statutory and regulatory requirements include 39 U.S.C. 3632, 39 U.S.C. 3633, 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR part 3015, and 39 CFR part 3020, subpart B. Comment deadline(s) for each request appear in section II.

II. Docketed Proceeding(s)


This Notice will be published in the Federal Register.

Ruth Ann Abrams,
Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2019–17182 Filed 8–9–19; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 7710–FW–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–86587; File No. 4–747]

Program for Allocation of Regulatory Responsibilities Pursuant to Rule 17d–2; Order Approving and Declaring Effective a Proposed Plan for the Allocation of Regulatory Responsibilities Between the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. and the Long-Term Stock Exchange, Inc.

August 7, 2019.

On July 11, 2019, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") and the Long-Term Stock Exchange, Inc. ("LTSE") (together with FINRA, the "Parties") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission" or "SEC") a plan for the allocation of regulatory responsibilities, dated July 11, 2019 ("17d–2 Plan" or the "Plan"). The Plan was published for comment on July 17, 2019. The Commission received no comments on the Plan. This order approves and declares effective the Plan.

I. Introduction

Section 19(g)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"), among other things, requires every self-regulatory organization ("SRO") registered as either a national securities exchange or national securities association to examine for, and enforce compliance by, its members and persons associated with its members with the Act, the rules and regulations thereunder, and the SRO’s own rules, unless the SRO is relieved of this responsibility pursuant to Section 17(d) or Section 19(g)(2) of the Act. Without this relief, the statutory obligation of each individual SRO could result in a pattern of multiple examinations of broker-dealers that maintain memberships in more than one SRO ("common members"). Such regulatory duplication would add unnecessary expenses for common members and their SROs.

Section 17(d)(1) of the Act was intended, in part, to eliminate unnecessary multiple examinations and regulatory duplication. With respect to a common member, Section 17(d)(1) authorizes the Commission, by rule or order, to relieve an SRO of the responsibility to receive regulatory reports, to examine for and enforce compliance with applicable statutes, rules, and regulations, or to perform other specified regulatory functions.

To implement Section 17(d)(1), the Commission adopted two rules: Rule 17d–1 and Rule 17d–2 under the Act. Rule 17d–1 authorizes the Commission to name a single SRO as the designated examining authority ("DEA") to examine common members for compliance with the financial responsibility requirements imposed by the Act, or by Commission or SRO rules. When an SRO has been named as a common member’s DEA, all other SROs to which the common member belongs are relieved of the responsibility to examine the firm for compliance with the applicable financial responsibility rules. On its face, Rule 17d–1 deals only with an SRO’s obligations to enforce member compliance with financial responsibility requirements. Rule 17d–2 does not relieve an SRO from its obligation to examine a common member for compliance with its own rules and provisions of the federal securities laws governing matters other than financial responsibility, including sales practices and trading activities and practices.

To address regulatory duplication in these and other areas, the Commission adopted Rule 17d–2 under the Act. Rule 17d–2 permits SROs to propose joint plans for the allocation of regulatory responsibilities with respect to their common members. Under paragraph (c) of Rule 17d–2, the Commission may declare such a plan effective if, after providing for appropriate notice and comment, it determines that the plan is necessary or appropriate in the public interest and for the protection of investors; to foster cooperation and coordination among the SROs; to remove impediments to, and the development of, a national market system and a national clearance.

10 17 CFR 240.17d–1 and 17 CFR 240.17d–2, respectively.
and settlement system; and is in conformity with the factors set forth in Section 17(d) of the Act. Commission approval of a plan filed pursuant to Rule 17d–2 relieves an SRO of those regulatory responsibilities allocated by the plan to another SRO.

II. Proposed Plan

The proposed 17d–2 Plan is intended to reduce regulatory duplication for firms that are common members of both LTSE and FINRA.9 Pursuant to the proposed 17d–2 Plan, FINRA would assume certain examination and enforcement responsibilities for common members with respect to certain applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

The text of the Plan delineates the proposed regulatory responsibilities with respect to the Parties. Included in the proposed Plan is an exhibit (the “LTSE Certification of Common Rules,” referred to herein as the “Certification”) that lists every LTSE rule, and select federal securities laws, rules, and regulations, for which FINRA would bear responsibility under the Plan for overseeing and enforcing with respect to LTSE members that are also members of FINRA and the associated persons therewith (“Dual Members”).

