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Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 5th day of April, 2002.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Anthony J. Mendiola,

*Chief, Section 2, Project Directorate III,
Division of Licensing Project Management,
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 02-8792 Filed 4-10-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Change in Proficiency Testing Standard for Processors of Personal Dosimeters

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of change of proficiency testing standard.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), U.S. Department of Commerce, began a joint effort in 1981, through an Interagency Agreement, to provide an accreditation program for processors of personnel dosimeters. That accreditation program, which is part of the Technology Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce, is known as the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) for Ionizing Radiation Dosimetry and is referred to as NIST/NVLAP. The purpose of this notice is to: (1) Acknowledge publication of a revised proficiency testing standard for personnel dosimetry performance by NIST/NVLAP; (2) inform the public and dosimetry processors of this action; and (3) identify significant changes in the standard.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 11, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Betty Ann Torres, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, telephone 301-415-0191, e-mail: BAT@nrc.gov, or Carroll S. Brickenkamp, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce, NVLAP, Building 820, Room 286, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, telephone 301-975-4291, e-mail: cbrickenkamp@nist.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NRC's regulations (10 CFR 20.1501) require that personnel dosimeters that need to be processed to determine dose must be

processed and evaluated by a dosimetry processor that holds current personnel dosimetry accreditation from the NIST/NVLAP. Proficiency testing, currently required as part of the NIST/NVLAP accreditation process for Ionizing Radiation Dosimetry, is based on the standard issued by the American National Standard Institute (ANSI) and the Health Physics Society (HPS) for personnel dosimetry performance, ANSI/HPS N13.11-1993, as modified by NVLAP Bulletin Volume II, No. 1, "DOSIMETRY" (January, 1995). The bulletin modifies dose equivalent conversion factors (C_k) found in Tables 2, 3, and C3 of ANSI/HPS N13.11-1993.

A revision of ANSI/HPS N13.11-1993 was approved by the American National Standards Institute, Inc. in July 2001, and published as ANSI/HPS N13.11-2001 in October 2001. A copy of the revised standard is available for a fee from the Health Physics Society at the following internet address: <http://www.hps.org>.

The revision: (1) Adopts the conversion coefficients for photons issued by NVLAP Bulletin Volume II, No. 1, "DOSIMETRY" (January, 1995); (2) reduces the number of test categories, based on radiation type and energy spectrum, from nine to six; (3) increases the number of possible radiation sources for test categories to which dosimeters can be exposed during testing; (4) lowers the permitted tolerance for all non-accident categories; (5) adds an angle test to the photon category; and (6) limits the number of individual dosimeters tested that is permitted to exceed the tolerance level for non-accident, non-neutron categories.

NVLAP has determined that the revised standard, ANSI/HPS N13.11-2001, will be implemented in the accreditation process as published. Contact Carroll Brickenkamp of NIST/NVLAP for information regarding the implementation of the revised standard, ANSI/HPS N13.11-2001.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 4th day of April, 2002.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Donald A. Cool,

Director, Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 02-8793 Filed 4-10-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Extension: Rule 17Ac3-1(a) and Form TA-W; SEC File No. 270-96; OMB Control No. 3235-0151.

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon written request, copies available from: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

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 collection of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for extension and approval.

Subsection (c)(3)(C) of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act") authorizes transfer agents registered with an appropriate regulatory agency ("ARA") to withdraw from registration by filing with the ARA a written notice of withdrawal and by agreeing to such terms and conditions as the ARA deems necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or in the furtherance of the purposes of Section 17A.

In order to implement Section 17A(c)(3)(C) of the Exchange Act the Commission, on September 1, 1977, promulgated Rule 17Ac3-1(a) and accompanying Form TA-W. Rule 17Ac3-1(a) provides that notice of withdrawal from registration as a transfer agent with the Commission shall be filed on Form TA-W. Form TA-W requires the withdrawing transfer agent to provide the Commission with certain information, including (1) the locations where transfer agent activities are or were performed; (2) the reasons for ceasing the performance of such activities; (3) disclosure of unsatisfied judgments or liens; and (4) information regarding successor transfer agents.

The Commission uses the information disclosed on Form TA-W to determine whether the registered transfer agent applying for withdrawal from registration as a transfer agent should be allowed to deregister and, if so, whether the Commission should attach to the granting of the application any terms or conditions necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or in furtherance of the purposes of Section 17A of the Exchange Act. Without Rule 17Ac3-1(a) and Form TA-W, transfer agents

registered with the Commission would not have a means for voluntary deregistration when necessary or appropriate to do so.

