

under the provisions of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 40 (10 CFR Part 40), Domestic Licensing of Source Material, in conjunction with uranium or thorium milling, or with byproduct material at sites formerly associated with such milling. An applicant for a new reclamation plan, or for the renewal or amendment of an existing license, is required to provide detailed information on the facilities, and procedures to be used, and if appropriate, an environmental report that discusses the effect of proposed operations on public health and safety and on the environment. This information is used by Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff to determine whether the proposed activities will be protective of public health and safety and be environmentally acceptable. The purpose of this standard review plan is to provide NRC staff with specific guidance on the review of this information and will be used to ensure a consistent quality and uniformity of staff reviews. Each section in the review plan provides guidance on what is to be reviewed, the basis for the review, how the staff review is to be accomplished, what the staff will find acceptable in a demonstration of compliance with the regulations, and the conclusions that are sought regarding the applicable sections in 10 CFR Chapter I. The review plan is also intended to improve the understanding of the staff review process by interested members of the public and the uranium recovery industry. The draft was developed using input from staff review precedents; staff inspection experiences; and public meetings with the industry.

Review plan for Surface Water Hydrology and Erosion Protection for Long-Term Stabilization, as presented in NUREG-1620, references NUREG-1623, "Design of Erosion Protection for Long-Term Stabilization," for details on the design methodology acceptable to the NRC staff. The draft of NUREG-1623 will be available for public comments in approximately 2 weeks.

**Opportunity to Comment:** Interested parties are invited to comment on the review plan. These areas include radon attenuation and long-term stability of the reclaimed site, soil cleanup, and groundwater restoration reviews. A final review plan will be prepared after the NRC staff has evaluated public comments received on the draft review plan.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received prior to May 4, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments on the draft review plan should be sent to the Chief,

Rules and Directives Branch, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. A copy of the Draft Standard Review Plan (NUREG-1620) may be obtained by writing to the Printing and Graphics Branch, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Banad Jagannath at 301-415-6653.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 28th day of January, 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**N. King Stablein,**

*Chief, Uranium Recovery Branch, Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.*

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-206]

### Southern California Edison Company et al., San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, Unit 1; Notice of Public Meeting

The NRC will conduct a public meeting to discuss plans developed by Southern California Edison Company (SCE, the licensee) to decommission the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, Unit 1, near San Clemente, California. The meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m., on February 25, 1999, at the San Clemente Community Center, Ole Hanson Room, 100 N. Calle Seville, San Clemente, and will be chaired by Ms. Lois Berg, Mayor, City of San Clemente. The meeting will include a short presentation by the NRC staff on the decommissioning process and NRC programs for monitoring decommissioning activities, with attention being given to the licensee's updated Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report (PSDAR) dated December 15, 1998. There will be a presentation by SCE on their planned decommissioning activities, and there will be an opportunity for members of the public to make comments and question the NRC staff and SCE representatives. The meeting will be transcribed.

The licensee's update to the PSDAR provides a short discussion of the plant history, and a description and schedule of planned decommissioning activities. The PSDAR update also comments briefly on anticipated decommissioning costs and environmental impacts.

The PSDAR update is available for public inspection at the local public

document room, located at the Main Library, University of California, P.O. Box 19557, Irvine, California 92713, and the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20037. The NRC document accession number is 9812170038.

For more information, contact Mr. Ronald A. Burrows, Project Manager, Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning Project Directorate, Division of Reactor Program Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, telephone number (301) 415-2497.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 28th day of January 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Seymour H. Weiss,**

*Director, Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning Project Directorate, Division of Reactor Program Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 99-2513 Filed 2-2-99; 8:45 am]

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 23669; 813-196]

### NationsBanc Coinvest Fund 1999, L.P. and BankAmerica Corporation; Notice of Application

January 27, 1999.

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

**ACTION:** Notice of application for an order under sections 6(b) and 6(e) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act") granting an exemption from all provisions of the Act, except section 9, section 17 (other than certain provisions of paragraphs (a), (d), (e), (f), (g) and (j)), section 30 (other than certain provisions of paragraphs (a), (b), (e), and (h)), sections 36 through 53, and the rules and regulations thereunder.

