

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD**Proposed Data Collection Available for Public Comment and Recommendations**

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 which provides opportunity for public comment on new or revised data collections, the Railroad Retirement Board will publish periodic summaries of proposed data collections.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the RRB's estimate of the burden of the collection of the information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden related to the collection of information on respondents, including the use of

automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Title and purpose of information collection: RUIA Claims Notification and Verification System. Section 5(b) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, as amended by the Railroad Unemployment Insurance and Retirement Improvement Act of 1988 (P.L. 100-647), requires that "when a claim for benefits is filed with the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB), the RRB shall provide notice of such claim to the claimant's base year employer or employers and afford such employer or employers an opportunity to submit information relevant to the claim before making an initial determination on the claim." The purpose of the claims notification system is to provide to each unemployment and sickness claimant's base year employer or current employer, notice of each application and claim for benefits under the RUIA and to provide an opportunity for employers to convey information relevant to the proper adjudication of the claim. Railroad

employers receive notice of applications and claims by one of two options. The first option, Form Letter ID-4K is a computer generated form letter notice of all unemployment applications, unemployment claims and sickness claims received from employees of a railroad company on a particular day. Form Letters ID-4K are mailed on a daily basis to officials designated by railroad employers. The second option is an Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) version of the Form Letter ID-4K notice. EDI notices of application are transmitted to participating railroads on a daily basis, generally on the same day that applications are received. Railroad employers can respond to RRB notices of applications and claims manually by mailing a completed ID-4K back to the RRB or electronically via EDI. Minor non-burden impacting changes are being proposed to Form ID-4K.

Estimate of Annual Respondent Burden

The estimated annual respondent burden is as follows:

RRB messages	Annual responses	Time (Min)	Burden (Hrs)
ID-4K (EDI version)	176,400	(1)	377
ID-4K (manual)	75,600	2	2,520
Total	252,000		2,897

¹ The burden for the 9 participating employers who transmit EDI responses is calculated at 10 minutes each per day, 251 workdays a year or 377 total hours of burden.

Additional information or comments: To request more information or to obtain a copy of the information collection justification, forms, and/or supporting material, please call the RRB Clearance Officer at (312) 751-3363. Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Ronald J. Hodapp, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 N. Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Chuck Mierzwa,

Clearance Officer.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-40936; File No. SR-Phlx-98-38]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change by the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc., Relating to the Assessment of a Fee on Persons Who Unsuccessfully Contest an Options Ruling Involving a Trading Dispute

January 12, 1999.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on August 26, 1998, the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc. ("Phlx" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change. Several amendments were thereafter received.³

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ By letter dated August 31, 1998, the Exchange revised the effective date of its proposal. See letter from Linda S. Christie, Counsel, Phlx, to Mandy Cohen, Special Counsel, Division of Market

The proposed rule change, as amended, is described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared primarily by Phlx. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

Regulation ("Division"), Commission ("Amendment No. 1"). Next, the Exchange clarified that the fee only applied to frivolous appeals of option floor decisions and made conforming changes to Rule 124 and Options Floor Procedure Advice F-27. See letter from Nandita Yagnik, Attorney, Phlx, to Mandy Cohen, Special Counsel, Division, Commission, dated November 18, 1998 ("Amendment No. 2"). In its December 9, 1998 letter, the Exchange clarified that (a) the Options Committee approved the changes made by Amendment No. 2, and (b) the amendment dated November 18, 1998, is Amendment No. 2. In addition, the Phlx made minor technical changes to the rule language. See letter from Nandita Yagnik, Attorney, Phlx, to Mandy Cohen, Special Counsel, Division, Commission ("Amendment No. 3"). Finally, the Exchange made technical changes to its rule language and further clarified that the proposed rule change amends only Advice F-27 for options and not for equities. See letter from Nandita Yagnik, Attorney, Phlx, to Mandy Cohen, Special Counsel, Division, Commission, dated December 23, 1998 ("Amendment No. 4").