SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is seeking public comment on potential changes to the NRC’s current radiation protection regulations to achieve greater alignment between the regulations and the 2007 recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) contained in ICRP Publication 103. Stakeholders and the public are encouraged to submit comments concerning potential impacts, burdens, benefits, and concerns electronically to http://www.regulations.gov.

Background
ICRP Publication 103 (December 2007) contains the latest in a series of revised ICRP recommendations for radiation protection. On December 18, 2008, the NRC staff provided a Policy Issue Notation Vote Paper (SECY–08–0197) to the Commission which presented the regulatory options of moving, or not moving, towards a greater degree of alignment of the NRC regulatory framework with ICRP Publication 103. In a Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM) dated April 2, 2009, the Commission approved the staff’s recommendation to begin engagement with stakeholders and interested parties to initiate development of the technical basis for possible revision of the NRC’s radiation protection regulations, as appropriate and where scientifically justified, to achieve greater alignment with the recommendations in ICRP Publication 103.

Discussion
The Commission believes that the current NRC regulatory framework continues to provide adequate protection of health and safety of workers, the public, and the environment. From a safety regulation perspective, ICRP Publication 103 proposes measures that go beyond what the NRC believes are needed to provide adequate protection. In order to ensure that the NRC is well informed of all the benefits and burdens associated with further alignment of NRC’s current radiation protection regulations with ICRP Publication 103, the NRC is soliciting input from stakeholders and interested parties on the technical and regulatory issues associated with such changes. The NRC will utilize this feedback in developing the appropriate technical basis for any proposed rulemaking.

An overview of possible changes to both material and reactor-based radiation protection regulations is provided in SECY–08–0197, which is publically available in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under accession No. ML083360582. The SRM to SECY–08–0197 is also publically available in ADAMS under accession No. ML090920103. In addition, stakeholders and interested parties may introduce other options, issues, and information for the NRC’s consideration.

In an effort to facilitate public involvement, the staff will give presentations at a number of radiation protection related conferences and meetings including the Society of Nuclear Medicine Annual Meeting (July 13–17, 2009; Toronto, Canada), Fuel Cycle Information Exchange (June 23–25, 2009), and the Health Physics Society Annual Meeting (July 12–16, 2009); In addition, a Web site dedicated to the potential changes to the NRC’s radiation protection regulations is available at http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/rulemaking/opt-revise.html. Please submit any comments or questions by March 31, 2010 to Regulations.gov or Rgdrp@nrc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Donald Cool, telephone (301) 415–6347, e-mail, Donald.Cool@nrc.gov or Dr. Kimyata Morgan Butler, telephone (301) 415–0733, e-mail, Kimyata.MorganButler@nrc.gov of the Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 25th day of June 2009.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Mark R. Shaffer,
Director, Division of Intergovernmental Liaison and Rulemaking, Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs.

[FR Doc. E9–15950 Filed 7–6–09; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–60189; File No. 600–23]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Fixed Income Clearing Corporation; Notice of Filing and Order Approving an Extension of Temporary Registration as a Clearing Agency

June 29, 2009.

The Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) is publishing this notice and order to solicit comments from interested persons and to extend the Fixed Income Clearing Corporation’s (“FICC”)
permanent registration as a clearing agency through June 30, 2010.1

On February 2, 1987, pursuant to Sections 17A(b) and 19(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)2 and Rule 17Ab2–1 promulgated thereunder,3 the Commission granted the MBS Clearing Corporation (“MBSCC”) registration as a clearing agency on a temporary basis for a period of eighteen months.4 The Commission subsequently extended MBSCC’s registration through June 30, 2003.5

On May 24, 1988, pursuant to Sections 17A(b) and 19(a) of the Act 6 and Rule 17Ab2–1 promulgated thereunder,7 the Commission granted the Government Securities Clearing Corporation (“GSCC”) registration as a clearing agency on a temporary basis for a period of three years.8 The Commission subsequently extended GSCC’s registration through June 30, 2003.9

On January 1, 2003, MBSCC was merged into GSCC, and GSCC was renamed FICC.10 The Commission subsequently extended FICC’s temporary registration through June 30, 2009.11

On May 7, 2009, FICC requested that the Commission grant FICC permanent registration as a clearing agency or in the alternative extend FICC’s temporary registration until such time as the Commission is prepared to grant FICC permanent registration.12

In April 2006, FICC announced its plan to have its Mortgage-Backed Securities Division (“MBS Division”) act as a central counterparty (“CCP”).13 As such, FICC would act as the CCP for MBS Division members and would become the new legal counterparty to all original parties for eligible mortgage-backed securities transactions. Currently, FICC acts as the CCP for its Government Securities Division members’ eligible U.S. Government securities transactions but does not act as the CCP for its MBS Division members’ eligible mortgage-backed securities transactions.

Pursuant to this Notice and Order, the Commission is extending FICC’s temporary registration as a clearing agency in order that FICC may continue to operate as a registered clearing agency and may continue to provide uninterrupted clearing and settlement services its users. The Commission will consider permanent registration of FICC at a future date after the Commission and FICC have had the opportunity to evaluate how FICC is functioning with its MBS Division acting as a CCP, assuming the MBS Division CCP service is implemented.

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

• Use the Commission’s Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or

• Send an e-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number 600–23 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

• Send paper comments in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549

All submissions should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission’s Internet Web site (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission’s Public Reference Section, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549 on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number 600–23 and should be submitted on or before July 28, 2009.

It is therefore ordered that FICC’s temporary registration as a clearing agency (File No. 600–23) be and hereby is extended through June 30, 2010.

For the Commission by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.14

Elizabeth M. Murphy,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E9–15902 Filed 7–6–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the Government in the Sunshine Act, Public Law 94–409, that the Securities and Exchange Commission will hold a Closed Meeting on Thursday, July 9, 2009 at 1 p.m. Commissioners, Counsel to the Commissioners, the Secretary to the Commission, and recording secretaries will attend the Closed Meeting. Certain staff members who have an interest in the matters also may be present.


14 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)[16].