**Summary of Application:** Applicants request an order to exempt certain limited partnerships and limited liability companies ("Partnerships") formed for the benefit of key employees of BankAmerica Corporation ("BankAmerica") and certain of its affiliates from certain provisions of the Act. Each Partnership will be an "employees' securities company" as defined in section 2(a)(13) of the Act.

**Applicants:** NationsBanc Coinvest Fund 1999, L.P. (the "Initial Partnership"), and BankAmerica, on behalf of other Partnerships which have been or may in the future be formed.

**Filing Dates:** The application was filed on August 12, 1998, and amended on October 14, 1998.

**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 February 22, 1999, 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 who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by writing to the SEC's Secretary.

**ADDRESSES:** Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20549. Applicants, 100 North Tyson Street, Charlotte, NC 28255.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bruce R. MacNeil, Staff Attorney, at (202) 942-0634, or Edward P. Macdonald, 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, 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20549 (tel. 202-942-8090).

### Applicants' Representations

1. BankAmerica, the largest bank in the United States, was created by the merger of NationsBank Corporation and BankAmerica Corporation on September 30, 1998. BankAmerica and its affiliates, as defined in rule 12b-2 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"), ("Affiliates") are referred to in this notice collectively as "BankAmerica Group" and individually as a "BankAmerica entity."

2. BankAmerica Group offers various investment programs for the benefit of certain key employees. These programs may be structured as different Partnerships or as separate plans within a Partnership. Each Partnership will be a limited partnership or limited liability company formed as an "employees' securities company" within the meaning of section 2(a)(13) of the Act, and will operate as a closed-end, non-diversified, management investment company. The Partnerships will be established primarily for the benefit of

highly compensated employees of BankAmerica Group as part of a program designed to create capital building opportunities that are competitive with those at other investment banking firms and to facilitate the recruitment of high caliber professionals. Participation in a Partnership will be voluntary. The Initial Partnership will invest exclusively in one or more limited partnerships formed by BankAmerica to make private entity investments (the "BankAmerica Funds").

3. NB Coinvest GP, Inc., a North Carolina corporation, will act as the general partner of the Initial Partnership (together with any Affiliate of BankAmerica that acts as a Partnership's general partner, the "General Partner"). The General Partner of the Initial Partnership will not be registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 ("Advisers Act") pursuant to section 203(b)(3) of the Advisers Act and rule 203(b)(3)-1 thereunder. The General Partner will manage, operate, and control each of the Partnerships. However, the General Partner will be authorized to delegate to another BankAmerica Group affiliate or to a committee of BankAmerica Group employees such management responsibility (including, without limitation, the managers of the other Partnerships which have been or may in the future be formed).

4. Limited partner interests in the Partnerships ("Interests") will be offered without registration in reliance on section 4(2) of the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act") or similar exemption and will be sold only to "Eligible Employees" and "Qualified Participants" (collectively, "Participants"). Prior to offering Interests to an Eligible Employee, the General Partner must reasonably believe that an Eligible Employee will be a sophisticated investor capable of understanding and evaluating the risks of participating in the Partnership without the benefit of regulatory safeguards. An Eligible Employee is (i) an individual who is a current or former employee, officer, director, or "Consultant" of BankAmerica Group and, except for certain individuals who manage the day-to-day affairs of the Partnership in question ("Managing Employees"), meets the standards of an accredited investor under rule 501(a)(6) of Regulation D under the Securities Act, or (ii) an entity that is a current or former "Consultant" of BankAmerica Group and meets the standards of an accredited investor under rule 501(a) of

Regulation D.<sup>1</sup> Eligible Employees will be experienced professionals in the banking, investment banking and securities, investment management or financial services businesses, or in the related administrative, financial, accounting, legal, or operational activities.

5. Managing Employees will have primary responsibility for operating the Partnership. These responsibilities will include, among other things, identifying, investigating, structuring, negotiating, and monitoring investments for the Partnership, communicating with the limited partners, maintaining the books and records of the Partnership, and making recommendations with respect to investment decisions. Each Managing Employee will: (a) be closely involved with, and knowledgeable with respect to, the affairs and the status of the Partnership, (b) be an officer or employee of BankAmerica Group and (c) have reportable income from all sources (including any profit shares and bonuses) in the calendar year immediately preceding the Employee's participation in the Partnership in excess of \$120,000 and have a reasonable expectation of reportable income of at least \$150,000 in the years in which the Employee invests in a Partnership.

