

Response below to this:

On February 13, 2012, the Office of the Federal Register (OFR or we) received a petition to amend our regulations governing the approval of agency requests to incorporate material by reference into the Code of Federal Regulations. We've set out the petition in this document. We would like comments on the broad issues raised by this petition. Show citation box

To our employees in the Federal Government;

While this writer understands that there is certainly effort expended and compensation deserved for creation of federal standards (for example, SAE technical standards) there is no reason that meets a common sense explanation of why standards that govern public matters are not made public.

Please open these standards to public access and require publication upon incorporation into the law for all future standards.

In response to your request for comments:

1. Reasonably available certainly mean Free and Online in 2012. To claim people are excluded (by not having internet access) is factually correct for those people but is not asserting an advantage to those who do have internet access. The ubiquity and practicality of the internet make it the BEST method for disseminating this information.
2. "Class of persons affected" would be anyone who is affected by these standards at any time. It follows that since this material is incorporated as law, the public is the class
- 3/4. Agencies already bear the cost of maintaining websites with large amounts of other information online. This would be part of that duty.

These are the sections I feel comfortable commenting on.

Thank you,  
Mike Bonar