

TABLE 1—GENERAL SUPERFUND SECTION

State	Site name	City/county	Notes (a)
CA	Copper Bluff Mine	Hoopa.	*
CA	Hunters Point Naval Shipyard	San Francisco	P
IN	Cliff Drive Groundwater Contamination	Logansport.	*
MI	McLouth Steel Corp	Trenton.	*
MO	Sporlan Valve Plant #1	Washington.	*
NY	Magna Metals	Cortlandt Manor.	*
PR	PROTECO	Peñuelas.	*
WV	Shaffer Equipment/Arbuckle Creek Area	Minden.	*

(a) A = Based on issuance of health advisory by Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (if scored, HRS score need not be greater than or equal to 28.50).

* * * * *

P = Sites with partial deletion(s).

[FR Doc. 2019-09924 Filed 5-14-19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 1552

[EPA-HQ-OMS-2018-0742; FRL 9992-99-OMS]

Environmental Protection Agency Acquisition Regulation (EPAAR) Clause Update for Submission of Invoices

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is revising its *Submission of Invoices* clause to add electronic invoicing requirements. In 2019 the EPA will begin using the Invoice Processing Platform (IPP), which is a secure web-based service provided by the U.S. Treasury that efficiently manages government invoicing.

DATES: This final rule is effective on May 15, 2019.

ADDRESSES: The EPA has established a docket for this action under Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OARM-2018-0742. All documents in the docket are listed on

the <https://www.regulations.gov> website. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, e.g., CBI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, is not placed on the internet and will be publicly available only in hard copy form. Publicly available docket materials are available electronically through <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The EPA is revising clause 1552.232-70, *Submission of Invoices*, to add electronic invoicing requirements. In 2019 the EPA will begin using the Invoice Processing Platform (IPP), which is a secure web-based service provided by the U.S. Treasury that efficiently manages government invoicing. Currently the EPA requires contractors and vendors to submit paper invoices, which are inefficient and costly. The EPA will also begin using IPP to satisfy the requirements of Office

of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum M-15-19, *Improving Government Efficiency and Saving Taxpayer Dollars Through Electronic Invoicing*. By changing the subject clause to require electronic invoicing, the EPA will reap benefits of efficiency and cost that have become ubiquitous in modern commerce, and be in compliance with Memorandum M-15-19. On December 20, 2018 (83 FR 65328) EPA sought comments on the proposed rule and received no comments.

II. Final Rule

The final rule amends EPAAR Part 1552, *Solicitation Provisions and Contract Clauses*, by revising EPAAR § 1552.232-70, *Submission of Invoices*.

1. EPAAR § 1552.232-70, *Submission of Invoices* clause is revised to provide new electronic invoicing requirements as the EPA begins using the IPP electronic-invoicing program in 2019. The clause is revised by replacing the preamble and paragraphs (a) and (b), with new paragraphs (a) and (b), that update the old paper invoicing instructions to electronic invoicing. Paragraph (g)(5) is revised to remove references to suspended costs, which are not authorized under IPP. The “Note to paragraph (i)” and “Note to paragraph (j)” are also being revised to remove references to suspended costs. Finally, paragraph (k) and “Note to paragraph

(k)” are being removed because suspended costs are not allowed under IPP, which re-letters the last three paragraphs, re-designating paragraphs (l) through (n) as paragraphs (k) through (m), respectively.

III. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

A. Executive Order 12866: Regulatory Planning and Review

This action is not a “significant regulatory action” under the terms of Executive Order (E.O.) 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993) and therefore, not subject to review under the E.O.

B. Paperwork Reduction Act

This action does not impose an information collection burden under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.* No information is collected under this action.

C. Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA), as Amended by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (SBREFA), 5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*

The Regulatory Flexibility Act generally requires an agency to prepare a regulatory flexibility analysis of any rule subject to notice and comment rulemaking requirements under the Administrative Procedure Act or any other statute; unless the agency certifies that the rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. Small entities include small businesses, small organizations, and small governmental jurisdictions.

For purposes of assessing the impact of today’s final rule on small entities, “small entity” is defined as: (1) A small business that meets the definition of a small business found in the Small Business Act and codified at 13 CFR 121.201; (2) a small governmental jurisdiction that is a government of a city, county, town, school district or special district with a population of less than 50,000; and (3) a small organization that is any not-for-profit enterprise which is independently owned and operated and is not dominant in its field.

After considering the economic impacts of this rule on small entities, I certify that this action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. This action revises a current EPAAR clause and does not impose requirements involving capital investment, implementing procedures, or record keeping. This rule will not have a significant economic impact on small entities.

D. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

Title II of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA), Public Law 104–4, establishes requirements for Federal agencies to assess the effects of their regulatory actions on State, Local, and Tribal governments and the private sector.

This rule contains no Federal mandates (under the regulatory provisions of the Title II of the UMRA) for State, Local, and Tribal governments or the private sector. The rule imposes no enforceable duty on any State, Local or Tribal governments or the private sector. Thus, the rule is not subject to the requirements of Sections 202 and 205 of the UMRA.

E. Executive Order 13132: Federalism

Executive Order 13132, entitled “Federalism” (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999), requires EPA to develop an accountable process to ensure “meaningful and timely input by State and Local officials in the development of regulatory policies that have federalism implications.” “Policies that have federalism implications” is defined in the Executive Order to include regulations that have “substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.”

This rule does not have federalism implications. It will not have substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government as specified in Executive Order 13132.

F. Executive Order 13175: Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments

Executive Order 13175, entitled “Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments” (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000), requires EPA to develop an accountable process to ensure “meaningful and timely input by tribal officials in the development of regulatory policies that have tribal implications.” This rule does not have tribal implications as specified in Executive Order 13175.

G. Executive Order 13045: Protection of Children From Environmental Health and Safety Risks

Executive Order 13045, entitled “Protection of Children from Environmental Health and Safety Risks” (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997), applies

to any rule that: (1) Is determined to be economically significant as defined under Executive Order 12886, and (2) concerns an environmental health or safety risk that may have a proportionate effect on children. This rule is not subject to Executive Order 13045 because it is not an economically significant rule as defined by Executive Order 12866, and because it does not involve decisions on environmental health or safety risks.

H. Executive Order 13211: Actions That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use

This final rule is not subject to Executive Order 13211, “Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution of Use” (66 FR 28335 (May 22, 2001), because it is not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866.

I. National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (NTTAA)

Section 12(d) (15 U.S.C 272 note) of NTTA, Public Law 104–113, directs EPA to use voluntary consensus standards in its regulatory activities unless to do so would be inconsistent with applicable law or otherwise impractical. Voluntary consensus standards are technical standards (*e.g.*, materials specifications, test methods, sampling procedures and business practices) that are developed or adopted by voluntary consensus standards bodies. The NTTA directs EPA to provide Congress, through OMB, explanations when the Agency decides not to use available and applicable voluntary consensus standards.

This rulemaking does not involve technical standards. Therefore, EPA is not considering the use of any voluntary consensus standards.

J. Executive Order 12898: Federal Actions To Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations

Executive Order (E.O.) 12898 (59 FR 7629 (February 16, 1994) establishes federal executive policy on environmental justice. Its main provision directs federal agencies, to the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law, to make environmental justice part of their mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of their programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations in the United States.

EPA has determined that this final rule will not have disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority or low-income populations because it does not affect the level of protection provided to human health or the environment. This rulemaking does not involve human health or environmental effects.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 1552

Environmental protection,
Solicitation provisions and contract clauses.

Dated: April 8, 2019.

Kimberly Y. Patrick,
Director, Office of Acquisition Solutions.

Therefore, 40 CFR part 1552 is amended as set forth below:

■ 1. The authority citation for part 1552 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 301 and 41 U.S.C. 418b.

PART 1552—SOLICITATION PROVISIONS AND CONTRACT CLAUSES

■ 2. Revise section 1552.232–70 to read as follows:

1552.232–70 Submission of invoices.

As prescribed in 1532.908, insert the following clause:

Submission of Invoices (MAY 19)

(a) *Electronic invoicing and the Invoice Processing Platform (IPP)*—(1) *Definitions.* As used in this clause—

Contract financing payment and invoice payment are defined in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 32.001.

Electronic form means an automated system that transmits information electronically from the initiating system to all affected systems. Facsimile, email, and scanned documents are not acceptable electronic forms for submission of payment requests. However, scanned documents are acceptable when they are part of a submission of a payment request made using Invoice Processing Platform or another electronic form authorized by the Contracting Officer.

Payment request means any request for contract financing payment or invoice payment submitted by the Contractor under this contract.

(2)(i) Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this clause, the Contractor shall submit invoices using the electronic invoicing program Invoice Processing Platform (IPP), which is a secure web-based service provided by the U.S. Treasury that more efficiently manages government invoicing.