6. A Qualified Participant (i) is an Eligible Family Member or Qualified Entity (in each case as defined below) of an Eligible Employee, and, (ii) if the individual or entity is purchasing on Interest from a Partner or directly from the Partnership, comes within one of the categories of an "accredited investor" under rule 501(a) of Regulation D. An "Eligible Family Member" is a spouse, parent, child, spouse of child, brother, sister, or grandchild of an Eligible Employee. A "Qualified Entity" is (i) a trust of which the trustee, grantor, and/or beneficiary is an Eligible Employee; (ii) a partnership, corporation, or other entity controlled by an Eligible Employee;<sup>2</sup> or (iii) a trust or other entity

<sup>1</sup> A *Consultant* is a person or entity whom BankAmerica Group has engaged in retainer to provide services and professional expertise on an ongoing basis as a regular consultant or as a business or legal adviser and who shares a community of interest with BankAmerica Group and BankAmerica Group employees.

<sup>2</sup> The inclusion of partnerships, corporations, or other entities controlled by an Eligible Employee in the definition of "Qualified Entities" is intended to enable Eligible Employees to make investments in the Partnerships through personal investment vehicles for the purpose of personal and family investment and estate planning objectives. Eligible Employees will exercise investment discretion or control over these investment vehicles, thereby creating a close nexus between BankAmerica Group

established for the benefit of Eligible Family Members of an Eligible Employee.

7. The terms of a Partnership will be fully disclosed to each Eligible Employee and, if applicable, to a Qualified Participant of the Eligible Employee, at the time the Eligible Employee is invited to participate in the Partnership. Each Partnership will send audited financial statements to each Participant within 120 days or as soon as practicable after the end of its fiscal year. In addition, each Participant will receive a copy of Schedule K-1 showing the Participant's share of income, credits, reductions, and other tax items.

8. Interests in a Partnership will be non-transferable except with the prior written consent of the General Partner. No person will be admitted into a Partnership unless the person is an Eligible Employee, a Qualified Participant of an Eligible Employee, or a BankAmerica entity. No sales load will be charged in connection with the sale of a limited partnership interest.

9. An Eligible Employee's interest in a Partnership may be subject to repurchase or cancellation if: (i) the Eligible Employee's relationship with BankAmerica Group is terminated for cause; (ii) the Eligible Employee becomes a consultant to or joins any firm that the General Partner determines, in its reasonable discretion, is competitive with any business of BankAmerica Group; or (iii) the Eligible Employee voluntarily resigns from employment with BankAmerica Group. Upon repurchase or cancellation, the General Partner will pay to the Eligible Employee at least the lesser of (i) the amount actually paid by the Eligible Employee to acquire the Interest (plus interest, as determined by the General Partner), and (ii) the fair market value of the Interest as determined at the time of repurchase by the General Partner. The terms of any repurchase or cancellation will apply equally to any Qualified Participant of an Eligible Employee.

10. Subject to the terms of the applicable Limited Partnership Agreement, a Partnership will be permitted to enter into transactions involving (i) a BankAmerica entity, (ii) a portfolio company, (iii) any Partner or any person or entity affiliated with a Partner, (iv) an investment fund or separate account that is organized for

the benefit of investors who are not affiliated with and over which a BankAmerica entity will exercise investment discretion (a "Third Party Fund"), or (v) any partner or other investor of a Third Party Fund that is not affiliated with BankAmerica Group (a "Third Party Investor"). These transactions may include a Partnership's purchase or sale of an investment or an interest from or to any BankAmerica entity or Third Party Fund, acting as principal. Prior to entering into these transactions, the General Partner must determine that the terms are fair to the Partners.

11. A Partnership will not invest more than 15% of its assets in securities issued by registered investment companies (with the exception of temporary investments in money market funds). A Partnership will not acquire any security issued by a registered investment company if immediately after the acquisition, the Partnership will own more than 3% of the outstanding voting stock of the registered investment company.

