

over the next 90 days. The comment period for each RG will be 60 days from the date of its posting on the NRC Web site. The NRC will make each revised RG publicly available through the following electronic distribution methods:

1. The NRC's Electronic Reading Room on the agency's public Web site, under "Regulatory Guides" at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/reg-guides/>.

2. The NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (using the ADAMS accession number specified in the footer on the first page of each regulatory guide).

RGs are not copyrighted, and Commission approval is not required to reproduce them. Copies of each RG and other related publicly available documents, including public comments received, can be viewed electronically on computers in the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), which is located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, Room O-1 F21, and is open to the public on Federal workdays from 7:45 a.m. until 4:15 p.m. The PDR reproduction contractor will make copies of documents for a fee. If you do not have access to ADAMS or if you encounter problems in accessing the documents stored in ADAMS, contact the PDR Reference Staff at (800) 397-4209 or (301) 415-4737, or by e-mail to PDR@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 20th day of November, 2007.

For the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Andrea D. Valentin,

Chief, Regulatory Guide Development Branch, Division of Engineering, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.

[FR Doc. E7-23221 Filed 11-29-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

PBGC Flat Premium Rates

AGENCY: Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

ACTION: Notice of flat premium rates.

SUMMARY: This notice informs the public of the PBGC flat premium rates for premium payment years beginning in 2008. These rates can be derived from information published elsewhere but are published in this notice for the convenience of the public.

DATES: The flat premium rates apply to premium payment years beginning in 2008.

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: The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) administers the pension plan termination insurance program under Title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). Pension plans covered by Title IV must pay premiums to PBGC. Section 4006 of ERISA deals with premium rates.

The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (Pub. L. 109-171) (DRA 2005) amended section 4006 of ERISA. DRA 2005 changed the per-participant flat premium rate for plan years beginning in 2006 from \$19 to \$30 for single-employer plans and from \$2.60 to \$8 for multiemployer plans and provided for inflation adjustments to the flat rates for future years. The adjustments are based on changes in the national average wage index as defined in section 209(k)(1) of the Social Security Act, with a two-year lag—for example, for 2008, the 2006 index is compared to the baseline (the 2004 index). The new provisions are written in such a way that the premium rate can never go down; if the change in the national average wage index is negative, the premium rate remains the same as in the preceding year. Also, premium rates are rounded to the nearest whole dollar.

The baseline national average wage index, the 2004 index, was \$35,648.55. The 2006 index was \$38,651.41. The ratio of the 2006 index to the 2004 index is 1.084235. Multiplying this ratio by \$30.00 gives \$32.53 which rounds to \$33.00. Multiplying the ratio by \$8.00 gives \$8.67, which rounds to \$9.00. Thus, the 2008 flat premium rates for PBGC's two insurance programs will be \$33.00 per participant for single-employer plans and \$9.00 per participant for multiemployer plans.

The PBGC will publish the flat premium rates annually for the convenience of the public.

Issued in Washington, DC, on this 27th day of November 2007.

Vincent K. Snowbarger,

Deputy Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

[FR Doc. E7-23269 Filed 11-29-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7709-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

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

Extension:

Rule 7d-1; SEC File No. 270-176; OMB Control No. 3235-0311

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget a request for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

Section 7(d) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-7(d)) (the "Act" or "Investment Company Act") requires an investment company ("fund") organized outside the United States ("foreign fund") to obtain an order from the Commission allowing the fund to register under the Act before making a public offering of its securities through the United States mail or any means of interstate commerce. The Commission may issue an order only if it finds that it is both legally and practically feasible effectively to enforce the provisions of the Act against the foreign fund, and that the registration of the fund is consistent with the public interest and protection of investors.

Rule 7d-1 (17 CFR 270.7d-1) under the Act, which was adopted in 1954, specifies the conditions under which a Canadian management investment company ("Canadian fund") may request an order from the Commission permitting it to register under the Act. Although rule 7d-1 by its terms applies only to Canadian funds, other foreign funds generally have agreed to comply with the requirements of rule 7d-1 as a prerequisite to receiving an order permitting the foreign fund's registration under the Act.