(ii) Under this contract, the following documents are required to be submitted as an attachment to the IPP invoice: (This is a fill-in for acceptable types of required documentation, such as an SF 1034 and 1035, or an invoice/self-designed form on

company letterhead that contains the required information.)

(iii) The Contractor's Government Business Point of Contact (as listed in System for Award Management (SAM)) will receive enrollment instructions via email from the IPP. The Contractor must register within 3 to 5 days of receipt of such email from IPP.

(iv) Contractor assistance with enrollment can be obtained by contacting the IPP Production Helpdesk via email at IPPCustomerSupport@fiscal.treasury.gov or by telephone at (866) 973–3131.

(3) If the Contractor is unable to comply with the requirement to use IPP for submitting invoices for payment, the Contractor shall submit a waiver request in writing to the Contracting Officer. The Contractor may submit an invoice using other than IPP only when—

(i) The Contracting Officer administering the contract for payment has determined, in writing, that electronic submission would be unduly burdensome to the Contractor; and in such cases, the Contracting Officer shall modify the contract to include a copy of the Determination; or

(ii) When the Governmentwide commercial purchase card is used as the method of payment.

(4) The Contractor shall submit any non-electronic payment requests using the method or methods specified in Section G of the contract.

(5) In addition to the requirements of this clause, the Contractor shall meet the requirements of the appropriate payment clauses in this contract when submitting payment requests.

(6) Invoices submitted through IPP will be either rejected, or accepted and paid, in their entirety, and will not be paid on a partial basis.

(b) *Invoice preparation.* The Contractor shall prepare its invoice or request for contract financing payment in accordance with FAR 32.905 on the prescribed Government forms, or the Contractor may submit self-designed forms which contain the required information. Standard Form 1034, *Public Voucher for Purchases and Services other than Personal*, is prescribed for use by contractors to show the amount claimed for reimbursement. Standard Form 1035, *Public Voucher for Purchases and Services other than Personal—Continuation Sheet*, is prescribed for use to furnish the necessary supporting detail or additional information required by the Contracting Officer.

(c) *Invoice content.* (1) The Contractor shall prepare a contract level invoice or request for contract financing payment in accordance with the invoice preparation instructions. If contract work is authorized by an individual task order or delivery order (TO/DO), the invoice or request for contract financing payment shall also include a summary of the current and cumulative amounts claimed by cost element for each TO/DO and for the contract total, as well as any supporting data for each TO/DO as identified in the instructions.

(2) The invoice or request for contract financing payment shall include current and cumulative charges by major cost element such as direct labor, overhead, travel,

equipment, and other direct costs. For current costs, each major cost element shall include the appropriate supporting schedule identified in the invoice preparation instructions. Cumulative charges represent the net sum of current charges by cost element for the contract period.

(d) *Subcontractor charges.* (1) The charges for subcontracts shall be further detailed in a supporting schedule showing the major cost elements for each subcontract.

(2) On a case-by-case basis, when needed to verify the reasonableness of subcontractor costs, the Contracting Officer may require that the contractor obtain from the subcontractor cost information in the detail set forth in paragraph (c)(2) of this section. This information should be obtained through a means which maintains subcontractor confidentiality (for example, via sealed envelopes), if the subcontractor expresses Confidential Business Information (CBI) concerns.

(e) *Period of performance indication.* Invoices or requests for contract financing payment must clearly indicate the period of performance for which payment is requested. Separate invoices or requests for contract financing payment are required for charges applicable to the base contract and each option period.

(f) *Invoice submittal.* (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of the clause of this contract at FAR 52.216–7, *Allowable Cost and Payment*, invoices or requests for contract financing payment shall be submitted once per month unless there has been a demonstrated need and Contracting Officer approval for more frequent billings. When submitted on a monthly basis, the period covered by invoices or requests for contractor financing payments shall be the same as the period for monthly progress reports required under this contract.

(2) If the Contracting Officer allows submissions more frequently than monthly, one submittal each month shall have the same ending period of performance as the monthly progress report.

(3) Where cumulative amounts on the monthly progress report differ from the aggregate amounts claimed in the invoice(s) or request(s) for contract financing payments covering the same period, the contractor shall provide a reconciliation of the difference as part of the payment request.

(g) *EPA Invoice Preparation Instructions—SF 1034.* The information which a contractor is required to submit in its Standard Form 1034 is set forth as follows:

(1) U.S. Department, Bureau, or establishment and location—Insert the names and address of the servicing finance office, unless the contract specifically provides otherwise.

(2) Date Voucher Prepared—Insert date on which the public voucher is prepared and submitted.