12. A BankAmerica entity (including the General Partner) acting as agent or broker may receive placement fees, advisory fees, or other compensation from a Partnership in connection with a Partnership's purchase or sale of securities, provided the placement fees, advisory fees, or other compensation are "reasonable and customary." Fees or other compensation will be deemed "reasonable and customary" only if (i) the Partnership is purchasing or selling securities with other unaffiliated third parties, including Third Party Funds, (ii) the fees or compensation being charged to the Partnership are also being charged to the unaffiliated third parties, including Third Party Funds, and (iii) the amount of securities being purchased or sold by the Partnership does not exceed 50% of the total amount of securities being purchased or sold by the Partnership and the unaffiliated third parties, including Third Party Funds. A BankAmerica entity (including the General Partner) also may be compensated for services to entities in which the Partnerships invest and to entities that are competitors of these entities, and may otherwise engage in normal business activities that conflict with the interests of the Partnerships.

#### **Applicants' Legal Analysis**

1. Section 6(b) of the Act provides, in part, that the SEC will exempt employees' securities companies from the provisions of the Act to the extent that the exemption is consistent with the protection of investors. Section 6(b)

provides that the Commission will consider, in determining the provisions of the Act from which the company should be exempt, the company's form of organization and capital structure, the persons owning and controlling its securities, the price of the company's securities and the amount of any sales load, how the company's funds are invested, and the relationship between the company and the issuers of the securities in which it invests. Section 2(a)(13) defines an employees' security company, in relevant part, as any investment company all of whose securities are beneficially owned (a) by current or former employees, or persons on retainer, of one or more affiliated employers, (b) by immediate family members of such persons, or (c) by such employer or employers together with any of the persons in (a) or (b).

2. Section 7 of the Act generally prohibits an investment company that is not registered under section 8 of the Act from selling or redeeming its securities. Section 6(e) provides that, in connection with any order exempting an investment company from any provision of section 7, certain provisions of the Act, as specified by the SEC, will be applicable to the company and other persons dealing with the company as though the company were registered under the Act. Applicants request an order under sections 6(b) and 6(e) of the Act for an exemption from all provisions of the Act except section 9, section 17 (other than certain provisions of paragraphs (a), (d), (e), (f), (g) and (j)), section 30 (other than certain provisions of paragraphs (a), (b), (e), and (h)), sections 36 through 53, and the rules and regulations thereunder.

3. Section 17(a) generally prohibits any affiliated person of a registered investment company, or any affiliated person of an affiliated person, acting as principal, from knowingly selling or purchasing any security or other property to or from the company. Applicants request an exemption from section 17(a) to (i) permit a BankAmerica entity (including, without limitation, a BankAmerica Fund) or a Third Party Fund, acting as principal, to engage in any transaction directly or indirectly with any Partnership or any company controlled by the Partnership; (ii) permit any Partnership to invest in or engage in any transaction with any BankAmerica entity (including without limitation, acting as principal), (a) in which the Partnership, any company controlled by the Partnership, or any BankAmerica entity (including, without limitation, a BankAmerica Fund) or Third Party Fund has invested or will invest, or (b) with which the Partnership, any company controlled by

and these investment vehicles. In the case of a partnership, corporation, or other entity controlled by a Consultant entity individual participants will be limited to senior level employees, members, or partners of the Consultant who will be required to qualify as an "accredited investor" under rule 501(a)(6) of Regulation D and who will have access to the General Partner or BankAmerica Group.

the Partnership, or any BankAmerica entity (including, without limitation, a BankAmerica Fund) or Third Party Fund is or will become otherwise affiliated; and (iii) permit any Third Party Investor, acting as principal, to engage in any transaction directly or indirectly with any Partnership or any company controlled by the Partnership.

4. Applicants state that an exemption from section 17(a) is consistent with the protection of investors and is necessary to promote the purpose of the Partnerships. Applicants state that the Participants in each Partnership will be fully informed of the extent of the Partnership's dealings with BankAmerica Group. Applicants also state that, as professionals employed in the investment banking and financial services businesses, Participants will be able to understand and evaluate the attendant risks. Applicants assert that the community of interest among the Participants and BankAmerica Group will provide the best protection against any risk of abuse.

5. Section 17(d) and rule 17d-1 prohibit any affiliated person or principal underwriter of a registered investment company, or any affiliated person of such person or principal underwriter, acting as principal, from participating in any joint arrangement with the company unless authorized by the SEC. Applicants request exemptive relief to permit affiliated persons of each Partnership, or affiliated persons of any of these persons, to participate in, or effect any transaction in connection with, any joint enterprise or other joint arrangement or profit-sharing plan in which the Partnership or a company controlled by the Partnership is a participant.

