

measures of quality service. Surveys will involve individuals that are direct or indirect beneficiaries of RRB services as well as railroad employers who must report earnings.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS:**

Copies of the form and supporting documents can be obtained from Chuck Mierzwa, the agency clearance officer (312-751-3363). Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Ronald J. Hodapp, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092 and the OMB reviewer, Laura Oliven (202-395-7316), Office of Management and Budget, Room 10230, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Chuck Mierzwa,  
Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-5533 Filed 3-5-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7905-01-M

**Determination of Quarterly Rate of Excise Tax for Railroad Retirement Supplemental Annuity Program**

In accordance with directions in Section 3221(c) of the Railroad Retirement Tax Act (16 U.S.C., Section 3221(c)), the Railroad Retirement Board has determined that the excise tax imposed by such Section 3221(c) on every employer, with respect to having individuals in his employ, for each work-hour for which compensation is paid by such employer for services rendered to him during the quarter beginning April 1, 1997, shall be at the rate of 35 cents.

In accordance with directions in Section 15(a) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974, the Railroad Retirement Board has determined that for the quarter beginning April 1, 1997, 31.5 percent of the taxes collected under Sections 3211(b) and 3221(c) of the Railroad Retirement Tax Act shall be credited to the Railroad Retirement Account and 68.5 percent of the taxes collected under such Sections 3211(b) and 3221(c) plus 100 percent of the taxes collected under Section 3221(d) of the Railroad Retirement Tax Act shall be credited to the Railroad Retirement Supplemental Account.

Dated: February 25, 1997.

By Authority of the Board.

Beatrice Ezerski,

*Secretary to the Board.*

[FR Doc. 97-5484 Filed 3-5-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7905-01-M

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

[Rel. No. IC-22534; 812-9450]

**Capital Southwest Corporation, et al.; Notice of Application**

February 28, 1997.

**AGENCY:** Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC").

**ACTION:** Notice of Application for Exemption under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act").

**APPLICANTS:** Capital Southwest Corporation ("CSC") and Capital Southwest Venture Corporation ("CSVC")

**RELEVANT ACT AND EXCHANGE ACT**

**SECTIONS:** Order requested under section 6(c) of the Act for an exemption from sections 18(a), 18(c), 30, and 61(a) of the Act, under sections 17(d) and 57(a)(4) of the Act and rule 17d-1 thereunder to permit certain joint transactions, under section 17(b) of the Act for an exemption from section 17(a) of the Act, and under section 57(c) of the Act for an exemption from section 57(a) of the Act.

**SUMMARY OF APPLICATION:** The order would permit CSC and CSVC to engage in certain transactions that would otherwise be permitted if CSC and CSVC were one company. The order also would permit modified asset coverage requirements for CSC and CSVC on a consolidated basis. In addition, the order would permit CSC and CSVC to file reports on a consolidated basis. The requested order would supersede a prior order.

**FILING DATES:** The application was filed on January 23, 1995, and amended on October 25, 1995, August 22, 1996, and February 27, 1997.

**HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING:** An order granting the application will be issued unless the SEC orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the SEC's Secretary and serving applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the SEC by 5:30 p.m. on March 25, 1997, and should be accompanied by proof of service on applicants, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons may request notification of a hearing by writing to the SEC's Secretary.

**ADDRESSES:** Secretary, SEC, 450 5th Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Applicants, 12900 Preston Road, Suite 700, Dallas, Texas 75230.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Elaine M. Boggs, Senior Counsel, at (202) 942-0572, or Mercer E. Bullard, Branch Chief, at (202) 942-0564 (Division of Investment Management, Office of Investment Company Regulation).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The following is a summary of the application. The complete application may be obtained for a fee at the SEC's Public Reference Branch.

**Applicants' Representations**

1. CSC is a business development company ("BDC"), as defined under section 2(a)(48) of the Act,<sup>1</sup> organized under the laws of Texas. CSVC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of CSC, is a Nevada corporation and is registered under the Act as a closed-end management investment company. CSVC is also licensed by the Small Business Administration ("SBA") as a small business investment company ("SBIC") under the Small Business Investment Act of 1958. CSC's principal business is to make, directly and through CSVC, loans and equity-type investments in small businesses.

2. Applicants request an order to permit CSC and CSVC to engage in certain transactions that would otherwise be permitted if CSC and CSVC were one company. The order also would permit modified asset coverage requirements for CSC and CSVC on a consolidated basis. In addition, the order would permit CSC and CSVC to file reports on a consolidated basis. The requested order would supersede a prior order obtained by CSC, which, among other things, permits CSC and CSVC to engage in certain joint transactions.<sup>2</sup>

**Applicants' Legal Analysis**

*A. Section 18*

1. Section 18(a) of the Act prohibits a registered closed-end investment company from issuing any class or senior security unless the company complies with the asset coverage requirements set forth in section 18. "Asset coverage" is defined in section 19(h) to mean the ratio which the value of the total assets of an issuer, less all

<sup>1</sup> Section 2(a)(48) generally defines a BDC to be any closed-end investment company that operates for the purpose of making investments in securities described in sections 55(a)(1) through 55(a)(3) of the Investment Company Act and makes available significant managerial assistance with respect of the issuers of such securities. Such issuers are small, nascent companies whose securities typically are illiquid.

<sup>2</sup> Investment Company Act Release Nos. 5640 (Mar. 25, 1969) (notice) and 5827 (Sept. 30, 1969) (order).