

unfair competition, conflicts of interests, or unsound banking practices" (12 U.S.C. 1843). Any request for a hearing must be accompanied by a statement of the reasons a written presentation would not suffice in lieu of a hearing, identifying specifically any questions of fact that are in dispute, summarizing the evidence that would be presented at a hearing, and indicating how the party commenting would be aggrieved by approval of the proposal. Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than January 3, 1997.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (Randall C. Sumner, Vice President) 411 Locust Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63166:

1. *Mercantile Bancorporation Inc.*, St. Louis, Missouri, and Ameribanc, Inc., St. Louis, Missouri; to acquire and merge with Regional Bancshares, Inc., Alton, Illinois, and thereby indirectly acquire Bank of Alton, Alton, Illinois.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, December 6, 1996.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 96-31491 Filed 12-11-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

[Docket No. R-0937]

Policy Statement on Payments System Risk; Modified Procedures for Measuring Daylight Overdrafts; Correction

AGENCY: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

ACTION: Policy statement; correction.

SUMMARY: This document corrects the announced effective date of recent amendments to the Policy Statement on Payments System Risk, which established daylight overdraft posting times for payments associated for Treasury investments resulting from electronic federal tax payments. These amendments were effective under the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, on December 9, 1996. The amendments to the policy statement as published at 61 FR 58691, however, incorrectly stated that they were effective November 18, 1996, the date of publication in the Federal Register.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Effective November 18, 1996, the effective date for the

amendments to the policy statement is corrected to be December 9, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Bettge, Manager (202/452-3174), Heidi Richards, Senior Financial Services Analyst (202/452-2598), Division of Reserve Bank Operations and Payment Systems; for the hearing impaired only: Telecommunications Device for the Deaf, Dorothea Thompson (202/452-3544).

By order of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, December 9, 1996.

William W. Wiles,

Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 96-31577 Filed 12-11-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-P

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Committee on Employee Benefits of the Federal Reserve System*.

TIME AND DATE: 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 17, 1996.

PLACE: Marriner S. Eccles Federal Reserve Board Building, C Street entrance between 20th and 21st Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20551.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Proposals relating to Federal Reserve System benefits.
2. Proposals regarding actuarial assumptions in the Federal Reserve System benefit plans.
3. Proposal regarding selection of a financial auditor for the Office of Employee Benefits.
4. Proposed committee for the Office of Employee Benefits.
5. Any items carried forward from a previously announced meeting.

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* The Committee on Employee Benefits considers matters relating to the Retirement, Thrift, Long-Term Disability Income, and Insurance Plans for Employees of the Federal Reserve System.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Mr. Joseph R. Coyne, Assistant to the Board; (202) 452-3204.

Dated: December 10, 1996.

William W. Wiles,

Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 96-31761 Filed 12-10-96; 3:13 pm]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 96F-0477]

Elf Atochem North America, Inc.; Filing of Food Additive Petition

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing that Elf Atochem North America, Inc., has filed a petition proposing that the food additive regulations be amended to provide for the safe use of polyamide/polyether block copolymers prepared by reacting a copolymer of *omega*-laurolactam and adipic acid with poly(tetramethylene ether glycol) for use in the manufacture of rubber articles intended for repeated use in contact with food.

DATES: Written comments on the petitioner's environmental assessment by January 13, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments to the Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 12420 Parklawn Dr., rm. 1-23, Rockville, MD 20857.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Vir D. Anand, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (HFS-216), Food and Drug Administration, 200 C St. SW., Washington, DC 20204, 202-418-3081.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (sec. 409(b)(5) (21 U.S.C. 348(b)(5))), notice is given that a food additive petition (FAP 7B4528) has been filed by Elf Atochem North America, Inc., 2000 Market St., Philadelphia, PA 19103-3222. The petition proposes to amend the food additive regulations in § 177.2600 *Rubber articles intended for repeated use* (21 CFR 177.2600) to provide for the safe use of polyamide/polyether block copolymers prepared by reacting a copolymer of *omega*-laurolactam and adipic acid with poly(tetramethylene ether glycol) for use in the manufacture of rubber articles intended for repeated use in contact with food.

The potential environmental impact of this action is being reviewed. To encourage public participation consistent with regulations promulgated under the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR 1501.4(b)), the agency is placing the environmental assessment submitted with the petition that is the subject of this notice on public display at the Dockets