6. Applicants submit that it is likely that suitable investments will be brought to the attention of a Partnership because of its affiliation with BankAmerica Group, BankAmerica Group's large capital resources, and its experience in structuring complex transactions. Applicants also submit that the types of investment opportunities considered by a Partnership often require each investor to make funds available in an amount that may be substantially greater than what a Partnership may make available on its own. Applicants contend that, as a result, the only way in which a Partnership may be able to participate in these opportunities may be to co-invest with other persons, including its affiliates. Applicants note that each Partnership will be primarily organized for the benefit of employee participants as an incentive for them to remain with BankAmerica Group and for the

generation and maintenance of goodwill. Applicants believe that, if co-investments with BankAmerica Group are prohibited, the appeal of the Partnerships would be significantly diminished. Applicants assert that Eligible Employees wish to participate in co-investment opportunities because they believe that (a) the resources of BankAmerica Group enable it to analyze investment opportunities to an extent that individual employees would not be able to duplicate, (b) investments made by BankAmerica Group will not be generally available to investors even of the financial status of the Eligible Employees, and (c) Eligible Employees will be able to pool their investment resources, thus achieving greater diversification of their individual investment portfolios.

7. Applicants assert that the flexibility to structure co-investments and joint investments will not involve abuses of the type section 17(d) and rule 17d-1 were designed to prevent. Applicants state that the concern that permitting co-investments by BankAmerica Group and a Partnership might lead to less advantageous treatment of the Partnership will be mitigated by the fact that BankAmerica Group will be acutely concerned with its relationship with the personnel who invest in such partnership and the fact that senior officers and directors of BankAmerica Group entities will be investing in such Partnership. In addition, applicants assert that strict compliance with section 17(d) would cause the Partnership to forego investment opportunities simply because a Participant or other affiliated person of the Partnership (or any affiliate of such person) made a similar investment. Finally, applicants contend that the possibility that a Partnership may be disadvantaged by the participation of an affiliate in a transaction will be minimized by compliance with the lockstep procedures described in condition 3 below. Applicants believe that this condition will ensure that a Partnership will co-invest side-by-side and pro rata with, and on at least as favorable terms as, a BankAmerica entity.

8. Co-investments with Third Party Funds, or by a BankAmerica entity pursuant to a contractual obligation to a Third Party Fund, will not be subject to condition 3. Applicants note that it is common for a Third Party Fund to require that BankAmerica Group invest its own capital in Third Party Fund investments, and that the BankAmerica Group investments be subject to substantially the same terms as those applicable to the Third Party Fund.

Applicants believe it is important that the interests of the Third Party Fund take priority over the interests of the Partnerships, and that the Third Party Fund not be burdened or otherwise affected by activities of the Partnerships. In addition, applicants assert that the relationship of a Partnership to a Third Party Fund is fundamentally different from a Partnership's relationship to BankAmerica Group. Applicants contend that the focus of, and the rationale for, the protections contained in the requested relief are to protect the Partnerships from any overreaching by BankAmerica Group in the employer/employee context, whereas the same concerns are not present with respect to the Partnerships vis-a-vis a Third Party Fund.

9. Section 17(e) and rule 17e-1 limit the compensation an affiliated person may receive when acting as agent or broker for a registered investment company. Applicants request an exemption from section 17(e) to permit a BankAmerica entity (including the General Partner), that acts as an agent or broker, to receive placement fees, advisory fees, or other compensation from a Partnership in connection with the purchase or sale by the Partnership of securities, provided that the fees or other compensation is deemed "usual and customary." Applicants state that for the purposes of the application, fees or other compensation that is charged or received by a BankAmerica entity will be deemed "usual and customary" only if (i) the Partnership is purchasing or selling securities with other unaffiliated third parties, including Third Party Funds, (ii) the fees or compensation being charged to the Partnership are also being charged to the unaffiliated third parties, including Third Party Funds, and (iii) the amount of securities being purchased or sold by the Partnership does not exceed 50% of the total amount of securities being purchased or sold by the Partnership and the unaffiliated third parties, including Third Party Funds. Applicants assert that, because BankAmerica Group does not wish it to appear as if it is favoring the Partnerships, compliance with section 17(e) would prevent a Partnership from participating in transactions where the Partnership is being charged lower fees than unaffiliated third parties. Applicants assert that the fees or other compensation paid by a Partnership to a BankAmerica entity will be the same as those negotiated at arm's length with unaffiliated third parties.