Respondents file approximately fifty Form TA-Ws with the Commission annually. The filing of a Form TA-W occurs only once, when a transfer agent is seeking deregistration. In view of the ready availability of the information requested by Form TA-W, its short and simple presentation, and the Commission's experience with the Form, we estimate that approximately one half hour is required to complete Form TA-W, including clerical time. Thus, the total burden of twenty-five hours of preparation for all transfer agents seeking deregistration in any one year is negligible.

The Commission estimates a cost of approximately \$35 for each half hour required to complete a Form TA-W. Therefore, based upon a total of twenty-five hours, transfer agents spend approximately \$1,750 each year to complete fifty Form TA-Ws.

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

Please direct your written comments to Michael E. Bartell, Associate Executive Director, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 5th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549.

Dated: April 4, 2002.

Jill M. Peterson,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-8804 Filed 4-10-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 35-27514]

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

April 5, 2002.

Notice is hereby given that the following filing has 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-declaration for complete statements of the proposed transaction summarized below. The application-declaration and any amendments 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-declaration should submit their views in writing by April 30, 2002, to the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, D.C. 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 April 30, 2002, the application-declaration, as filed or as amended, may be granted and/or permitted to become effective.

KeySpan Corporation and Eastern Enterprises (70-9995)

KeySpan Corporation ("KeySpan"), One MetroTech Center, Brooklyn New York, 11201, a public utility holding company registered under the Act, and Eastern Enterprises ("Eastern"), One Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02108, a wholly-owned subsidiary of KeySpan and an exempt holding company¹ (collectively, "Applicants"), have filed an application-declaration under sections 6(a), 7, 9(a) and 10 of the Act and rules 43 and 54 under the Act.

In an order issued on November 7, 2000 (Holding Co. Act Release No. 27271), as supplemented by the order issued on December 1, 2000 (Holding Co. Act Release No. 27287) (collectively, the "Merger Order"), the Commission approved KeySpan's acquisition of Eastern. In addition, on November 8,

2000, the Commission issued an order (Holding Co. Act Release No. 27272), as supplemented by an order issued on December 1, 2000 (Holding Co. Act Release No. 27286) (collectively, the "Financing Order"), authorizing a program of external financings, credit support arrangements and related proposals for KeySpan and its subsidiaries.

Eastern's direct, wholly-owned public utility subsidiaries are: Boston Gas Company (d/b/a KeySpan Energy Delivery New England) ("Boston Gas"), Essex Gas Company (d/b/a KeySpan Energy Delivery New England) ("Essex Gas"), Colonial Gas Company (d/b/a KeySpan Energy Delivery New England) ("Colonial Gas"), and EnergyNorth Natural Gas, Inc. (d/b/a KeySpan Energy Delivery New England) ("ENGI").² Eastern also engages in various nonutility activities described in the Merger Order.

In the current filing, Applicants request authority for Eastern to change its organizational form from a Massachusetts business trust to a Massachusetts limited liability company to be named KeySpan New England, LLC ("KeySpan New England") (the "Transaction") by undertaking the following actions. First, KeySpan New England will be formed as a Massachusetts limited liability company, and KSNE, LLC ("KSNE") will be formed as a Delaware limited liability company. Second, KeySpan will obtain ninety-nine percent (99%) of the membership interests in KeySpan New England for ninety-nine dollars and one hundred percent (100%) of the membership interests in KSNE for one hundred dollars; KSNE will obtain the remaining one percent (1%) membership interest in KeySpan New England for one dollar. As a result, KeySpan New England will be a two-member Massachusetts limited liability company owned 99% by KeySpan and 1% by KSNE, and KSNE will be a single-member Delaware limited liability company owned 100% by KeySpan. Third, Eastern and KeySpan New England will execute an agreement and plan of merger under which Eastern will agree to merge with and into KeySpan New England (the "Merger"), with KeySpan New England as the surviving entity. The Merger will be

² Boston Gas distributes natural gas to customers located in Boston and other cities and towns in eastern and central Massachusetts; Essex Gas distributes natural gas to customers in eastern Massachusetts; Colonial Gas distributes natural gas to customers located in northeastern Massachusetts and on Cape Cod; and ENGI distributes natural gas to customers located in southern and central New Hampshire and the city of Berlin.

¹ See *Eastern Enterprises*, Holding Co. Act Release No. 27269 (Nov. 7, 2000).