

3. The requestor's areas of concern about the licensing activity that is the subject matter of the proceeding; and

4. The circumstances establishing that the request for hearing is timely—that is, filed within 30 days of the date of this notice.

In addressing how the requestor's interest may be affected by the proceeding, the request should describe the nature of the requestor's right under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, to be made a party to the proceeding; the nature and extent of the requestor's property, financial, or other (i.e., health, safety) interest in the proceeding; and the possible effect of any order that may be entered in the proceeding upon the requestor's interest.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 14th day of February, 2000, For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**John W. N. Hickey,**

*Chief, Material Safety and Inspection Branch, Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.*

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 35-27140]

### Filings Under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, as Amended ("Act")

February 18, 2000.

Notice is hereby given that the following filing(s) has/have been made with the Commission pursuant to provisions of the Act and rules promulgated under the Act. All interested persons are referred to the application(s) and/or declaration(s) for complete statements of the proposed transaction(s) summarized below. The application(s) and/or declaration(s) and any amendment(s) is/are available for public inspection through the Commission's Branch of Public Reference.

Interested persons wishing to comment or request a hearing on the application(s) and/or declaration(s) should submit their views in writing by March 14, 2000, to the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, DC 20549-0609, and serve a copy on the relevant applicant(s) and/or declarant(s) at the address(es) specified below. Proof of service (by affidavit or, in the case of an attorney at law, by certificate) should be filed with the request. Any request for hearing

should identify specifically the issues of facts or law that are disputed. A person who so requests will be notified of any hearing, if ordered, and will receive a copy of any notice or order issued in the matter. After March 14, 2000, the application(s) and/or declaration(s), as filed or as amended, may be granted and/or permitted to become effective.

#### Alliant Energy Corporation, et al. (70-9597)

Alliant Energy Corporation ("Alliant Energy"), 222 West Washington Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin 53703, a registered holding company, and its public utility subsidiary companies, Wisconsin Power & Light Company ("WP&L"), 222 West Washington Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin 53703, IES Utilities, Inc. ("IES"), Alliant Tower, 200 First Street, S.E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52401, and Interstate Power Company ("IPC", and together with WP&L and IES, "Operating Companies"), 1000 Main Street, P.O. Box 769, Dubuque, Iowa 52004-07691, have filed an application-declaration under sections 6(a), 7, 9(a), 10, 12(b), and 13(b) of the Act and rules 43, 45, 54 and 90 under the Act.

WP&L and IES currently have in place separate programs under which each company sells its customer accounts receivable ("Receivables") to Ciesco, L.P. ("Ciesco"), an accounts receivable financing conduit managed by Citicorp North America, Inc. ("Citicorp"), a subsidiary of Citibank N.A. ("Citibank"). The purpose of the programs is to enable the three utilities to accelerate cash receipts from the Receivables, reducing the need for more costly sources of working capital.

WP&L and IES, together with IPC, intend to enter into a new receivables financing program that will replace the existing program, which expires on March 31, 2000. In connection with the new program, the Operating Companies propose to organize special purpose subsidiaries ("Subsidiaries") to engage in the business of acquiring Receivables from the Operating Companies and selling them at a discount to Ciesco or Citibank.<sup>1</sup>

Under the proposal, each Operating Company would organize a Subsidiary as a single-member, nominally capitalized limited liability company, which would acquire its parent Operating Company's Receivables under separate receivables sale agreements. The Subsidiaries will not conduct any other business or own any other assets.

<sup>1</sup> Citibank will acquire the Receivables in the event Ciesco is unable to issue commercial paper to fund the purchase of Receivables.

The Subsidiaries would form a jointly owned, nominally capitalized limited liability company ("Newco"), which would acquire the Receivables from the Subsidiaries under the new terms and conditions, under a receivables purchase and sale agreement. Newco, in turn, would sell an undivided percentage ownership interest in the pool of Receivables to Ciesco or Citibank, as the case may be, under separate receivables purchase and sale agreements.

Each Subsidiary will purchase the Receivables from its parent Operating Company at a discount. This discount will take into account Ciesco's and Citibank's cost of funds, as the case may be, and program fees and administrative and servicing costs, all of which would be passed through by Newco, and the historical default experience on accounts receivable originated by the Operating Company.

The purpose of forming the Subsidiaries is to isolate the Receivables from the Operating Company which has originated them such that, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, the sale of the Receivables to the Subsidiaries qualifies for treatment as an asset sale by the Operating Companies rather than as a loan secured by the Receivables. This allows the Receivables to be removed as assets from the Operating Companies' books. Through Newco, the Operating Companies will be able to consolidate their Receivables into a larger pool and eliminate duplicate structuring and administrative costs that would be associated with creating and maintaining separate programs with Ciesco. Alliant Energy Corporate Services, Inc. ("Services"), a service company subsidiary of Alliant Energy, will be designated the initial Collection Agent under each receivables sale agreement. It, however, will subcontract with the Operating Companies to perform the duties of the Collection Agent, and, in that capacity, each of the Operating Companies will continue to bill its customers and service their accounts. The originating Operating Company, as subcontractor to Services, will be entitled to receive an agent's fee of ¼ of 1% per annum on the average daily amount of capital invested by Ciesco in its Receivables.<sup>2</sup> In addition, Alliant Energy proposes to provide credit support under certain circumstances in favor of Ciesco, Citicorp and Citibank. Specifically,

<sup>2</sup> Ciesco or Citibank, as owner of the Receivables, would be obligated to pay the agent's fee; however, that payment will be passed through to the Operating Companies out of the collections on the Receivables.