Specifically, under the 17d–2 Plan, FINRA would assume examination and enforcement responsibility relating to compliance by Dual Members with the rules of LTSE that are substantially similar to the applicable rules of FINRA,10 as well as any provisions of the federal securities laws and the rules and regulations thereunder delineated in the Certification (“Common Rules”). In the event that a Dual Member is the subject of an investigation relating to a transaction on LTSE, the plan acknowledges that LTSE may, in its discretion, exercise concurrent jurisdiction and responsibility for such matter.11

Under the Plan, LTSE would retain full responsibility for surveillance and enforcement with respect to trading activities or practices involving LTSE’s own marketplace, including, without limitation, registration pursuant to its applicable rules of associated persons (i.e., registration rules that are not Common Rules); its duties as a DEA pursuant to Rule 17d–1 under the Act; and any LTSE rules that are not Common Rules.12

III. Discussion

The Commission finds that the proposed Plan is consistent with the factors set forth in Section 17(d) of the Act13 and Rule 17d–2(c) thereunder in that the proposed Plan is necessary or appropriate in the public interest and for the protection of investors, fosters cooperation and coordination among SROs, and removes impediments to and fosters the development of the national market system. In particular, the Commission believes that the proposed Plan should reduce unnecessary regulatory duplication by allocating to FINRA certain examination and enforcement responsibilities for common members that would otherwise be performed by LTSE and FINRA. Accordingly, the proposed Plan promotes efficiency by reducing costs to common members. Furthermore, because LTSE and FINRA will coordinate their regulatory functions in accordance with the Plan, the Plan should promote investor protection.

The Commission notes that, under the Plan, LTSE and FINRA have allocated regulatory responsibility for those LTSE rules, set forth in the Certification, that are substantially similar to the applicable FINRA rules in that examination for compliance with such provisions and rules would not require FINRA to develop one or more new examination standards, modules, procedures, or criteria in order to analyze the application of the rule, or a common member’s activity, conduct, or output in relation to such rule. In addition, under the Plan, FINRA would assume regulatory responsibility for certain provisions of the federal securities laws and the rules and regulations thereunder that are set forth in the Certification. The Common Rules covered by the Plan are specifically listed in the Certification, as may be amended by the Parties from time to time.

According to the Plan, LTSE will review the Certification, at least annually, or more frequently if required by changes in either the rules of LTSE or FINRA, and, if necessary, submit to FINRA an updated list of Common Rules to add LTSE rules not included on the then-current list of Common Rules that are substantially similar to FINRA rules; delete LTSE rules included in the then-current list of Common Rules that are no longer substantially similar to FINRA rules; and confirm that the remaining rules on the list of Common Rules continue to be LTSE rules that are substantially similar to FINRA rules.15 FINRA will then confirm in writing whether the rules listed in any updated list are Common Rules as defined in the Plan. Under the Plan, LTSE will also provide FINRA with a current list of common members and shall update the list no less frequently than once each quarter.16 The Commission believes that these provisions are designed to provide for continuing communication between the Parties to ensure the continued accuracy of the scope of the proposed allocation of regulatory responsibility.

The Commission is hereby declaring effective a Plan that, among other things, allocates regulatory responsibility to FINRA for the oversight and enforcement of all LTSE rules that are substantially similar to the rules of FINRA for common members of LTSE and FINRA. Therefore, modifications to the Certification need not be filed with the Commission as an amendment to the Plan, provided that the Parties are only adding to, deleting from, or confirming changes to LTSE rules in the Certification in conformance with the definition of Common Rules provided in the Plan. However, should the Parties decide to add an LTSE rule to the Certification that is not substantially similar to a FINRA rule; delete an LTSE rule from the Certification that is substantially similar to a FINRA rule; or leave on the Certification an LTSE rule that is no longer substantially similar to a FINRA rule, then such a change would constitute an amendment to the Plan, which must be filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 17d–2 under the Act.17

IV. Conclusion

This Order gives effect to the Plan filed with the Commission in File No. 4–747. The Parties shall notify all members affected by the Plan of their rights and obligations under the Plan. Therefore, order pursuant to Section 17(d) of the Act, that the Plan

9 The proposed 17d–2 Plan refers to these common members as “Dual Members.” See Paragraph 1(c) of the proposed 17d–2 Plan.
10 See paragraph 1(b) of the proposed 17d–2 Plan (defining Common Rules). See also paragraph 1(f) of the proposed 17d–2 Plan (defining Regulatory Responsibilities). Paragraph 2 of the Plan provides that annually, or more frequently as required by changes in either LTSE rules or FINRA rules, the parties shall review and update, if necessary, the list of Common Rules. Further, paragraph 3 of the Plan provides that LTSE shall furnish FINRA with a list of Dual Members, and shall update the list no less frequently than once each calendar quarter.
11 See paragraph 6 of the proposed 17d–2 Plan.
12 See paragraph 2 of the proposed 17d–2 Plan.
14 17 CFR 240.17d–2(c).
15 See paragraph 2 of the Plan.
16 See paragraph 3 of the Plan.
17 The Commission also notes that the addition to or deletion from the Certification of any federal securities laws, rules, or regulations for which FINRA would bear responsibility under the Plan for examining, and enforcing compliance by, common members, also would constitute an amendment to the Plan.
in File No. 4–747, between FINRA and LTSE, filed pursuant to Rule 17d–2 under the Act, is approved and declared effective.

It is further ordered that LTSE is relieved of those responsibilities allocated to FINRA under the Plan in File No. 4–747.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.18

Jill M. Peterson, 
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2019–17208 Filed 8–9–19; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SEcurities AND EXchange COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting; Cancellation

FEDERAL REGISTER CITATION OF PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT: 84 FR 38321, August 6, 2019.

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED TIME AND DATE OF THE MEETING: Thursday, August 8, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

CHANGES IN THE MEETING: The Open Meeting scheduled for Thursday, August 8, 2019 at 10:00 a.m., has been cancelled.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: For further information; please contact Vanessa A. Countryman from the Office of the Secretary at (202) 551–5400.

Dated: August 7, 2019.

Vanessa A. Countryman, 
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2019–17248 Filed 8–9–19; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SEcurities AND EXchange COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meetings

TIME AND DATE: 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 15, 2019.

PLACE: The meeting will be held at the Commission’s headquarters, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549.

STATUS: This meeting will be closed to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: 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.

In the event that the time, date, or location of this meeting changes, an announcement of the change, along with the new time, date, and/or place of the meeting will be posted on the Commission’s website at https://www.sec.gov.

The General Counsel of the Commission, or his designee, has certified that, in his opinion, one or more of the exemptions set forth in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(3), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9B) and (10) and 17 CFR 200.402(a)(3), (a)(5), (a)(6), (a)(7), (a)(8), (a)(9)(ii) and (a)(10), permit consideration of the scheduled matters at the closed meeting.

The subject matters of the closed meeting will consist of the following topics:

- Institution and settlement of injunctive actions;
- Institution and settlement of administrative proceedings;
- Resolution of litigation claims; and
- Other matters relating to enforcement proceedings.

At times, changes in Commission priorities require alterations in the scheduling of meeting agenda items that may consist of adjudicatory, examination, litigation, or regulatory matters.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: For further information; please contact Vanessa A. Countryman from the Office of the Secretary at (202) 551–5400.

Dated: August 8, 2019.

Vanessa A. Countryman, 
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2019–17353 Filed 8–8–19; 4:15 pm]
BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

Sugar Camp Energy LLC Mine Expansion (Revision 6) Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Tennessee Valley Authority.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Tennessee Valley Authority (TV) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the proposed expansion of mining operations by Sugar Camp Energy, LLC to extract TVA-owned coal reserves in Hamilton and Franklin counties, Illinois. A portion of the expansion area contains coal reserves owned by TVA that are leased to Sugar Camp Energy, LLC. TVA will consider whether to approve the company’s application to mine approximately 12,125 acres (“project area”) of TVA-owned coal reserves.

DATES: Comments must be received or postmarked by September 11, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to Elizabeth Smith, NEPA Specialist, Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 W Summit Hill Drive #WT11B, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. Comments may be sent electronically to esmith14@tva.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth Smith, by phone at 865–632–3053, by email at esmith14@tva.gov, or by mail at the address above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is provided in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality’s regulations (40 CFR parts 1500 to 1508) and TVA’s procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR part 800).

Sugar Camp Energy, LLC (Sugar Camp) proposes to expand its underground longwall mining operations at its Sugar Camp Mine No. 1 in southern Illinois by approximately 37,972 acres. TVA owns coal reserves underlying approximately 12,125 acres of the Herrin No. 6 seam within the expansion area. In November 2017, Sugar Camp obtained approval for the expansion from the State of Illinois, when the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), Office of Mines and Minerals (OMM) Land Reclamation Division (LRD) approved Significant Revision (SR) No. 6 to the company’s Surface Coal Mining and Reclamation Operations Permit—Underground Operations (Number 382). TVA will consider whether to approve the company’s application to mine approximately 12,125 acres (“project area”) of the TVA-owned coal reserves. Under the proposal, surface and underground disturbance would occur. Surface activities to support the underground mining would be limited to the construction of bleeder shafts and installation of associated utilities to operate the bleeder shafts to support the extraction of TVA-owned coal. The exact location of these surface activities is unknown at this time, but they would occur within the project area. Other activities to support the underground mining of TVA-owned coal would be located outside of the project area and include operation of the coal preparation plant (approximately 3.5 miles southwest of Macedonia, Illinois).

Underground mining would be performed using two techniques. Coal would be extracted using room and pillar and continuous mining techniques during a development period, followed by longwall mining and associated planned subsidence. Subsidence would only occur under a portion of the project area. Sugar Camp would utilize its existing Mine No. 1

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