10. Rule 17e-1(b) requires that a majority of directors of the General Partner who are not "interested

persons" (as defined in section 2(a)(19) of the Act) take actions and make approvals regarding commissions, fees, or other remuneration. Applicants request an exemption from rule 17e-1(b) to the extent necessary to permit each Partnership to comply with the rule without having a majority of the directors of the General Partner who are not interested persons take actions and make determinations as set forth in the rule. Applicants state that because all the directors of the General Partner will be affiliated persons, without the relief requested, a Partnership could not comply with rule 17e-1(b). Applicants state that each Partnership will comply with rule 17e-1(b) by having a majority of the directors of the General Partner take actions and make approvals as are set forth in rule 17e-1. Applicants state that each Partnership will comply with all other requirements of rule 17e-1 for the transactions described above in the discussion of section 17(e).

11. Section 17(f) designates the entities that may act as investment company custodians, and rule 17f-1 imposes certain requirements when the custodian is a member of a national securities exchange. Applicants request an exemption from section 17(f) and rule 17f-1 to permit a BankAmerica entity to act as custodian of Partnership assets without a written contract, as would be required by rule 17f-1(a). Applicants also request an exemption from the rule 17f-1(b)(4) requirement that an independent accountant periodically verify the assets held by the custodian. Applicants believe that, because of the community of interest between BankAmerica Group and the Partnerships and the existing requirement for an independent audit, compliance with these requirements would be unnecessarily burdensome and expensive. Applicants will comply with all other requirements of rule 17f-1.

12. Section 17(g) and rule 17g-1 generally require the bonding of officers and employees of a registered investment company who have access to its securities or funds. Rule 17g-1 requires that a majority of directors who are not interested persons take certain actions and give certain approvals relating to fidelity bonding. Applicants request exemptive relief to permit the General Partner's officers and directors, who may be deemed interested persons, to take actions and make determinations set forth in the rule. Applicants state that, because all the directors of the General Partner will be affiliated persons, a Partnership could not comply with rule 17g-1 without the requested relief. Specifically, each Partnership

will comply with rule 17g-1 by having a majority of the Partnership's directors take actions and make determinations as are set forth in rule 17g-1. Applicants also state that each Partnership will comply with all other requirements of rule 17g-1.

13. Section 17(j) and paragraph (a) of rule 17j-1 make it unlawful for certain enumerated persons to engage in fraudulent or deceptive practices in connection with the purchase or sale of a security held or to be acquired by a registered investment company. Rule 17j-1 also requires that every registered investment company adopt a written code of ethics and that every access person of a registered investment company report personal securities transactions. Applicants request an exemption from the provisions of rule 17j-1, except for the anti-fraud provisions of paragraph (a), because they are unnecessarily burdensome as applied to the Partnerships.

14. Applicants request an exemption from the requirements in sections 30(a), 30(b) and 30(e), and the rules under those sections, that registered investment companies prepare and file with the SEC and mail to their shareholders certain periodic reports and financial statements. Applicants contend that the forms prescribed by the SEC for periodic reports have little relevance to the Partnerships and would entail administrative and legal costs that outweigh any benefit to the Participants. Applicants request exemptive relief to the extent necessary to permit each Partnership to report annually to its Participants. Applicants also request an exemption from section 30(h) to the extent necessary to exempt the General Partner of each Partnership and any other persons who may be deemed to be members of an advisory board of a Partnership from filing Forms 3, 4 and 5 under section 16(a) of the Exchange Act with respect to their ownership of Interests in the Partnership. Applicants assert that, because there will be no trading market and the transfers of Interests will be severely restricted, these filings are unnecessary for the protection of investors and burdensome to those required to make them.

