

methods to develop and quantitatively assess reliability models of digital systems. As part of this work, BNL will apply two selected traditional methods to two benchmark digital systems. The initial tasks in the BNL project, including preparatory work for developing the reliability models of the first benchmark system, are addressed in draft NUREG/CR-XXXX, "Approaches for Using Traditional Probabilistic Risk Assessment Methods for Digital Systems." This notice announces the availability of the draft NUREG/CR for public comment.

**DATES:** Please submit comments on NUREG/CR-XXXX, "Approaches for Using Traditional Probabilistic Risk Assessment Methods for Digital Systems," by November 14, 2007. Comments received after this date will be considered if practical to do so, but the NRC staff is able to ensure consideration only for those comments received on or before this date.

**ADDRESSES:** NUREG/CR-XXXX, "Approaches for Using Traditional Probabilistic Risk Assessment Methods for Digital Systems," is available for inspection and copying for a fee at the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), Public File Area O-1F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. Publicly available documents created or received at the NRC after November 1, 1999, are available electronically at the NRC's Electronic Reading Room at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html>. From this site, the public can gain entry into the NRC's Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS), which provides text and image files of the NRC's public documents. The ADAMS Accession Numbers for NUREG/CR-XXXX, "Approaches for Using Traditional Probabilistic Risk Assessment Methods for Digital Systems," are ML072690235 (main report) and ML072690238 (appendices). If you do not have access to ADAMS or if there are problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, contact the NRC PDR Reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to [pdr@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr@nrc.gov).

This document will also be posted on the NRC's public Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/research/digital/tech-reference.html#one>.

Please submit comments to Chief, Rulemaking, Directives and Editing Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. You may also deliver comments to 11545

Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD, between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Federal workdays, or by e-mail to: [nrcprep@nrc.gov](mailto:nrcprep@nrc.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Alan Kuritzky, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, telephone (301) 415-6255, e-mail: [ask1@nrc.gov](mailto:ask1@nrc.gov).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of October, 2007.

For the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Christiana Lui,**

*Director, Division of Risk Analysis, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.*

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**BILLING CODE 7590-01-P**

**PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION**

**Required Interest Rate Assumption for Determining Variable-Rate Premium for Single-Employer Plans; Interest on Late Premium Payments; Interest on Underpayments and Overpayments of Single-Employer Plan Termination Liability and Multiemployer Withdrawal Liability; Interest Assumptions for Multiemployer Plan Valuations Following Mass Withdrawal**

**AGENCY:** Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

**ACTION:** Notice of interest rates and assumptions.

**SUMMARY:** This notice informs the public of the interest rates and assumptions to be used under certain Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation regulations. These rates and assumptions are published elsewhere (or can be derived from rates published elsewhere), but are collected and published in this notice for the convenience of the public. Interest rates are also published on the PBGC's Web site (<http://www.pbgc.gov>).

**DATES:** The required interest rate for determining the variable-rate premium under part 4006 applies to premium payment years beginning in October 2007. The interest assumptions for performing multiemployer plan valuations following mass withdrawal under part 4281 apply to valuation dates occurring in November 2007. The interest rates for late premium payments under part 4007 and for underpayments and overpayments of single-employer plan termination liability under part 4062 and multiemployer withdrawal liability under part 4219 apply to interest accruing during the fourth

quarter (October through December) of 2007.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Catherine B. Klion, Manager, Regulatory and Policy Division, Legislative and Regulatory Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005, 202-326-4024. (TTY/TDD users may call the Federal relay service toll-free at 1-800-877-8339 and ask to be connected to 202-326-4024.)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Variable-Rate Premiums**

Section 4006(a)(3)(E)(iii)(II) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and § 4006.4(b)(1) of the PBGC's regulation on Premium Rates (29 CFR part 4006) prescribe use of an assumed interest rate (the "required interest rate") in determining a single-employer plan's variable-rate premium. Pursuant to the Pension Protection Act of 2006, for premium payment years beginning in 2006 or 2007, the required interest rate is the "applicable percentage" of the annual rate of interest determined by the Secretary of the Treasury on amounts invested conservatively in long-term investment grade corporate bonds for the month preceding the beginning of the plan year for which premiums are being paid (the "premium payment year").

On February 2, 2007 (at 72 FR 4955), the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) published final regulations containing updated mortality tables for determining current liability under section 412(l)(7) of the Code and section 302(d)(7) of ERISA for plan years beginning on or after January 1, 2007. As a result, in accordance with section 4006(a)(3)(E)(iii)(II) of ERISA, the "applicable percentage" to be used in determining the required interest rate for plan years beginning in 2007 is 100 percent.

The required interest rate to be used in determining variable-rate premiums for premium payment years beginning in October 2007 is 6.23 percent (i.e., 100 percent of the 6.23 percent composite corporate bond rate for September 2007 as determined by the Treasury).

The following table lists the required interest rates to be used in determining variable-rate premiums for premium payment years beginning between November 2006 and October 2007.

