

TABLE 3—NATURAL-PERSON FEDERAL CREDIT UNION OPERATING FEE SCHEDULE—Continued

0.00001771	on assets over	3,858,646,995.	
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A different assessment rate is applied to each tier. FCUs with \$1 million or less in assets pay no Operating Fee.

There are two primary steps used to determine the adjustments to the Operating Fee schedule for the upcoming year. They are: (1) Updating the prior year asset tiers using the projected asset growth rate; and (2) updating the prior year assessment rates for each asset tier by determining the average assessment rate adjustment.

Updating prior year asset levels. The first step in determining the new Operating Fee schedule is to increase each asset tier from the prior year by the projected asset growth rate. Assets are indexed annually to preserve the same relative relationship of the scale to the applicable asset base.

The projected asset growth rate is a forecast of FCU asset growth rates for a year. NCUA's Office of Chief Economist (OCE) uses three different methods to forecast asset growth and combines them to generate an overall asset growth rate forecast.

Forecasting Method #1: Uses Call Report data for the first half of the year to predict full-year asset growth. This is done by first calculating the ratio of first-half asset growth to full-year asset growth. The percentage of full-year growth accounted for by first-half asset growth varies from year to year but, on average, nearly 80 percent of the asset growth for FCUs occurs in the first half of the year. Using the growth rate in the first half of the year, OCE projects the full-year growth rate.

Forecasting Method #2: Uses Call Report data to determine the most recent four-quarter growth rate and sets this rate to the full-year asset growth rate. This approach is based on the idea that an FCU is likely to establish and maintain a relatively constant growth rate over a short period, after accounting for variations in the growth rate that is attributable to seasonal fluctuations. This implies that a good forecast of full-year asset growth is the most recently available four-quarter asset growth.

Forecasting Method #3: Uses a time series statistical model. Using quarterly Call Report data, OCE predicts future four-quarter asset growth using the four-quarter growth in assets for the period ending two quarters earlier (that is, four-quarter asset growth lagged two quarters).

Combined Forecast: In general, forecasting literature shows that combining forecasts from different

approaches can improve forecast accuracy and decrease the likelihood of forecast errors. Using the root mean squared error statistic to calculate the accuracy of the individual approaches and combined forecast approaches, OCE has found that the combined forecast approach is better at predicting the final asset growth rate than any of the individual approaches. OCE therefore averages the forecasts from the three approaches to maximize accuracy.

Updating the prior year's assessment rates. After updating the prior year asset tiers, the next step is to project Operating Fees using the updated asset tiers and the prior year assessment rates charged to each tier. The percentage difference between the projected Operating Fees (*i.e.*, line 14 above) and the required Operating Fees (*i.e.*, line 13 above) is the average rate adjustment (*i.e.*, line 16 above).

The average rate adjustment (*i.e.*, line 16 above) is used to amend the prior year's assessment rates for each asset tier either upwards or downwards. If the projected amount of Operating Fees is less than the required amount, then the assessment rates for each asset tier are adjusted upwards. If the projected amount is more than the required amount, then the assessment rates for each asset tier are adjusted downwards.

The resulting new Operating Fee schedule and due date are communicated via a Letter to Federal Credit Unions and posted to www.NCUA.gov at least 30 days in advance of the due date. No later than March of each year, natural-person FCUs with assets greater than \$1 million will receive an invoice for their Operating Fee. Operating Fees are based on actual assets reported as of December 31 of the previous year. NCUA combines the annual Operating Fee and capitalization deposit adjustment into a single invoice normally due in April. As required by the FCU Act, NCUA will deposit the collected fees in the United States Treasury.

By the National Credit Union Administration Board on January 21, 2016.

Gerard Poliquin,

Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 2016-01623 Filed 1-26-16; 8:45 am]

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NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION

Request for Comment Regarding National Credit Union Administration Draft 2017–2021 Strategic Plan

AGENCY: National Credit Union Administration (NCUA).

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The NCUA Board (Board) is requesting comment on its 2017–2021 Draft Strategic Plan. The *NCUA Draft Strategic Plan 2017–2021* summarizes our analysis of the internal and external environment impacting NCUA; evaluates NCUA programs and risks; and provides goals and objectives for the next five years. While the Board welcomes all comments from the public and stakeholders, it specifically invites comments and input on the proposed goals and objectives of the strategic plan.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before March 28, 2016 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods (Please send comments by one method only):

- *NCUA Web site:* <https://www.ncua.gov/about/pages/board-comments.aspx>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *Email:* Address to boardcomments@ncua.gov. Include “[Your name]—Comments on NCUA 2017–2021 Draft Strategic Plan” in the email subject line.
- *Fax:* (703) 518–6319. Include your name and the following subject line: “Comments on NCUA 2017–2021 Draft Strategic Plan.”