Ciesco, Citicorp and Citibank would have limited recourse against Alliant Energy, under an agreement with Alliant Energy ("Agreement"), for defaulted Receivables. The recourse limit for defaulted Receivables is calculated under the Agreement by multiplying the amount of capital invested by Ciesco by a percentage equal to the greatest of: (a) Three times the maximum amount of Receivables of any single customer of an Operating Company that may be financed under the program ("Concentration Limit"), expressed as a percentage of the pool of Receivables sold by Newco in any particular period;<sup>3</sup> (b) three times the greatest 12-month rolling average default ratio for the Receivables for the twelve months ending immediately on the date of calculation; and (c) 9%.

In addition, Ciesco, Citicorp and Citibank would have recourse against Alliant Energy for Ciesco's (or Citibank's) expenses incurred in (a) funding the purchase of Receivables and (b) paying the Collection Agent fee, to the extent that those expenses are not paid out of collections. Alliant Energy is liable also for (a) failure to transfer to Newco or Ciesco a first priority ownership interest in the Receivables; (b) the breach by an Operating Company, a Subsidiary or Newco of its representations, warranties and covenants; and (c) certain indemnity obligations.

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

**Margaret H. McFarland,**  
*Deputy Secretary.*

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### Sunshine Act Meeting

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the Government in the Sunshine Act, Pub. L. 94-409, that the Securities and Exchange Commission will hold the following meeting during the week of February 28, 2000.

A closed meeting will be held on Thursday, March 2, 2000 at 3:30 p.m.

Commissioners, Counsel to the Commissioners, the Secretary of the Commission, and recording secretaries will attend the closed meeting. Certain staff members who have an interest in the matters may also be present.

<sup>3</sup> The Concentration Limit has been set initially at three percent, but may be adjusted by mutual agreement.

The General Counsel of the Commission, or his designee, has certified that, in his opinion, one or more of the exemptions set forth in 5 U.S.C. 552b (b)(4), (8), (9)(A) and (10) and 17 CFR 200.402(a) (4), (8), (9)(A) and (10), permit consideration for the scheduled matters at the closed meeting.

Commissioner Hunt, as duty officer, voted to consider the items listed for the closed meeting in a closed session.

The subject matters of the closed meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 2, 2000 are: Institution and settlement of injunctive actions; and a litigation matter.

At times, changes in Commission priorities require alterations in the scheduling of meeting items. For further information and to ascertain what, if any, matters have been added, deleted or postponed, please contact: The Office of the Secretary at (202) 942-7070.

Dated: February 23, 2000.

**Jonathan G. Katz,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 00-4663 Filed 2-23-00; 4:29 pm]  
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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-42441]; File No. SR-Amex-99-16]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change by the American Stock Exchange LLC Relating to Exchange Rule 108

February 18, 2000

Pursuant to section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act" or "Act")<sup>1</sup> and rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on April 28, 1999, the American Stock Exchange LLC ("Amex" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission" or "SEC") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the self-regulatory organization. Amex filed an amendment to the proposed rule change on July 13, 1999.<sup>3</sup> The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

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

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

<sup>3</sup> See Letter to Michael Walinskas, Associate Director, Division of Market Regulation, Commission, from William Floyd-Jones, Assistant General Counsel, Amex, dated July 8, 1999 ("Amendment No. 1"). Amendment No. 1 replaces and supersedes the original filing.

### I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Office of the Secretary, the Amex and at the Commission.

### II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the self-regulatory organization included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The self-regulatory organization has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

#### A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

##### 1. Purpose

The Amex proposes to amend rule 108 ("Priority and Parity at Openings" by adding Commentary .02 to modify procedures applicable to proprietary orders sent by market makers in other ITS participant markets to the Amex by means of the Common Message Switch ("CMS") and Amex Order File ("AOF") or through a floor broker before an ITS pre-opening notification or indication of an anticipated opening price range is issued by the Exchange specialist.

The proposed procedures are comparable to those in effect for pre-opening orders sent by ITS participants to another market that has issued a pre-opening notification or indication. The ITS Plan provides that, after a specialist issues an ITS pre-opening notification or an indication through the consolidated tape of an opening price range for a security, market makers on other ITS Participants must route orders for execution at the opening prices only through ITS and not by other means (paragraph (c)(4) of Exhibit A relating to the "Pre-Opening Application Rule").<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup> The ITS Plan's Pre-Opening Application rule (paragraph (b)(i)(B)) provides that, if the Consolidated Tape Association Plan or the Exchange's rules require or permit that an "indication of interest" be furnished to the consolidated tape before an opening, then the furnishing of an indication of interest in such situations shall, without any other additional action required of the specialists, initiate the ITS Pre-Opening process, and, if applicable, substitute for and satisfy specified pre-opening notification