#### Applicants' Conditions

Applicants agree that the order granting the requested relief will be subject to the following conditions:

1. Each proposed transaction otherwise prohibited by section 17(a) or section 17(d) and rule 17d-1 to which a Partnership is a party (the "Section 17 Transaction") will be effected only if the General Partner determines that: (i) the terms of the transaction, including the

consideration to be paid or received, are fair and reasonable to the Partners of the Partnership and do not involve overreaching of the Partnership or its Participants on the part of any person concerned; and (ii) the transaction is consistent with the interests of the Participants in the Partnership, and the Partnership's organizational documents and reports to its Participants. In addition, the General Partner of each Partnership will record and preserve a description of the Section 17 Transactions, the General Partner's findings, the information or materials upon which the General Partner's findings are based, and the basis for the findings. All records relating to an investment program will be maintained until the termination of the investment program and at least two years thereafter, and will be subject to examination by the SEC and its staff.<sup>3</sup>

2. In connection with the Section 17 Transactions, the General Partner of each Partnership will adopt, and periodically review and update, procedures designed to ensure that reasonable inquiry is made, prior to the consummation of any Section 17 Transaction, with respect to the possible involvement in the Transaction of any affiliated person or promoter of or principal underwriter for the Partnership, or any affiliated person of the affiliated person, promoter, or principal underwriter.

3. The General Partner of each Partnership will not invest the funds of the Partnership in any investment in which a "Co-Investor" (as defined below) has acquired or proposes to acquire the same class of securities of the same issuer, if the investment involves a joint enterprise or other joint arrangement within the meaning of rule 17d-1 in which the Partnership and the Co-Investor are participants, unless the Co-Investor, prior to disposing of all or part of its investment, (i) gives the General Partner sufficient, but not less than one day's notice of its intent to dispose of its investment; and (ii) refrains from disposing of its investment unless the Partnership has the opportunity to dispose of the Partnership's investment prior to or concurrently with, on the same terms as, and pro rata with the Co-Investor. The term "Co-Investor" with respect to any Partnership means any person who is: (i) an "affiliated person" (as defined in section 2(a)(3) of the Act) of the Partnership (other than a Third Party

<sup>3</sup> Each Partnership will preserve the accounts, books and other documents required to be maintained in an easily accessible place for the first two years.

Fund); (ii) BankAmerica Group; (iii) an officer or director of BankAmerica Group; or (iv) an entity (other than a Third Party Fund) in which the General Partner acts as a general partner or has a similar capacity to control the sale or other disposition of the entity's securities. The restrictions contained in this condition, however, will not be deemed to limit or prevent the disposition of an investment by a Co-Investor: (i) to its direct or indirect wholly-owned subsidiary, to any company (a "Parent") of which the Co-Investor is a direct or indirect wholly-owned subsidiary, or to a direct or indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of its Parent; (ii) to immediate family members of the Co-Investor or a trust or other investment vehicle established for any immediate family member; (iii) when the investment is comprised of securities that are listed on any exchange registered as a national securities exchange under section 6 of the Exchange Act; (iv) when the investment if comprised of securities that are national market system securities pursuant to section 11A(a)(2) of the Exchange Act and rule 11Aa2-1 under the Exchange Act; or (v) when the investment is comprised of securities that are listed on or traded on any foreign securities exchange or board of trade that satisfies regulatory requirements under the law of the jurisdiction in which the foreign securities exchange or board of trade is organized similar to those that apply to a national securities exchange or a national market system for securities.

4. Each Partnership and the General Partner will maintain and preserve, for the life of the Partnership and at least two years thereafter, the accounts, books, and other documents that constitute the record forming the basis for the audited financial statements that are to be provided to the Participants in the Partnership, and each annual report of the Partnership required to be sent to Participants, and agree that these records will be subject to examination by the SEC and its staff.<sup>4</sup>

5. The General Partner of each Partnership will send to each Participant in the Partnership who had an interest in any capital account of the Partnership, at any time during the fiscal year then ended, Partnership financial statements audited by the Partnership's independent accountants. At the end of each fiscal year, the General Partner will make a valuation or

have a valuation made of all of the assets of the Partnership as of the fiscal year end in a manner consistent with customary practice with respect to the valuation of assets of the kind held by the Partnership. In addition, within 120 days after the end of each fiscal year of each Partnership or as soon as practicable thereafter, the General Partner of the Partnership will send a report to each person who was a Participant in the Partnership at any time during the fiscal year then ended, setting forth the tax information necessary for the preparation by the Participant of federal and state income tax returns.