- *Mail:* Address to Gerard Poliquin, Secretary of the Board, National Credit Union Administration, 1775 Duke Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314–3428.

- *Hand Delivery/Courier:* Same as mail address.

Public Inspection: You can view all public comments on NCUA's Web site at <https://www.ncua.gov/about/pages/board-comments.aspx> as submitted, except for those we cannot post for technical reasons. NCUA will not edit or remove any identifying or contact information from the public comments submitted. You may inspect paper copies of comments at NCUA's headquarters at 1775 Duke Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, by appointment weekdays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. To make an appointment,

call (703) 518-6570 or send an email to boardcomments@ncua.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Melissa Lowden, Performance Analyst, National Credit Union Administration, 1775 Duke Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314-3428 or telephone: (703) 518-1182.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 306.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA) requires agencies to prepare strategic plans, annual performance plans and annual performance reports with measurable performance indicators to address the policy, budgeting and oversight needs of both Congress and agency leaders, partners/stakeholders, and program managers. In 2010, Congress passed the GPRA Modernization Act of 2010, which further requires a leadership-driven governance model with emphasis on quarterly reviews and transparency. The GPRA Modernization Act requires agencies to set priority goals linked to longer-term Agency strategic goals. Part 6 of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-11 provides additional guidance and requirements for federal agencies to implement these laws.

The *NCUA Draft Strategic Plan 2017-2021* is issued pursuant to the GPRA, the GPRA Modernization Act, and OMB Circular A-11.

It highlights the agency's three strategic goals and supporting strategic objectives, which reflect the outcome or greater impact of the broader strategic goals. The three strategic goals for 2017-2021 are to:

- Ensure a Safe and Sound Credit Union System.
- Promote Consumer Protection and Financial Literacy.
- Cultivate an Inclusive, Collaborative Workplace at NCUA that Maximizes Productivity and Enhances Impact.

The draft *NCUA Draft Strategic Plan 2017-2021* is available at the following Web address: <https://www.ncua.gov/regulation-supervision/Pages/board-comments.aspx>.

By the National Credit Union Administration Board on January 21, 2016.

Gerard Poliquin,

Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 2016-01625 Filed 1-26-16; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC-2015-0234]

Draft NUREG/CR-7209, A Compendium of Spent Fuel Transportation Package Response Analyses to Severe Fire Accident Scenarios

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Draft NUREG/CR; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing for public comment draft NUREG/CR-7209, "A Compendium of Spent Fuel Transportation Package Response Analyses to Severe Fire Accident Scenarios." This report summarizes studies of rail and truck transport accidents involving fires, relative to regulatory requirements for shipment of commercial spent nuclear fuel (SNF).

DATES: Submit comments by March 28, 2016. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the Commission is able to ensure consideration only for comments received before this date.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods (unless this document describes a different method for submitting comments on a specific subject):

- Federal Rulemaking Web site: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2015-0234. Address questions about NRC dockets to Carol Gallagher; telephone: 301-415-3463; email: Carol.Gallagher@nrc.gov. For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.
- Mail comments to: Cindy Bladey, Office of Administration, Mail Stop: OWFN-12-H08, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

For additional direction on obtaining information and submitting comments, see "Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments" in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jimmy Chang, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards; U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20005-0000; telephone: 301-415-7427; email: jimmy.chang@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments

A. Obtaining Information

Please refer to Docket ID NRC-2015-0234 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information for this action. You may obtain publicly-available information related to this action by any of the following methods:

- Federal rulemaking Web site: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2015-0234.
- NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS): You may obtain publicly-available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select "ADAMS Public Documents" and then select "Begin Web-based ADAMS Search." For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by email to pdr.resource@nrc.gov. Draft NUREG/CR-7209, "A Compendium of Spent Fuel Transportation Package Response Analyses to Severe Fire Accident Scenarios," is available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML16015A016.

- NRC's PDR: You may examine and purchase copies of public documents at the NRC's PDR, Room O1-F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

B. Submitting Comments

Please include Docket ID NRC-2015-0234 in your comment submission.

The NRC cautions you not to include identifying or contact information that you do not want to be publicly disclosed in your comment submission. The NRC posts all comment submissions at <http://www.regulations.gov> as well as entering the comment submissions into ADAMS. The NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove identifying or contact information.

If you are requesting or aggregating comments from other persons for submission to the NRC, then you should inform those persons not to include identifying or contact information that they do not want to be publicly disclosed in their comment submission. Your request should state that the NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove such information before making the comment submissions available to the public or entering the comment submissions into ADAMS.