The rule requires a Canadian fund proposing to register under the Act to file an application with the Commission that contains various undertakings and agreements of the fund. Certain of these undertakings and agreements, in turn, impose the following additional information collection requirements:

(1) The fund must file agreements between the fund and its directors, officers, and service providers requiring them to comply with the fund's charter and bylaws, the Act, and certain other

obligations relating to the undertakings and agreements in the application;

(2) The fund and each of its directors, officers, and investment advisers that is not a U.S. resident, must file an irrevocable designation of the fund's custodian in the United States as agent for service of process;

(3) The fund's charter and bylaws must provide that (a) the fund will comply with certain provisions of the Act applicable to all funds, (b) the fund will maintain originals or copies of its books and records in the United States, and (c) the fund's contracts with its custodian, investment adviser, and principal underwriter, will contain certain terms, including a requirement that the adviser maintain originals or copies of pertinent records in the United States;

(4) The fund's contracts with service providers will require that the provider perform the contract in accordance with the Act, the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77a-77z-3), and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a-78mm), as applicable; and

(5) The fund must file, and periodically revise, a list of persons affiliated with the fund or its adviser or underwriter.

Under section 7(d) of the Act the Commission may issue an order permitting a foreign fund's registration only if the Commission finds that "by reason of special circumstances or arrangements, it is both legally and practically feasible effectively to enforce the provisions of the (Act)." The information collection requirements are necessary to assure that the substantive provisions of the Act may be enforced as a matter of contract right in the United States or Canada by the fund's shareholders or by the Commission.

Certain information collection requirements in rule 7d-1 are associated with complying with the Act's provisions. These information collection requirements are reflected in the information collection requirements applicable to those provisions for all registered funds.

The Commission believes that one fund is registered under rule 7d-1 and currently active. Apart from requirements under the Act applicable to all registered funds, rule 7d-1 imposes ongoing burdens to maintain records in the United States, and to update, as necessary, the foreign fund's list of affiliated persons. The Commission staff estimates that the active registrant makes one response each year under the rule update its list

of affiliated persons.¹ Commission staff estimates that the response to update the list of affiliated persons requires 2 hours of compliance clerk time at a cost of \$56 per hour, for a total annual burden of 2 hours at a cost of \$112.² The estimated number of 2 burden hours is a reduction of 23.25 hours from the current allocation. The reduction is a result of the registrant's elimination of duplicative records in the United States. All of the registrant's records are only maintained in the United States.

If a foreign fund were to file an application under the rule, the Commission estimates that the rule would impose initial information collection burdens (for filing an application, preparing the specified charter, bylaw, and contract provisions, designations of agents for service of process, and an initial list of affiliated persons, and establishing a means of keeping records in the United States) of approximately 90 hours for the fund and its associated persons. The Commission is not including these hours in its calculation of the annual burden because no fund has applied under rule 7d-1 to register under the Act in the last three years.

After registration, a foreign fund may file a supplemental application seeking special relief designed for the fund's particular circumstances. Because rule 7d-1 does not mandate these applications and the fund determines whether to submit an application, the Commission has not allocated any burden hours for these applications.

These estimates of average burden hours are made solely for the purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act. The estimate is not derived from a comprehensive or even a representative survey or study of Commission rules.

If a Canadian or other foreign fund in the future applied to register under the Act under rule 7d-1, the fund initially might have capital and start-up costs (not including hourly burdens) of an

¹ The rule requires an applicant to maintain records in the United States (which, without the requirement, could be available only in Canada or another foreign jurisdiction), which facilitates routine inspections and any special investigations of the fund by Commission staff. The registrant, however, only maintains its records in the United States and in no other jurisdiction. Therefore, the registrant's maintenance of records in the United States does not impose an additional burden beyond the fund's compliance with the Act's requirements. This recordkeeping requirement is reflected in the information collection burdens applicable to those requirements for all registered funds.

² The \$56/hour figure for a Compliance Clerk is from the SIA Report on Office Salaries in the Securities Industry 2006, modified to account for an 1800-hour work-year and multiplied by 2.93 to account for bonuses, firm size, employee benefits and overhead.

estimated \$17,280 to comply with the rule's initial information collection requirements. These costs include legal and processing-related fees for preparing the required documentation (such as the application, charter, bylaw, and contract provisions), designations for service of process, and the list of affiliated persons. Other related costs would include fees for establishing arrangements with a custodian or other agent for maintaining records in the United States, copying and transportation costs for records, and the costs of purchasing or leasing computer equipment, software, or other record storage equipment for records maintained in electronic or photographic form.

