

the participants OTC trade file and transmitted to NSCC. Second, the submitting participant may forward OTC corrections to SCCP via electronic transmission. The corrections are then appended to the participants OTC trade file and transmitted electronically to NSCC. SCCP now proposes to afford its participants the ability to forward OTC corrections to SCCP through the participant's Philanet terminal. Philanet access provides participants with the ability to enter and modify OTC corrections through an on-line application.

SCCP believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of Section 17A of the Act³ and the rules and regulations thereunder because it promotes the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions.

(B) Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

This modification will not impose a burden on competition not contemplated under the Act.

(C) Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants or Others

Written comments were neither solicited nor received with respect to the proposed rule change.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii)⁴ of the Act and pursuant to Rule 19b-4(e)(4)⁵ promulgated thereunder because the proposal effects a change in an existing service that (1) does not adversely affect the safeguarding of securities or funds in the custody or control of the clearing agency or for which it is responsible and (2) does not significantly affect the respective rights or obligations of the clearing agency or persons using the service. At any time within sixty days of the filing of such rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1.

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

⁵ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(e)(4).

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of SCCP. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-SCCP-97-01 and should be submitted by April 10, 1997.

For the Commission by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.⁶

Jonathan G. Katz,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Office of the Secretary

[Public Notice 2523]

Extension of the Restriction on the Use of United States Passports for Travel To, In, or Through Iraq

On February 1, 1991, pursuant to the authority of 22 U.S.C. 211a and Executive Order 11295 (31 FR 10603), and in accordance with 22 CFR 51.73 (a)(2) and (a)(3), all United States passports, with certain exceptions, were declared invalid for travel to, in, or through Iraq unless specifically validated for such travel. The restriction was originally imposed because armed hostilities then were taking place in Iraq and Kuwait, and because there was an imminent danger to the safety of United States travelers to Iraq. American citizens then residing in Iraq and American professional reporters and journalists on assignment there were exempted from the restrictions on the ground that such exemptions were in

⁶ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

the national interest. The restriction has been extended for additional one-year periods since then, and was last extended on March 15, 1996.

Although armed hostilities have ended, conditions in Iraq remain unsettled and hazardous. Regional conflicts continue in northern Iraq between Kurdish ethnic groups and Iraqi security forces. In southern Iraq, military repression of the Shia communities is severe, rendering conditions unsafe. Iraq's economy was severely damaged during the Gulf War and continues to be affected by the U.N. economic sanctions. Basic modern medical care and medicines may not be available to our citizens in case of emergency. U.S. citizens and other foreigners working inside Kuwait near the Iraqi borders have been detained by Iraqi authorities in the past and sentenced to lengthy jail terms for illegal entry into the country. Although our interests are represented by the Embassy of Poland in Baghdad, its ability to obtain consular access to detained U.S. citizens and to perform emergency services is constrained by Iraqi unwillingness to cooperate. In light of these circumstances, I have determined that Iraq continues to be a country "where there is imminent danger to the public health or physical safety of United States travelers".

Accordingly, United States passports shall continue to be invalid for use in travel to, in, or through Iraq unless specifically validated for such travel under the authority of the Secretary of State. The restriction shall not apply to American citizens residing in Iraq on February 1, 1991 who continue to reside there, or the American professional reporters or journalists on assignment there.

The Public Notice shall be effective upon publication in the Federal Register and shall expire at the end of one year unless sooner extended or revoked by Public Notice.

Dated: March 17, 1997.

Madeleine K. Albright,
Secretary of State.

[FR Doc. 97-7276 Filed 3-18-97; 3:46 pm]

BILLING CODE 4710-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

**Environmental Impact Statement:
Yamhill County, OR**

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent.