Title of Collection: ''National Science Foundation Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide. ''

OMB Approval Number: 3145–0058.

Type of Request: Intent to seek approval to extend with revision an information collection for three years.

Proposed Project: The National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (Public Law 81–507) sets forth NSF's mission and purpose:

''To promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; to secure the national defense. . . .''

The Act authorized and directed NSF to initiate and support:

- Basic scientific research and research fundamental to the engineering process;
- Programs to strengthen scientific and engineering research potential;
- Science and engineering education programs at all levels and in all the various fields of science and engineering;
- Programs that provide a source of information for policy formulation; and
- Other activities to promote these ends.

NSF's core purpose resonates clearly in everything it does: promoting achievement and progress in science and engineering and enhancing the potential for research and education to contribute to the Nation. While NSF's vision of the future and the mechanisms it uses to carry out its charges have evolved significantly over the last six decades, its ultimate mission remains the same.

Use of the Information: The regular submission of proposals to the Foundation is part of the collection of information and is used to help NSF fulfill this responsibility by initiating and supporting merit-selected research and education projects in all the scientific and engineering disciplines. NSF receives more than 50,000 proposals annually for new projects, and makes approximately 11,000 new awards.

Support is made primarily through grants, contracts, and other agreements awarded to approximately 2,000 colleges, universities, academic consortia, nonprofit institutions, and small businesses. The awards are based mainly on merit evaluations of proposals submitted to the Foundation.

The Foundation has a continuing commitment to monitor the operations of its information collection to identify and address excessive reporting burdens as well as to identify any real or apparent inequities based on gender, race, ethnicity, or disability of the proposed principal investigator(s)/project director(s) or the co-principal investigator(s)/co-project director(s).

Burden on the Public

It has been estimated that the public expends an average of approximately 120 burden hours for each proposal submitted. Since the Foundation expects to receive approximately 51,700 proposals in FY 2016, an estimated 6,204,000 burden hours will be placed on the public.

The Foundation has based its reporting burden on the review of approximately 51,700 new proposals expected during FY 2016. It has been estimated that anywhere from one hour to 20 hours may be required to review a proposal. We have estimated that approximately 5 hours are required to review an average proposal. Each proposal receives an average of 3 reviews, resulting in approximately 775,500 burden hours each year.

The information collected on the reviewer background questionnaire (NSF 428A) is used by managers to maintain an automated database of reviewers for the many disciplines represented by the proposals submitted to the Foundation. Information collected on gender, race, and ethnicity is used in meeting NSF needs for data to permit response to Congressional and other queries into equity issues. These data also are used in the design, implementation, and monitoring of NSF efforts to increase the participation of various groups in science, engineering, and education. The estimated burden for the Reviewer Background Information (NSF 428A) is estimated at 5 minutes per respondent with up to 10,000 potential new reviewers for a total of 833 hours.

The aggregate number of burden hours is estimated to be 6,980,333. The actual burden on respondents has not changed.

Dated: August 13, 2015.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 2015–20365 Filed 8–18–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–P

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

Pendency for Request for Approval of Special Withdrawal Liability Rules: The Service Employees International Union Local 1 Cleveland Pension Plan

AGENCY: Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

ACTION: Notice of pendency of request.

SUMMARY: This notice advises interested persons that the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (''PBGC'') has received a request from the Service Employees International Union Local 1 Cleveland Pension Plan for approval of a plan amendment providing for special withdrawal liability rules. Under section 4203(f) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and PBGC's regulation on Extension of Special Withdrawal Liability Rules, a multiemployer pension plan may, with PBGC approval, be amended to provide for special withdrawal liability rules similar to those that apply to the construction and entertainment industries. Such approval is granted only if PBGC determines that the rules apply to an industry with characteristics that make use of the special rules appropriate and that the rules will not pose a significant risk to the pension insurance system. Before granting an approval, PBGC's regulations require PBGC to give interested persons an opportunity to comment on the request. The purpose of this notice is to advise interested persons of the request and to solicit their views for it.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before October 5, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the Web site instructions for submitting comments.
- *Email: reg.comments@pbgc.gov.*
- *Fax:* 202–326–4224.
- *Mail or Hand Delivery:* Regulatory Affairs Group, Office of the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street NW., Washington, DC 20005–4026.

Comments received, including personal information provided, will be posted to *www.pbgc.gov.* Copies of comments may also be obtained by writing to Disclosure Division, Office of the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street NW., Washington, DC 20005–4026 or calling 202–326–4040 during normal business hours. (TTY and TDD users may call the Federal relay service toll-free at 1–800–877–8339 and ask to be connected to 202–326–4040.)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bruce Perlin (*Perlin.Bruce@PBGC.gov*), 202–326–4020, ext. 6818 or Jon Chatalian (*Chatalian.Jon@PBGC.gov*), ext. 6757, Office of the Chief Counsel, Suite 340, 1200 K Street NW., Washington, DC 20005–4026; (TTY/TDD users may call the Federal relay

service toll-free at 1–800–877–8339 and ask to be connected to 202–326–4020.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 4203(a) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended by the Multiemployer Pension Plan Amendments Act of 1980 (''ERISA''), provides that a complete withdrawal from a multiemployer plan generally occurs when an employer permanently ceases to have an obligation to contribute under the plan or permanently ceases all covered operations under the plan. Under § 4205 of ERISA, a partial withdrawal generally occurs when an employer: (1) Reduces its contribution base units by seventy percent in each of three consecutive years; or (2) permanently ceases to have an obligation under one or more but fewer than all collective bargaining agreements under which the employer has been obligated to contribute under the plan, while continuing to perform work in the jurisdiction of the collective bargaining agreement of the type for which contributions were previously required or transfers such work to another location or to an entity or entities owned or controlled by the employer; or (3) permanently ceases to have an obligation to contribute under the plan for work performed at one or more but fewer than all of its facilities, while continuing to perform work at the facility of the type for which the obligation to contribute ceased.

Although the general rules on complete and partial withdrawal identify events that normally result in a diminution of the plan's contribution base, Congress recognized that, in certain industries and under certain circumstances, a complete or partial cessation of the obligation to contribute normally does not weaken the plan's contribution base. For that reason, Congress established special withdrawal rules for the construction and entertainment industries.

For construction industry plans and employers, § 4203(b)(2) of ERISA provides that a complete withdrawal occurs only if an employer ceases to have an obligation to contribute under a plan and the employer either continues to perform previously covered work in the jurisdiction of the collective bargaining agreement, or resumes such work within five years without renewing the obligation to contribute at the time of resumption. In the case of a plan terminated by mass withdrawal (within the meaning of ERISA § 4041(A)(2)), § 4203(b)(3) provides that the five year restriction on an employer resuming covered work is reduced to three years. Section 4203(c)(1) of ERISA applies the same special definition of complete withdrawal to the entertainment industry, except that the pertinent jurisdiction is the jurisdiction of the plan rather than the jurisdiction of the collective bargaining agreement. In contrast, the general definition of complete withdrawal in § 4203(a) of ERISA includes the permanent cessation of the obligation to contribute regardless of the continued activities of the withdrawn employer.

Congress also established special partial withdrawal liability rules for the construction and entertainment industries. Under § 4208(d)(1) of ERISA, ''[a]n employer to whom § 4203(b) (relating to the building and construction industry) applies is liable for a partial withdrawal only if the employer's obligation to contribute under the plan is continued for no more than an insubstantial portion of its work in the craft and area jurisdiction of the collective bargaining agreement of the type for which contributions are required.'' Under § 4208(d)(2) of ERISA, ''[a]n employer to whom § 4203(c) (relating to the entertainment industry) applies shall have no liability for a partial withdrawal except under the conditions and to the extent prescribed by the [PBGC] by regulation.''

Section 4203(f)(1) of ERISA provides that PBGC may prescribe regulations under which plans in other industries may be amended to provide for special withdrawal liability rules similar to the rules prescribed in § 4203(b) and (c) of ERISA. Section 4203(f)(2) of ERISA provides that such regulations shall permit the use of special withdrawal liability rules only in industries (or portions thereof) in which PBGC determines that the characteristics that would make use of such rules appropriate are clearly shown, and that the use of such rules will not pose a significant risk to the insurance system under Title IV of ERISA. Section 4208(e)(3) of ERISA provides that PBGC shall prescribe by regulation a procedure by which plans may be amended to adopt special partial withdrawal liability rules upon a finding by PBGC that the adoption of such rules is consistent with the purposes of Title IV of ERISA.

PBGC's regulations on Extension of Special Withdrawal Liability Rules (29 CFR part 4203) prescribe procedures for a multiemployer plan to ask PBGC to approve a plan amendment that establishes special complete or partial withdrawal liability rules. The regulation may be accessed on PBGC's Web site (*http://www.pbgc.gov*). Section 4203.5(b) of the regulation requires PBGC to publish a notice of the pendency of a request for approval of special withdrawal liability rules in the **Federal Register**, and to provide interested parties with an opportunity to comment on the request.

The Request

PBGC received a request, dated September 16, 2011, from the Service Employees International Union Local 1 Cleveland Pension Plan (the ''Plan''), for approval of a plan amendment providing for special withdrawal liability rules. Subsequently, the Plan requested that PBGC suspend review of the amendment. On January 24, 2014, the Plan requested that PBGC again consider the amendment and provided updated actuarial information. PBGC's summary of the actuarial reports provided by the Plan may be accessed on PBGC's Web site (*http://www.pbgc.gov*). A copy of the complete filing may be requested from the PBGC Disclosure Officer. The fax number is 202–326–4042. It may also be obtained by writing the Disclosure Officer, PBGC, 1200 K Street NW., Suite 11101, Washington, DC 20005.

In summary, the Plan is a multiemployer pension plan currently covering employees who work in the commercial building cleaning and security industries in the greater Cleveland, Ohio area. The Plan represents in its submission that the industry for which the rule is requested—the commercial building cleaning industry—has characteristics similar to those of the construction industry. According to the Plan's submission, the principal similarity is that when a contributing employer's contract to clean a building expires, the cleaning work will generally continue to be performed by employees covered by the Plan, irrespective of the employer retained to perform the cleaning services. Under the proposed amendment, a complete withdrawal of an employer whose employees substantially all work in the commercial building cleaning industry shall occur only when: (a) The employer ceases to have an obligation to contribute under the Plan and (b) the employer continues to perform work in the jurisdiction of the Plan of the type for which contributions were previously required or resumes such work within five (5) years after the date on which the obligation to contribute under the plan ceases and does not renew the obligation at the time of the resumption. In the case of termination by mass withdrawal (within the meaning of ERISA § 4041A(a)(2)), the proposed amendment provides that § 4203(b)(3),

the provision that allows a construction employer to resume covered work after three years of withdrawal opposed to the standard five year restriction, is not applicable to withdrawing commercial building cleaning industry employers. Therefore, in the event of a mass withdrawal, there is still a five year restriction on resuming covered work in the jurisdiction of the Plan. The request includes the actuarial data on which the Plan relies to support its contention that the amendment will not pose a significant risk to the insurance system under Title IV of ERISA.

Comments

All interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the pending exemption request. All comments will be made part of the administrative record.

Issued in Washington, DC, on this 12th day of August, 2015.

Alice C. Maroni,

Acting Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

[FR Doc. 2015–20505 Filed 8–18–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7709–02–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 31753; File No. 812–14412]

Janus Investment Fund, et al.; Notice of Application

August 13, 2015.

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission (''Commission'').

ACTION: Notice of an application for an order under section 12(d)(1)(J) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the ''Act'') for an exemption from sections 12(d)(1)(A), 12(d)(1)(B) and 12(d)(1)(C) of the Act, under sections 6(c) and 17(b) of the Act for an exemption from section 17(a) of the Act, and under section 6(c) of the Act for an exemption from rule 12d1–2(a) under the Act.

SUMMARY OF THE APPLICATION: The requested order would (a) permit certain registered open-end management investment companies that operate as ''funds of funds'' to acquire shares of certain registered open-end management investment companies, registered closed-end management companies, business development companies as defined by section 2(a)(48) of the Act (''business development companies''), and registered unit investment trusts (''UITs'') that are within and outside the same group of investment companies as the acquiring investment companies, and (b) permit funds of funds relying on rule 12d1–2 under the Act to invest in certain financial instruments.

