

have to submit renewed certifications by September 30, 2000, in order for the Federal agencies to be able to continue to provide such authorized services after that date. Thereafter, the certifications must be renewed every five years in order for the Federal agencies to continue to provide the authorized services. In support of its certification, the State or local government, in its submission to the Federal agency, must outline how it solicited private sector interest in performing the service and must briefly explain the basis for its determination that it cannot procure the service, reasonably and expeditiously, through ordinary business channels. Each certification (including the certifications that are due by September 30, 2000, certifications for new services, and the five-year renewal certifications) must include up-to-date information regarding the ability of the State or local government to procure the requested service through ordinary business channels.

OMB estimates that it would take approximately 5 hours for a State or local government to collect the information requested, and would take approximately 2 hours for the State or local government to prepare and submit the information. OMB estimates that there will be 1500 submissions regarding currently-provided services to be submitted by September 30, 2000, and approximately 300 submissions for new services per year. The total burden estimate for currently provided services is 10,500 hours and 2,100 hours annually thereafter.

Comments are solicited concerning the proposed collection of information requirements to: (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper functions of Circular A-97 including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) Evaluate the accuracy of the estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) Minimize the burden on those who are to respond, such as using appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses. Comments should be sent to the persons specified above (see ADDRESSES).

Jacob J. Lew,
Director.

OMB hereby proposes to further amend OMB Circular A-97, as proposed to be revised at 63 FR 2288, January 14,

1998, by revising paragraph 7.c. to read as follows:

7. Conditions Under Which Services May Be Provided

The specialized or technical services provided under Title III of the Act and this Circular may be provided only under the following conditions:

* * * * *

c. Such services will not be provided unless—

1. The agency providing the services is providing similar services for its own use and, if commercial in nature, are being provided in accordance with a cost comparison conducted under the policies set forth in the Office of Management and Budget's Circular No. A-76, "Performance of Commercial Activities," (Revised August 3, 1983) and its March 1996 Revised Supplemental Handbook.

2. The requesting State or local government has certified that the requested service has been offered to private sector providers and cannot be procured reasonably and expeditiously through ordinary business channels. In order for a Federal agency to continue to provide a current service to a State or local government after September 30, 2000, the Federal agency must receive a renewed certification from the State or local government prior to that date. Thereafter, renewed certifications must be received every five years in order for a Federal agency to continue to provide the service. In support of its certification, the State or local government, in its submission to the Federal agency, must outline how it solicited private sector interest in performing the service and must briefly explain the basis for its determination that it cannot procure the service, reasonably and expeditiously, through ordinary business channels. Each certification (including the renewed certifications that are due by September 30, 2000, certifications in support of new requests, and the subsequent five-year renewal certifications) must include up-to-date information regarding the ability of the State or local government to procure the requested service through ordinary business channels. Each Federal agency must maintain an inventory of the services that it is providing to State and local governments, and must retain copies of the certifications. The inventories and certifications shall be publicly available upon request.

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POSTAL SERVICE

Sunshine Act Meeting

TIMES AND DATES: 1:00, p.m., Monday, March 1, 1999; 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 2, 1999.

PLACE: Washington, D.C., at U.S. Postal Service Headquarters, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., in the Benjamin Franklin Room.

STATUS; March 1 (Closed); March 2 (Open).

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED;

Monday, March 1,—1:00 p.m. (Closed)

1. Filing with the Postal Rate Commission for Nonletter-size Business Reply Mail.

2. Strategic Alliance.

3. REMITCO Market Test Expansion.

4. Office of the Inspector General FY 1999 Performance Plan.

Tuesday, March 2—8:30 a.m. (Open)

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting, February 1-2, 1999.

2. Remarks of the Postmaster General/Chief Executive Officer.

3. Briefing on the Year 2000.

4. Update on the Breast Cancer Research Semipostal Stamp.

5. Briefing on Celebrate the Century Stamp and Education Program.

6. Tentative Agenda for the March 29-30, 1999, meeting in Washington, D.C.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Thomas J. Koerber, Secretary of the Board, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20260-1000. Telephone (202) 268-4800.

Thomas J. Koerber,
Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. IC-23691; 812-11240]

Scudder Kemper Investments, Inc., et al.; Notice of Application

February 11, 1999.

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

ACTION: Notice of an application under section 12(d)(1)(J) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act") for an exemption from section 12(d)(1) of the Act, and under sections 6(c) and 17(b) of the Act for an exemption from section 17(a) of the Act.

Summary of Application: Applicants request an order that would permit them to implement a "fund of funds"