

From: Stephen Buckley
To: Assembly of the Administrative Conference
Re: Comments on Proposed FACA Recommendation
Date: December 2, 2011

To whom it may concern,

Any FACA committee can improve and increase the public's engagement with, and contributions to, the committee's efforts if it allows members of the public to view all those comments that have already been received by the committee.

This is consistent with ACUS recommendations with respect to public participation in "Agency Innovations in E-rulemaking" (from page 2; see below). Imagine the recommendation created when this same language replaces "rulemaking" with "FACA proceedings".

Some agencies have specialized webpages that *allow users to submit and view comments* on all of the agency's open rulemakings, or to view information on the status of their priority rulemakings. Links from some agency home pages make rulemaking information easy to locate. Other agencies have innovated by using social media to get the public involved in the rulemaking processes from the earliest stages.

<http://www.acus.gov/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2011/11/Proposed-E-Rulemaking-Innovations-Recommendation-11-14-2011.pdf>

No one wants to spend time preparing extensive comments when there is no indication that it will result in any contribution to the final product. In other words: How does one know that their thoughts will not end up in a "black hole". The prompt posting of comments online will address that concern.

Sincerely,

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