APPLICANTS: Janus Investment Fund, Janus Aspen Series (together with Janus Investment Fund, the ''Trusts''), Janus Capital Management LLC (''Initial Adviser'') and Janus Distributors LLC (''Distributor'').

FILING DATES: The application was filed on January 6, 2015 and amended on April 14, 2015 and on July 31, 2015.

HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING: An order granting the requested relief will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the Commission's Secretary and serving applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. on September 8, 2015 and should be accompanied by proof of service on the applicants, in the form of an affidavit, or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Pursuant to rule 0–5 under the Act, hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, any facts bearing upon the desirability of a hearing on the matter, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by writing to the Commission's Secretary.

ADDRESSES: Secretary, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549–1090. Applicants, 151 Detroit Street, Denver CO 80206.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Shapiro, Senior Counsel, at (202) 551–7758 or Mary Kay Frech, Branch Chief, at (202) 551–6821 (Division of Investment Management, Chief Counsel's Office).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following is a summary of the application. The complete application may be obtained via the Commission's Web site by searching for the file number, or for an applicant using the Company name box, at *http://www.sec.gov/search/search.htm,* or by calling (202) 551–8090.

Applicants' Representations

1. Janus Investment Fund is organized as a Massachusetts business trust and Janus Aspen Series is registered as a Delaware statutory trust. Each Trust is registered with the Commission as an open-end management investment company under the Act with multiple series.[1] Each Fund will pursue distinct investment objectives and strategies, will hold securities and may hold other instruments as well. A Fund may serve as a funding vehicle for variable annuity and variable life contracts (''Contracts,'' and owners of such Contracts, ''Contract Owners'') offered through separate accounts that are registered under the Act (''Registered Separate Accounts'') or exempt from registration under the Act (''Unregistered Separate Accounts,'' and together with Registered Separate Accounts, ''Separate Accounts'').[2]

2. The Initial Adviser is organized as a Delaware limited liability company and is registered as an ''investment adviser'' under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (the ''Advisers Act''). The Initial Adviser, or an entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control with the Initial Adviser, serves, or will serve, as the investment adviser for each of the Funds.[3] The Adviser may enter into sub-advisory agreements with one or more additional investment advisers to act as ''Sub-Advisers'' with respect to particular Funds (each, a ''Sub-Adviser''). Any Sub-Adviser to a Fund will be registered with the Commission as an investment adviser under the Advisers Act or not subject to such registration. The Distributor is a Broker (as defined below) and serves as the existing Funds' principal underwriter and distributor.

3. Applicants request relief to the extent necessary to permit: (a) Each Fund (each, a ''Fund of Funds,'' and collectively, the ''Funds of Funds'') to acquire shares of registered open-end management investment companies (each an ''Unaffiliated Open-End Investment Company''), registered closed-end management investment

[1] Applicants request that the order apply not only to any existing series of the Trusts, but that the order also extend to any future series of a Trust and any other existing or future registered open-end management investment companies and any series thereof that are part of the same ''group of investment companies,'' as defined in section 12(d)(1)(G)(ii) of the Act, as a Trust and are, or may in the future be, advised by the Initial Adviser or any other investment adviser controlling, controlled by, or under common control with the Initial Adviser (together with the existing series of the Trusts, each series a ''Fund,'' and collectively, the ''Funds''). All entities that currently intend to rely on the requested order are named as applicants. Any other entity that relies on the order in the future will comply with the terms and conditions of the application and the requested order.

[2] Applicants state that series of the Janus Aspen Series currently serve as funding vehicles for Separate Accounts, and that future Funds may also serve as funding vehicles for Separate Accounts.

[3] All references to the ''Initial Adviser'' include any successors in interest to Janus Capital Management LLC. A ''successor'' is limited to an entity that results from a reorganization into another jurisdiction or a change in the type of business organization. The term ''Adviser'' includes (i) the Initial Adviser and (ii) any entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control with the Initial Adviser that serves as an investment adviser to the Funds.