

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Email_Subscription/. Options range from recalls to export information to regulations, directives, and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves, and have the option to password protect their accounts.

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs).

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, and audiotape) should contact USDA's Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY).

To file a written complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Done at Washington, DC, on March 5, 2012.

Alfred V. Almanza,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2012-5656 Filed 3-5-12; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

12 CFR Part 252

[Regulation YY; Docket No. 1438]

RIN 7100-AD-86

Enhanced Prudential Standards and Early Remediation Requirements for Covered Companies

AGENCY: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board).

ACTION: Proposed rule; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: On January 5, 2012, the Board published in the *Federal Register* a notice of proposed rulemaking for public comment to implement the enhanced prudential standards required to be established under section 165 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Dodd-Frank Act or Act) and the early remediation requirements established under section 166 of the Act.

Due to the range and complexity of the issues addressed in the rulemaking, the Board has determined that an

extension of the end of the public comment period from March 31, 2012, until April 30, 2012, is appropriate. This action will allow interested persons additional time to analyze the proposed rules and prepare their comments.

DATES: Comments on the proposed rule must be received on or before April 30, 2012.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the methods identified in the proposed rule.¹ Please submit your comments using only one method.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Molly E. Mahar, Senior Supervisory Financial Analyst, (202) 973-7360, Division of Banking Supervision and Regulation; or Laurie Schaffer, Associate General Counsel, (202) 452-2272, or Dominic A. Labitzky, Senior Attorney, (202) 452-3428, Legal Division.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed rule was published in the *Federal Register* on January 5, 2012,² and would implement the enhanced prudential standards required to be established under section 165 of the Dodd-Frank Act and the early remediation requirements established under section 166 of the Act. The enhanced standards include risk-based capital and leverage requirements, liquidity standards, requirements for overall risk management (including establishing a risk committee), single-counterparty credit limits, stress test requirements, and a debt-to-equity limit for companies that the Financial Stability Oversight Council has determined pose a grave threat to financial stability.

In recognition of the complexities of the issues addressed and the variety of considerations involved with implementation of the proposal, the Board requested that commenters respond to numerous questions. The proposed rule stated that the public comment period would close on March 31, 2012.³

The Board has received requests from the public for an extension of the comment period to allow for additional time for comments related to the provisions of the proposed rule.⁴ The Board believes that the additional period for comment will facilitate public comment on the provisions of the proposed rule and the questions posed by the Board. Therefore, the Board is

¹ See Enhanced Prudential Standards and Early Remediation Requirements for Covered Companies, 77 FR 594 (Jan. 5, 2012).

² *Id.*

³ *Id.*

⁴ See, e.g., Comment letters to the Board from The Clearing House *et al.* (Jan. 25, 2012); and The Geneva Association (Feb. 13, 2013).

extending the comment period for the proposed rule from March 31, 2012 to April 30, 2012.

By order of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, acting through the Secretary under delegated authority, March 2, 2012.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 2012-5522 Filed 3-6-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

21 CFR Chapter I

[Docket No. FDA-2012-N-0170]

Modernizing the Regulation of Clinical Trials and Approaches to Good Clinical Practice; Public Hearing; Request for Comments

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notification of public hearing; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing a 2-day public hearing to obtain input from interested persons on FDA's scope and direction in modernizing the regulations, policies, and practices that apply to the conduct of clinical trials of FDA-regulated products. Clinical trials are a critical source of evidence to inform medical policy and practice, and effective regulatory oversight is needed to ensure that human subjects are protected and resulting clinical trial data are credible and accurate. FDA is aware of concerns within the clinical trial community that certain regulations and policies applicable to the conduct of clinical trials may result in inefficiencies or increased cost and may not facilitate the use of innovative methods and technological advances to improve clinical trial quality. The Agency is involved in an effort to modernize the regulatory framework that governs clinical trials and approaches to good clinical practice (GCP). The purpose of this hearing is to solicit public input from a broad group of stakeholders on the scope and direction of this effort, including encouraging the use of innovative models that may enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the clinical trial enterprise.

DATES: *Date and Time:* The public hearing will be held on April 23 and 24, 2012, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.