

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Press Release

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## IMPROVING PUBLIC ACCESS TO REGULATORY INFORMATION THROUGH BEST PRACTICES

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – In ongoing support of the President’s vision for a more effective and open government, the eRulemaking Program published a “Best Practices for Federal Agencies” document on [“Improving Electronic Dockets on Regulations.gov and the Federal Document Management System \(FDMS\)”](#). These best practices aim to improve the way federal agencies use FDMS which will help promote transparency and enhance the public’s access to regulatory information via the [Regulations.gov](#) website. The eRulemaking Program and partner agencies are expected to implement these best practices over the next 18 months.

The best practices are aligned to three strategic goals:

1. *Increase the public’s access to federal regulatory content;*
2. *Build common taxonomy and protocols for managing dockets and regulatory documents;*
3. *Compile comprehensive electronic dockets and increase agency efficiency.*

Beginning January 10, 2011, the eRulemaking Program will host a series of online events to discuss each strategic goal, related best practices, and implementation strategies. Both agency personnel and members of the public are encouraged to get involved by providing feedback to online discussions, participating in webinars and forums, and completing surveys presented to both FDMS and [Regulations.gov](#) users. To register for an upcoming event, visit the Best Practices Upcoming [Events page](#) on the Exchange website. Please note that registration is not required to view any of the best practices or discussion content.

Information about Best Practices is located on the [Exchange](#) website which promotes public engagement by actively involving citizens using new technologies (e.g., wikis, webinars) that enhance the transparency of government decision-making.

[Regulations.gov](#), the parent website for Exchange, provides one-stop public access to information related to current and forthcoming regulations issued by the federal government. The Environmental Protection Agency is the managing partner of the inter-agency eRulemaking Program which operates [Regulations.gov](#). For more information, please visit <http://www.regulations.gov>.

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