(3) Contract/Delivery Order Number and Date—Insert the number and date of the contract and task order or delivery order, if applicable, under which reimbursement is claimed.

(4) Requisition Number and Date—Leave blank.

(5) Voucher Number—Insert the appropriate serial number of the voucher. A

separate series of consecutive numbers, beginning with Number 1, shall be used by the contractor for each new contract. For an adjustment invoice, write “[invoice number] #Adj” at the voucher number. For a final invoice, put invoice number F. For a completion invoice, put invoice number #C.

(6) Schedule Number; Paid By; Date Invoice Received—Leave blank.

(7) Discount Terms—Enter terms of discount, if applicable.

(8) Payee's Account Number—This space may be used by the contractor to record the account or job number(s) assigned to the contract or may be left blank.

(9) Payee's Name and Address—Show the name of the contractor exactly as it appears in the contract and its correct address, except when an assignment has been made by the contractor, or the right to receive payment has been restricted, as in the case of an advance account. When the right to receive payment is restricted, the type of information to be shown in this space shall be furnished by the Contracting Officer.

(10) Shipped From; To; Weight Government B/L Number—Insert for supply contracts.

(11) Date of Delivery or Service—Show the month, day and year, beginning and ending dates of incurrence of costs claimed for reimbursement. Adjustments to costs for prior periods should identify the period applicable to their incurrence, e.g., revised provisional or final indirect cost rates, award fee, etc.

(12) Articles or Services—Insert the following: “For detail, see Standard Form 1035 total amount claimed transferred from Page ____ of Standard Form 1035.” Insert “COST REIMBURSABLE—PROVISIONAL PAYMENT” or “INDEFINITE QUANTITY/INDEFINITE DELIVERY—PROVISIONAL PAYMENT” on the Interim public vouchers. Insert “COST REIMBURSABLE—COMPLETION VOUCHER” or “INDEFINITE QUANTITY/INDEFINITE DELIVERY—COMPLETION VOUCHER” on the Completion public voucher. Insert “COST REIMBURSABLE—FINAL VOUCHER” or “INDEFINITE QUANTITY/INDEFINITE DELIVERY—FINAL VOUCHER” on the final public voucher. Insert the following certification, signed by an authorized official, on the face of the Standard Form 1034:

“I certify that all payments requested are for appropriate purposes and in accordance with the agreements set forth in the contract.”

(Name of Official)

(Title)

(13) Quantity; Unit Price—Insert for supply contracts.

(14) Amount—Insert the amount claimed for the period indicated in paragraph (g)(11) of this clause.

(h) *EPA Invoice Preparation Instructions—SF 1035.* The information which a contractor is required to submit in its Standard Form 1035 is set forth as follows:

(1) U.S. Department, Bureau, or Establishment—Insert the name and address of the servicing finance office.

(2) Voucher Number—Insert the voucher number as shown on the Standard Form 1034.

(3) Schedule Number—Leave blank.

(4) Sheet Number—Insert the sheet number if more than one sheet is used in numerical sequence. Use as many sheets as necessary to show the information required.

(5) Number and Date of Order—Insert payee's name and address as in the Standard Form 1034.

(6) Articles or Services—Insert the contract number as in the Standard Form 1034.

(7) Amount—Insert the latest estimated cost, fee (fixed, base, or award, as applicable), total contract value, and amount and type of fee payable (as applicable).

(8) A summary of claimed current and cumulative costs and fee by major cost element—Include the rate(s) at which indirect costs are claimed and indicate the base of each by identifying the line of costs to which each is applied. The rates invoiced should be as specified in the contract or by a rate agreement negotiated by EPA's Cost and Rate Negotiation Team.

(9) Fee—The fee shall be determined in accordance with instructions appearing in the contract.

Note to paragraph (h)—Amounts claimed on vouchers must be based on records maintained by the contractor to show by major cost element the amounts claimed for reimbursement for each applicable contract. The records must be maintained based on the contractor's fiscal year and should include reconciliations of any differences between the costs incurred and amounts claimed for reimbursement. A memorandum record reconciling the total indirect cost(s) claimed should also be maintained.

(i) *Supporting Schedules for Cost Reimbursement Contracts.* The following backup information is required as an attachment to the invoice as shown by category of cost:

(1) Direct Labor—Identify the number of hours (by contractor labor category and total) and the total loaded direct labor hours billed for the period in the invoice.

(2) Indirect Cost Rates—Identify by cost center, the indirect cost rate, the period, and the cost base to which it is applied.