6. If purchases or sales are made by a Partnership from or to an entity affiliated with the Partnership by reason of a 5% or more investment in the entity by a BankAmerica director, officer, or employee, the individual will not participate in the Partnership's determination of whether or not to effect the purchase or sale.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, pursuant to delegated authority.

**Margaret H. McFarland,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-40985; File No. SR-AMEX-98-45]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; American Stock Exchange LLC; Order Granting Approval to Proposed Rule Change Relating to Margin Treatment of Grand Exchange-Traded Fund Share Options Contracts

January 27, 1999.

#### I. Introduction

On November 25, 1998, The American Stock Exchange LLC ("Amex" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> a proposed rule change to permit each "Grand" Exchange-Traded Fund Share (Fund Share)<sup>3</sup> option

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>3</sup> The term Exchange-Traded Fund Share includes securities representing interests in unit investment trusts or open-end management investment companies that hold securities based on an index or portfolio of securities. Currently, the Exchange trades unit investment trust securities known as Portfolio Depositary Receipts<sup>SM</sup> ("PDRs") based on

contract to be recognized to the same extent that 10 ordinary Fund Share option contracts would be recognized under Amex Rule 462—Minimum Margins.

The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on December 24, 1998.<sup>4</sup> No comments were received on the proposal. This order approves the proposal.

#### II. Description of the Proposal

The rule proposal clarifies that the margin requirements set forth in Amex Rule 462—Minimum Margins<sup>5</sup> apply to an option contract overlying 1000 Exchange-Traded Fund Shares (the "Grand option contract").<sup>6</sup> The Amex represents that the Grand option contract is the economic equivalent of holding 10 ordinary Fund Share option contracts, each of which overlies 100 shares of an underlying Fund Share. The Exchange notes that, specifically, the provisions of Amex Rule 462(d)(2)(D)(ii) have applicability to an

the Standard & Poor's 500® Composite Stock Price Index, the Standard & Poor's MidCap 400 Index, and the Dow Jones Industrial Average. In addition, the Exchange trades Fund Shares which are issued by an open-end management investment company consisting of seventeen separate series known as World Equity Benchmark Shares<sup>SM</sup> (WEBS) based on seventeen foreign equity market indexes. The Exchange also trades nine Fund Shares known as Select Sector SPDRs<sup>SM</sup>, each of which is offered by the Select Sector SPDR<sup>SM</sup> Trust, an open-end management investment company. PDRs and WEBS are listed on the Amex pursuant to Rule 1000, *et seq.* and Rule 1000A *et seq.*, respectively, and trade like shares of common stock.

<sup>4</sup> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 40803 (December 17, 1998), 63 FR 71310 (File No. SR-AMEX-98-45).

<sup>5</sup> Amex Rule 462 states: "In the case of a put or call dealt in on a registered national securities exchange or a registered securities association and issued by The Options Clearing Corporation, and representing options on equity securities, 100% of the option premium plus 20% of the market value of the equivalent number of shares of the underlying security, reduced by any excess of the exercise price over the current market price of the underlying security in the case of a call, or any excess of the current market price of the underlying security over the exercise price in the case of a put, (except that in the case of such options on Exchange-Traded Fund Shares or other securities that represent an interest in a registered investment company that satisfies the criteria set forth in Rule 915; Commentary .06, margin must equal at least 100% of the current market value of the contract plus (1) 15% of the market value of equivalent units of the underlying security value if the Exchange-Traded Fund Share holds securities based upon a broad-based index or portfolio; or (2) 20% of the market value of equivalent units of the underlying security value if the Exchange-Traded Fund Share holds securities based upon a narrow-based index or portfolio)." Amex Rule 462(d)(2)(D)(ii); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 40157 (July 1, 1998), 63 FR 37426 (July 10, 1998) ("July 1998 Release").

<sup>6</sup> On July 1, 1998, the Exchange received approval to trade both options overlying Exchange-Traded Fund Share and Grand option contract. See July 1998 Release, *supra* note 5.

<sup>4</sup> Each Partnership will preserve the accounts, books and other documents required to be maintained in an easily accessible place for the first two years.