

Phlx Rule 862, which would preclude broker-dealers from voting on equity compensation plans without explicit instructions from the beneficial owner, is consistent with the standard under current NYSE and NASD rules.

The Commission believes that the Exchange's proposal, which is similar to the NYSE and Nasdaq's shareholder approval rules,<sup>20</sup> sets a consistent, minimum standard for shareholder approval of equity compensation plans. The Commission believes that the Exchange's proposal should help to ensure that companies will not make listing decisions simply to avoid shareholder approval requirements for equity compensation plans and should provide shareholders with greater protection from the potential dilutive effect of equity compensation plans. Based on the above, the Commission finds that the Exchange's proposal should help to protect investors, is in the public interest, and does not unfairly discriminate among issuers, consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act.<sup>21</sup> The Commission therefore finds the Exchange's proposal to be consistent with the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder.

#### V. Accelerated Approval of the Exchange's Proposal

The Commission finds good cause for approving the Exchange's proposal prior to the thirtieth day after the date of publication of notice thereof in the **Federal Register**. The Commission notes that the Exchange's proposal is similar to the NYSE and Nasdaq's proposals requiring shareholder approval of equity compensation plans. Both the NYSE and Nasdaq's proposals were published for comment in the **Federal Register** and recently approved by the Commission.<sup>22</sup> The Commission believes that it already considered and addressed the issues that may be raised by the Exchange's proposal in its approval of the NYSE and Nasdaq's proposals.<sup>23</sup>

<sup>20</sup> See *supra* note 3; see also *supra* note 10.

<sup>21</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

<sup>22</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 46620 (October 8, 2002), 67 FR 63486 (notice of the NYSE's proposal). The Commission also published a correction to the notice of the NYSE's proposal. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 44620A (October 21, 2002), 67 FR 65617 (October 25, 2002). See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 46649 (October 11, 2002), 67 FR 64173 (notice of Nasdaq's proposal). See *supra* note 3; see also *supra* note 10.

<sup>23</sup> Some of the substantive provisions ultimately adopted by the NYSE and Nasdaq, and now being proposed for adoption by the Exchange, were in response to these comments. The comments on the NYSE and Nasdaq proposals were also discussed in detail in the Commission's approval order of the NYSE and Nasdaq proposals. See *supra* note 3; see also *supra* note 10.

The Commission believes that accelerated approval of the Exchange's proposal is essential to allow for immediate harmonization of, and consistency in, the shareholder approval requirements for equity compensation plans among the markets. This will prevent issuers from making listing decisions based on differences in self-regulatory organization shareholder approval requirements and should provide equal investor protection to shareholders on the dilutive effects of plans irrespective of where the security trades. The Commission further believes that making the Exchange's new shareholder approval rules effective upon Commission approval will immediately impose the same requirements on the Exchange's issuers as those imposed upon NYSE, Nasdaq, and Amex issuers. Based on the above, the Commission finds good cause, consistent with Sections 6(b)(5) and 19(b)(2) of the Act,<sup>24</sup> to approve the Exchange's proposal on an accelerated basis.

#### VI. Conclusion

*It is therefore ordered*, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,<sup>25</sup> that the proposed rule change (SR-Phlx-2003-67) is hereby approved on an accelerated basis.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>26</sup>

**Jill M. Peterson,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

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#### SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

##### [Declaration of Disaster #3555]

##### State of California (Amendment #1)

In accordance with a notice received from the Department of Homeland Security—Federal Emergency Management Agency, effective October 30, 2003, the above numbered declaration is hereby amended to include Riverside County as a disaster area due to damages caused by wildfires occurring on October 21, 2003, and continuing.

All other counties contiguous to the above named primary county have been previously declared.

All other information remains the same, *i.e.*, the deadline for filing applications for physical damage is

<sup>24</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5) and 78s(b)(2).

<sup>25</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

<sup>26</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

December 26, 2003, and for economic injury the deadline is July 27, 2004.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 59002 and 59008)

Dated: October 31, 2003.

**Cheri L. Cannon,**

*Acting Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.*

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#### SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

##### Connecticut District Advisory Council Public Meeting

The U.S. Small Business Administration Connecticut District Advisory Council, located in the geographical area of Hartford, Connecticut will hold a public meeting at 8:30 a.m., on Monday, November 17, 2003, Connecticut District Office, 330 Main Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106, to discuss such matters as may be presented. For further information, write or call Marie Record, District Director, U.S. Small Business Administration, 330 Main Street, Hartford, Connecticut—(860) 240-4700.

Anyone wishing to attend and make an oral presentation to the Board must contact Marie A. Record, no later than Friday, November 14, 2003, via e-mail or fax. Marie A. Record, District Director, U.S. Small Business Administration, Connecticut District Office 330 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 240-4670 phone or (860) 240-4714 fax or e-mail [marie.record@sba.gov](mailto:marie.record@sba.gov).

**Scott R. Morris,**

*Deputy Chief of Staff.*

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#### TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

##### Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as Amended by Pub. L. 104-13; Submission for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Review; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Tennessee Valley Authority.

**ACTION:** Submission for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Review; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The proposed information collection described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended). The Tennessee Valley