(3) Subcontracts—Identify the major cost elements for each subcontract.

(4) Other Direct Costs—When the cost for an individual cost (e.g., photocopying, material and supplies, telephone usage) exceeds \$1,000 per the invoice period, provide a detailed explanation for that cost category.

(5) Contractor Acquired Equipment (if authorized by the contract)—Identify by item the quantities, unit prices, and total dollars billed.

(6) Contractor Acquired Software (if authorized by the contract)—Identify by item the quantities, unit prices, and total dollars billed.

(7) Travel—When travel costs exceed \$2,000 per invoice period, identify by trip, the number of travelers, the duration of travel, the point of origin, destination, purpose of trip, transportation by unit price, per diem rates on daily basis and total dollars billed. Detailed reporting is not required for

local travel. The manner of breakdown, e.g., task order/delivery order basis with/without separate program management, contract period will be specified in the contract instructions.

Note to paragraph (i)—Any costs requiring advance consent by the Contracting Officer will be considered improper and will be disallowed, if claimed prior to receipt of Contracting Officer consent. Include the total cost claimed for the current and cumulative-to-date periods. After the total amount claimed, provide summary dollar amounts disallowed on the contract as of the date of the invoice. Also include an explanation of the changes in cumulative costs disallowed by addressing each adjustment in terms of: Voucher number, date, dollar amount, source, and reason for the adjustment. Disallowed costs should be identified in unallowable accounts in the contractor's accounting system.

(j) *Supporting Schedules for Time and Materials Contracts.* The following backup information is required as an attachment to the invoice as shown by category of cost:

(1) Direct Labor—Identify the number of hours (by contractor labor category and total) and the total direct labor hours billed for the period of the invoice.

(2) Subcontracts—Identify the major cost elements for each subcontract.

(3) Other Direct Costs—When the cost for an individual cost (e.g., photocopying, material and supplies, telephone usage) exceeds \$1,000 per the invoice period, provide a detailed explanation for that cost category.

(4) Indirect Cost Rates—Identify by cost center, the indirect cost rate, the period, and the cost base to which it is applied.

(5) Contractor Acquired Equipment—Identify by item the quantities, unit prices, and total dollars billed.

(6) Contractor Acquired Software—Identify by item the quantities, unit prices, and total dollars billed.

(7) Travel—When travel costs exceed \$2,000 per invoice period, identify by trip, the number of travelers, the duration of travel, the point of origin, destination, purpose of trip, transportation by unit price, per diem rates on daily basis and total dollars billed. Detailed reporting is not required for local travel. The manner of breakdown, e.g., task order/delivery order basis with/without separate program management, contract period will be specified in the contract instructions.

Note to paragraph (j)—Any costs requiring advance consent by the Contracting Officer will be considered improper and will be disallowed, if claimed prior to receipt of Contracting Officer consent. Include the total cost claimed for the current and cumulative-to-date periods. After the total amount claimed, provide summary dollar amounts disallowed on the contract as of the date of the invoice. Also include an explanation of the changes in cumulative costs disallowed by addressing each adjustment in terms of: Voucher number, date, dollar amount, source, and reason for the adjustment. Disallowed costs should be identified in unallowable accounts in the contractor's accounting system.

(k) *Adjustment vouchers.* Adjustment vouchers should be submitted if finalized indirect rates were received but the rates are not for the entire period of performance. For example, the base period of performance is for a calendar year but your indirect rates are by fiscal year. Hence, only part of the base period can be adjusted for the applicable final indirect rates. These invoices should be annotated with “adj” after the invoice number.

(l) *Final vouchers.* Final Vouchers shall be submitted if finalized rates have been received for the entire period of performance. For example, the base period of performance is for a calendar year but your indirect rates are by fiscal year. You have received finalized rates for the entire base period that encompass both fiscal years that cover the base period. In accordance with FAR 52.216–7, these invoices shall be submitted within 60 days after settlement of final indirect cost rates. They should be annotated with the word “Final” or “F” after the invoice number. Due to system limitations, the invoice number cannot be more than 11 characters to include spaces.

