Tech Payment Platforms, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, c/o Legal Division Docket Manager, 1700 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20552. Because paper mail in the Washington, DC area and at the Bureau is subject to delay, commenters are encouraged to submit comments electronically.

*Instructions:* The Bureau encourages the early submission of comments. Please note the number of the topic on which you are commenting at the top of each response (you do not need to address all topics). All submissions should include document title and docket number. In general, all comments received will be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov>. All comments, including attachments and other supporting materials, will become part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. Proprietary information or sensitive personal information, such as account numbers or Social Security numbers, or names of other individuals, should not be included. Comments will not be edited to remove any identifying or contact information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Amy Zirkle, Program Manager for Payments & Deposits, (202) 435–7505. If you require this document in an alternative electronic format, please contact [CFPB\\_Accessibility@cfpb.gov](mailto:CFPB_Accessibility@cfpb.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On October 21, 2021, the CFPB ordered six large technology companies operating payments systems in the United States to provide information about certain of their business practices. Accompanying the orders, the Director of the Bureau issued a statement and invited interested parties to submit comments to inform the inquiry. The statement and request for comment were published in the **Federal Register** on November 5, 2021,<sup>1</sup> in a document titled “Notice and Request for Comment

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 145.9.

<sup>1</sup> 86 FR 61182 (Nov. 5, 2021).