equipment hatch to be open during core alterations, and/or movement of irradiated fuel inside containment, cannot be granted. The licensee was notified of the Commission’s denial of the proposed change by a letter dated January 29, 1999.

By March 10, 1999, the licensee may demand a hearing with respect to the denial described above. Any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding may file a written petition for leave to intervene.

A request for hearing or petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001 Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff, or may be delivered to the Commission’s Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, by the above date.

A copy of any petitions should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and to Mr. Arthur H. Domby, Troutman Sanders, NationsBank Plaza, Suite 5200, 600 Peachtree Street, NE., Atlanta, Georgia, attorney for the licensee.

For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the application for amendments dated June 26, 1998, as supplemented by letters dated September 18 and November 30, 1998, and (2) the Commission’s letter to the licensee dated January 29, 1999.

These documents are available for public inspection at the Commission’s Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Burke County Library, 412 Fourth Street, Waynesboro, Georgia.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 29th day of January, 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

David Jaffe,
Senior Project Manager, Project Directorate II-2, Division of Reactor Projects—I/II Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Extension of Existing Collection; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From. Securities and Exchange Commission Office of Filings and Information Services Washington, DC 20549

Extension:
Rule 17a-13, SEC File No. 270-27, OMB Control No. 3235-0035
Rule 11Ab2-1 and Form SIP, SEC File No. 270-23, OMB Control No. 3235-0043

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), the Securities and Exchange Commission (Commission) is soliciting comments on the collections of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit these existing collections of information to the Office of Management and Budget for extension and approval.

Rule 17a-13(b) generally requires that at least once each calendar quarter, all registered brokers and dealers physically examine and count all securities held and account for all other securities not in their possession, but subject to the broker-dealer’s control or direction. Any discrepancies between the broker-dealer’s securities count and the firm’s records must be noted and, within seven days, the unaccounted for difference must be recorded in the firm’s records. Rule 17a-13(c) provides that under specified conditions, the securities count, examination and verification of the broker-dealer’s entire list of securities may be conducted on a cyclical basis rather than on a certain date. Although Rule 17a-13 does not require filing a report with the Commission, security count discrepancies must be reported on Form X-17a-5 as required by Rule 17a-5.

Rule 17a-13 exempts broker-dealers that limit their business to the sale and redemption of securities of registered investment companies and interests or participation in an insurance company separate account and those who solicit accounts for federally insured savings and loan associations, provided that such persons, promptly transmit all funds and securities and hold no customer funds and securities.

The information obtained from Rule 17a-13 is used as an inventory control device to monitor a broker-dealers’ ability to account for all securities held, in transit, in trust, pledged, borrowed, deposited or otherwise subject to the firm’s control or direction. Discrepancies between the securities counts and the broker-dealer’s records alert the Commission and the Self Regulatory Organizations (SROs) to those firms having problems in their back offices.

Because of the many variations in the amount of securities that broker-dealers are accountable for, it is difficult to develop a meaningful figure for the cost of compliance with Rule 17a-13. Approximately 92% of all registered broker-dealers are subject to Rule 17a-13. Accordingly, approximately 7,156 broker-dealer to comply with the Rule is 100 hours per year, for a total estimated annualized burden of 715,600 hours. It should be noted that a significant number of firms subject to Rule 17a-13 have minimal obligations under the Rule because they do not hold securities. It should further be noted that most broker-dealers would engage in the activities required by Rule 17a-13 even if they were not required to do so.

Rule 11Ab2-1 and Form SIP establish the procedures by which a Securities...