(m) *Completion vouchers.* In accordance with FAR 52.216–7(d)(5), a completion voucher shall be submitted within 120 days (or longer if approved in writing by the Contracting Officer) after settlement of the final annual indirect cost rates for all years of a physically complete contract. The voucher shall reflect the settled amounts and rates. It shall include settled subcontract amounts and rates. The prime contractor is responsible for settling subcontractor amounts and rates included in the completion invoice. Since EPA’s invoices must be on a period of performance basis, the contractor shall have a completion invoice for each year of the period of performance. This voucher must be submitted to the Contracting Officer for review and approval before final payment can be made on the contract. The Contracting Officer may request an audit of the completion vouchers before final payment is made. In addition, once approved, the Contracting Officer will request the appropriate closeout paperwork for the contract. For contracts separately invoiced by delivery or task order, provide a schedule showing final total costs claimed by delivery or task order and in total for the contract. In addition to the completion voucher, the contractor must submit the *Contractor’s Release; Assignee’s Release*, if applicable; the *Contractor’s Assignment of Refunds, Rebates, Credits and other Amounts*; the *Assignee’s Assignment of Refunds, Rebates, Credits and other Amounts*, if applicable; and the *Contractor’s Affidavit of Waiver of Lien*, when required by the contract.

Alternate I (May 19)

As prescribed in 1532.908, substitute the following paragraphs (c)(1) and (2) for paragraphs (c)(1) and (2) if used in a non-commercial time and materials type contract:

(c)(1) The Contractor shall prepare a contract level invoice or request for contract financing payment in accordance with the invoice preparation instructions. If contract work is authorized by individual task order

or delivery order (TO/DO), the invoice or request for contract financing payment shall also include a summary of the current and cumulative amounts claimed by cost element for each TO/DO and for the contract total, as well as any supporting data for each TO/DO as identified in the instructions.

(2) The invoice or request for contract financing payment that employs a fixed rate feature shall include current and cumulative charges by contract labor category and by other major cost elements such as travel, equipment, and other direct costs. For current costs, each cost element shall include the appropriate supporting schedules identified in the invoice preparation instructions.

(End of clause)

[FR Doc. 2019–09695 Filed 5–14–19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 73

[MB Docket No. 18–23; FCC 19–10]

Elimination of Obligation To File Broadcast Mid-Term Report

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) eliminates a requirement of our rules that oblige certain broadcast television and radio stations to file the FCC Broadcast Mid-Term Report (Form 397). This requirement has become redundant now that most of the information that the form requests is readily accessible online via the Commission’s Online Public Inspection File (Public File). The Public File will be modified to allow stations to indicate whether they are subject to a mid-term review, as this is the only information not otherwise available. It therefore finds that eliminating this requirement will serve the public interest.

DATES: Effective May 15, 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information, contact Jonathan Mark, Jonathan.Mark@fcc.gov, of the Media Bureau, Policy Division, (202) 418–3634. Direct press inquiries to Janice Wise at (202) 418–8165.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission’s Report and Order (*Order*), FCC 19–10, adopted February 14, 2019 and released on February 15, 2019. The full text of this document is available electronically via the FCC’s Electronic Document Management System (EDOCS) website at http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/

or via the FCC’s Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) website at <http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs2/>. (Documents will be available electronically in ASCII, Microsoft Word, and/or Adobe Acrobat.) This document is also available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours in the FCC Reference Information Center, which is located in Room CY–A257 at FCC Headquarters, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554. The Reference Information Center is open to the public Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The complete text may be purchased from the Commission’s copy contractor, 445 12th Street SW, Room CY–B402, Washington, DC 20554. Alternative formats are available for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), by sending an email to fcc504@fcc.gov or calling the Commission’s Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418–0530 (voice), (202) 418–0432 (TTY).

Synopsis

I. Report and Order

1. In this Report and Order (*Order*), we eliminate the requirement in Section 73.2080(f)(2) of the Commission’s rules that certain broadcast television and radio stations file the FCC Broadcast Mid-Term Report (Form 397). Earlier this year, we issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) (83 FR 12313) proposing to eliminate Form 397, which requires stations to provide equal employment opportunity (EEO) information that is generally also available through other sources, including stations’ online public inspection files.¹ No commenter opposes elimination of this requirement. As set forth below, we conclude that eliminating this largely redundant reporting requirement will further our efforts to modernize our media rules and reduce unnecessary requirements without hindering the Commission’s ability to conduct mid-term reviews of broadcasters’ EEO practices.

2. Section 334(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the Act), directs the Commission to conduct a mid-term review of broadcast stations’ employment practices. Commission staff reviews the EEO practices of broadcast

¹ *Elimination of Obligation to File Broadcast Mid-Term Report (Form 397) Under § 73.2080(f)(2); Modernization of Media Regulation Initiative*, MB Docket Nos. 18–23 and 17–105, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 33 FCC Rcd 2570 (2018) (NPRM) (83 FR 12313).