For premium payment years beginning in:	The required interest rate is:
November 2006 .....	5.05

For premium payment years beginning in:	The required interest rate is:
December 2006 .....	4.90
January 2007 .....	5.75
February 2007 .....	5.89
March 2007 .....	5.85
April 2007 .....	5.84
May 2007 .....	5.98
June 2007 .....	6.01
July 2007 .....	6.32
August 2007 .....	6.33
September 2007 .....	6.33
October 2007 .....	6.23

**Late Premium Payments; Underpayments and Overpayments of Single-Employer Plan Termination Liability**

Section 4007(b) of ERISA and section 4007.7(a) of the PBGC's regulation on Payment of Premiums (29 CFR part 4007) require the payment of interest on late premium payments at the rate established under section 6601 of the Internal Revenue Code. Similarly, § 4062.7 of the PBGC's regulation on Liability for Termination of Single-Employer Plans (29 CFR part 4062) requires that interest be charged or credited at the section 6601 rate on underpayments and overpayments of employer liability under section 4062 of ERISA. The section 6601 rate is established periodically (currently quarterly) by the Internal Revenue Service. The rate applicable to the fourth quarter (October through December) of 2007, as announced by the IRS, is 8 percent.

The following table lists the late payment interest rates for premiums and employer liability for the specified time periods:

From—	Through—	Interest rate (percent)
7/1/01 .....	12/31/01	7
1/1/02 .....	12/31/02	6
1/1/03 .....	9/30/03	5
10/1/03 .....	3/31/04	4
4/1/04 .....	6/30/04	5
7/1/04 .....	9/30/04	4
10/1/04 .....	3/31/05	5
4/1/05 .....	9/30/05	6
10/1/05 .....	6/30/06	7
7/1/06 .....	12/31/07	8

**Underpayments and Overpayments of Multiemployer Withdrawal Liability**

Section 4219.32(b) of the PBGC's regulation on Notice, Collection, and Redetermination of Withdrawal Liability (29 CFR part 4219) specifies the rate at which a multiemployer plan is to charge or credit interest on underpayments and overpayments of withdrawal liability under section 4219

of ERISA unless an applicable plan provision provides otherwise. For interest accruing during any calendar quarter, the specified rate is the average quoted prime rate on short-term commercial loans for the fifteenth day (or the next business day if the fifteenth day is not a business day) of the month preceding the beginning of the quarter, as reported by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in Statistical Release H.15 ("Selected Interest Rates"). The rate for the fourth quarter (October through December) of 2007 (*i.e.*, the rate reported for September 17, 2007) is 8.25 percent.

The following table lists the withdrawal liability underpayment and overpayment interest rates for the specified time periods:

From—	Through—	Interest rate (percent)
7/1/01 .....	9/30/01	7.00
10/1/01 .....	12/31/01	6.50
1/1/02 .....	12/31/02	4.75
1/1/03 .....	9/30/03	4.25
10/1/03 .....	9/30/04	4.00
10/1/04 .....	12/31/04	4.50
1/1/05 .....	3/31/05	5.25
4/1/05 .....	6/30/05	5.50
7/1/05 .....	9/30/05	6.00
10/1/05 .....	12/31/05	6.50
1/1/06 .....	3/31/06	7.25
4/1/06 .....	6/30/06	7.50
7/1/06 .....	9/30/06	8.00
10/1/06 .....	12/31/07	8.25

**Multiemployer Plan Valuations Following Mass Withdrawal**

The PBGC's regulation on Duties of Plan Sponsor Following Mass Withdrawal (29 CFR part 4281) prescribes the use of interest assumptions under the PBGC's regulation on Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans (29 CFR part 4044). The interest assumptions applicable to valuation dates in November 2007 under part 4044 are contained in an amendment to part 4044 published elsewhere in today's **Federal Register**. Tables showing the assumptions applicable to prior periods are codified in appendix B to 29 CFR part 4044.

Issued in Washington, DC, on this 10th day of October 2007.

**Vincent K. Snowbarger**,  
Deputy Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

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**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request**

*Upon Written Request, Copies Available From:* U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Investor Education and Advocacy, Washington, DC 20549-0213.

*Extension:*

Rule 13e-3 (Schedule 13E-3), OMB Control No. 3235-0007, SEC File No. 270-1.

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") has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget the request for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

Rule 13e-3 and Schedule 13E-3 (17 CFR 240.13e-3 and 240.13e-100)—Rule 13e-3 prescribes the filing, disclosure and dissemination requirements in connection with a going private transaction by an issuer or an affiliate. Schedule 13E-3 provides shareholders and the marketplace with information concerning going private transactions that is important in determining how to respond to such transactions. The information collected permits verification of compliance with securities laws requirements and ensures the public availability and dissemination of the collected information. This information is made available to the public. Information provided on Schedule 13E-3 is mandatory. We estimate that Schedule 13E-3 is filed by approximately 600 issuers annually and it takes approximately 137.25 hours per response. We estimate that 25% of the 137.25 hours per response is prepared by the filer for a total annual reporting burden of 20,588 hours.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number.

Written comments regarding the above information should be directed to the following persons: (i) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10102, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or send an e-mail to:

*Alexander.T.Hunt@omb.eop.gov*; and (ii) R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and