The Commission expects that a foreign fund and its sponsors would incur these costs immediately, and that the annualized cost of the expenditures would be \$17,280 in the first year. Some expenditures might involve capital improvements, such as computer equipment, having expected useful lives for which annualized figures beyond the first year would be meaningful. These annualized figures are not provided, however, because, in most cases, the expenses would be incurred immediately rather than on an annual basis. The Commission is not including these costs in its calculation of the annualized capital/start-up costs because no investment company has applied under rule 7d-1 to register under the Act pursuant to rule 7d-1 in the last three years.

These estimates of average costs are made solely for the purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act. The estimate is not derived from a comprehensive or even a representative survey or study of the costs of Commission rules.

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 OMB control number. Please direct general comments regarding the above information to the following persons: (i) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10102, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or e-mail to: Alexander.T.Hunt@omb.eop.gov; and (ii) R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, C/O Shirley Martinson, 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, VA 22312; or send an e-mail to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov. Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: November 26, 2007.

Nancy M. Morris,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E7-23208 Filed 11-29-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon written request, copies available from: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Investor Education and Advocacy, Washington, DC 20549-0213.

Extension:

Form F-4; OMB Control No. 3235-0325; SEC File No. 270-288

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.

Form F-4 (17 CFR 239.34) is used by foreign issuers to register securities in business combinations, reorganizations and exchange offers pursuant to federal securities laws pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77a *et seq.*). The information collected is intended to ensure that the information required to be filed by the Commission permits verification of compliance with securities law requirements and assures the public availability of such information. The information provided is mandatory and all information is made available to the public upon request. Form F-4 takes approximately 1,447 hours per response and is filed by approximately 68 respondents. We estimate that 25% of the 166 hours per response (361.75 hours) is prepared by the registrant for a total annual reporting burden of 24,599 hours (361.75 hours per response × 68 responses). The remaining 75% of the burden hours is attributed to outside cost.

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 Exchange Commission, C/O Shirley Martinson, 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, Virginia 22312; or send an e-mail to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov. Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: November 26, 2007.

Nancy M. Morris,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E7-23209 Filed 11-29-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon written request, copies available from: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Investor Education and Advocacy, Washington, DC 20549-0213.

Extension:

Rule 19b-4 and Form 19b-4; OMB Control No. 3235-0045; SEC File No. 270-38.

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.

- Rule 19b-4 (17 CFR 240.19b-4) and Form 19b-4—Filings with respect to proposed rule changes by self-regulatory organizations.

Section 19(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") (15 U.S.C. 78s(b)) requires each self-regulatory organization ("SRO") to file with the Commission copies of any proposed rule, or any proposed change in, addition to, or deletion from the rules of such SRO. Rule 19b-4 implements the requirements of Section 19(b) by requiring the SROs to file their proposed rule changes on Form 19b-4 and by clarifying which actions taken by SROs are deemed proposed rule changes and so must be filed pursuant to Section 19(b).

The collection of information is designed to provide the Commission with the information necessary to determine, as required by the Act, whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act and the rules thereunder. The information is used to

determine if the proposed rule change should be approved or if proceedings should be instituted to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

The respondents to the collection of information are self-regulatory organizations (as defined by the Act), including national securities exchanges, national securities associations, registered clearing agencies and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board.

Twenty-two respondents file an average total of 1,279 responses per year. Each response takes approximately 23.22 hours to complete. Thus, the estimated annual response burden is 29,698 hours. At an average cost per response of \$6,150.31, the resultant total related cost of compliance for these respondents is \$7,866,246 per year (1,279 responses × \$6,150.31/response = \$7,866,246).

Compliance with Rule 19b-4 is mandatory. Information received in response to Rule 19b-4 shall not be kept confidential; the information collected is public information.

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's estimates of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be 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.

Comments should be directed to: R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, C/O Shirley Martinson, 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, Virginia 22312 or send an e-mail to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov. Comments must be submitted within 60 days of this notice.

Dated: November 23, 2007.

Nancy M. Morris,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E7-23210 Filed 11-29-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P