

1. Texas Financial Bancorporation, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Delaware Financial, Inc., Wilmington, Delaware; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of CNB Bancshares of Victoria, Victoria, Texas, and thereby indirectly acquire Citizens Bancorp of Delaware, Inc., Wilmington, Delaware, and Citizens National Bank, Victoria, Texas.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, August 28, 1997.

Jennifer J. Johnson,
Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 97-23316 Filed 9-2-97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, August 28, 1997.

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Deputy Secretary of the Board.
[FR Doc. 97-23317 Filed 9-2-97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

on respondents through the use of automated collection techniques, when appropriate, and other forms of information technology.

Mail or Telephone Order Merchandise Trade Regulation Rule, 16 CFR Part 435—(OMB Control Number 3084-0106)—Extension

The Mail Order Merchandise Rule was promulgated in 1975 in response to consumer complaints that many merchants were failing to ship mail order merchandise on time, failing to ship at all, or failing to provide prompt refunds for unshipped merchandise. The Rule took effect on February 2, 1976. A second rulemaking proceeding in 1993 demonstrated that the delayed shipment and refund problems of the mail order industry were being experienced by consumers who ordered merchandise over the telephone. The Commission amended the Rule, effective on March 1, 1994, to include merchandise ordered by telephone, including by FAX or by computer through the use of a modem.

Generally, the Rule requires a merchant to: (1) Have a reasonable basis for any express or implied shipment representation made in soliciting the sale; (2) ship within the time period promised, and if no time period is promised, within 30 days; (3) notify the consumer and obtain the consumer's consent to any delay in shipment; and (4) make prompt and full refunds when the consumer exercises a cancellation option or the merchant is unable to meet the Rule's other requirements.

The notice provisions in the Rule require a merchant, who is unable to ship within the promised shipment time or 30 days, to notify the consumer of a revised date and his or her right to cancel the order and obtain a prompt refund. Delays beyond the revised shipment date also trigger a notification requirement to consumers. When the Rule requires the merchant to make a refund and the consumer paid by credit card, it also requires the merchant to notify the consumer either that any charge to the consumer's charge account will be reversed or that the merchant will take no action that will result in a charge.

Burden statement: In its 1995 PRA submission to OMB, the FTC estimated that 1,897 large businesses and 68,663 small businesses are covered by the Rule. As stated in the agency's 1995 submission, the conditional nature of some of the Rule's requirements makes it difficult to quantify the exact PRA burden involved. Nonetheless, the agency estimated that 70,560 businesses spend an average of 229.78 hours per

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Notice of Proposals to Engage in Permissible Nonbanking Activities or to Acquire Companies that are Engaged in Permissible Nonbanking Activities

The companies listed in this notice have given notice under section 4 of the Bank Holding Company Act (12 U.S.C. 1843) (BHC Act) and Regulation Y, (12 CFR Part 225) to engage *de novo*, or to acquire or control voting securities or assets of a company that engages either directly or through a subsidiary or other company, in a nonbanking activity that is listed in § 225.28 of Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.28) or that the Board has determined by Order to be closely related to banking and permissible for bank holding companies. Unless otherwise noted, these activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Each notice is available for inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The notice also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the question whether the proposal complies with the standards of section 4 of the BHC Act.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding the applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than September 26, 1997.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis (Karen L. Grandstrand, Vice President) 250 Marquette Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55480-2171:

1. Spectrum Bancorporation, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska; to acquire First Savings & Loan Association of South Dakota, Inc., Aberdeen, South Dakota, and thereby engage in the operation of a savings association, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(4) of the Board's Regulation Y.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.
ACTION: None.

SUMMARY: The Federal Trade Commission (FTC or Commission) is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed extension of OMB approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act for "collection of information" requirements contained in the Mail or Telephone Order Merchandise Trade Regulation Rule, 16 CFR Part 435.

DATES: Submit written comments on the collection of information on or before November 3, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Elaine W. Crockett, Attorney, Office of the General Counsel, Room 598, 6th St. and Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. 20580. All comments should be identified as responding to this notice.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information that they conduct or sponsor. "Collection of information" is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c) and includes agency requests or requirements that cause members of the public to submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. As required by section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, the FTC is providing this opportunity for public comment before requesting that OMB extend the existing paperwork clearance for the Mail or Telephone Order Merchandise Rule.

The FTC invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the FTC's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the FTC's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information