

Building, Washington, DC 20503 or by sending an e-mail to: [David\\_Rostker@omb.eop.gov](mailto:David_Rostker@omb.eop.gov); and (ii) R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: June 7, 2005.

**J. Lynn Taylor,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E5-3104 Filed 6-16-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon written request, copies available from: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

#### Extension:

Rule 17e-1, SEC File No. 270-224, OMB Control No. 3235-0217.

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") a request for extension of the previously approved collection of information described below.

Rule 17e-1 [17 CFR 270.17e-1] under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act") is entitled "Brokerage Transactions on a Securities Exchange." The rule governs the remuneration that a broker affiliated with a registered investment company ("fund") may receive in connection with securities transactions by the fund. The rule requires a fund's board of directors to establish, and review as necessary, procedures reasonably designed to provide that the remuneration to an affiliated broker is a fair amount compared to that received by other brokers in connection with transactions in similar securities during a comparable period of time. Each quarter, the board must determine that all transactions with affiliated brokers during the preceding quarter complied with the procedures established under the rule. Rule 17e-1 also requires the fund to (i) maintain permanently a written copy of the procedures adopted by the board for complying with the requirements of the rule; and (ii) maintain for a period of six years a

written record of each transaction subject to the rule, setting forth: the amount and source of the commission, fee or other remuneration received; the identity of the broker; the terms of the transaction; and the materials used to determine that the transactions were effected in compliance with the procedures adopted by the board. The Commission's examination staff uses these records to evaluate transactions between funds and their affiliated brokers for compliance with the rule.

The Commission staff estimates that 3,028 portfolios of approximately 2,126 funds use the services of one or more subadvisers. Based on discussions with industry representatives, the staff estimates that it will require approximately 6 hours to draft and execute revised subadvisory contracts (5 staff attorney hours, 1 supervisory attorney hour), in order for funds and subadvisers to be able to rely on the exemptions in rule 17e-1. The staff assumes that all of these funds amended their advisory contracts when rule 17e-1 was amended in 2002 by conditioning certain exemptions upon such contractual alterations.<sup>1</sup>

Based on an analysis of fund filings, the staff estimates that approximately 200 new funds are registered annually. Assuming that the number of these funds that will use the services of subadvisers is proportionate to the number of funds that currently use the services of subadvisers, then approximately 46 new funds will enter into subadvisory agreements each year.<sup>2</sup> The Commission staff further estimates, based on analysis of fund filings, that 10 extant funds will employ the services of subadvisers for the first time each year. Thus, the staff estimates that a total of 56 funds, with a total of 78 portfolios,<sup>3</sup> will enter into subadvisory agreements each year. Assuming that each of these funds enters into a contract that permits it to rely on the exemptions in rule 17e-1, we estimate that the rule's contract modification requirement will result in 117 burden hours annually.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Rules 12d3-1, 10f-3, 17a-10, and 17e-1 require virtually identical modifications to fund advisory contracts. The Commission staff assumes that funds would rely equally on the exemptions in these rules, and therefore the burden hours associated with the required contract modifications should be apportioned equally among the four rules.

<sup>2</sup> Based on information in Commission filings, we estimate that 23 percent of funds are advised by subadvisers.

<sup>3</sup> Based on existing statistics, we assume that each fund has 1.4 portfolios advised by a subadviser.

<sup>4</sup> This estimate is based on the following calculations: (78 portfolios × 6 hours = 468 burden hours for rules 12d3-1, 10f-3, 17a-10, and 17e-1; 468 total burden hours for all of the rules / four rules = 117 annual burden hours per rule.)

Based on an analysis of fund filings, the staff estimates that approximately 300 funds use at least one affiliated broker. Based on conversations with fund representatives, the staff estimates that rule 17e-1's exemption would free approximately 40 percent of transactions that occur under rule 17e-1 from the rule's recordkeeping and review requirements. This would leave approximately 180 funds (300 funds × .6 = 180) still subject to the rule's recordkeeping and review requirements. The staff estimates that each of these funds spends 57 hours per year hours at a cost of approximately \$3,780 per year complying with rule 17e-1's requirements that (i) the fund retain records of transactions entered into pursuant to the rule, and (ii) the fund's directors review those transactions quarterly.<sup>5</sup> We estimate, therefore, that all funds relying on this exemption incur yearly hourly burdens of 10,260 burden.<sup>6</sup> Therefore, the annual aggregate burden hour associated with rule 17e-1 is 10,377.<sup>7</sup>

The estimate of average burden hours is made solely for the purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act, and is not derived from a comprehensive or even a representative survey or study. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

General comments regarding the above information should be directed to the following persons: (i) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10102, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or e-mail to: [David\\_Rostker@omb.eop.gov](mailto:David_Rostker@omb.eop.gov); and (ii) R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 5th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

<sup>5</sup> In calculating the total annual cost of complying with amended rule 17e-1, the Commission staff assumes that the entire burden would be attributable to professionals with an average hourly wage rate of \$66.31 per hour. Unless stated otherwise, all hourly rates in this Supporting Statement are derived from the average annual salaries reported for employees outside of New York City in Securities Industry Association, *Management and Professional Earnings in the Securities Industry* (2003) and Securities Industry Association, *Office Salaries in the Securities Industry* (2003).

<sup>6</sup> This estimate is based on the following calculation: (180 funds × 57 hours = 10,260).

<sup>7</sup> This estimate is based on the following calculation: (117 hours + 10,260 hours = 10,377).

Dated: June 6, 2005.

**J. Lynn Taylor,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E5-3105 Filed 6-16-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon written request, copies available from: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

#### Extension:

Rule 17d-1, SEC File No. 270-505, OMB Control No. 3235-0562.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") a request for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

Section 17(d) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act") prohibits first- and second-tier affiliates of a fund, the fund's principal underwriters, and affiliated persons of the fund's principal underwriters, acting as principal, to effect any transaction in which the fund or a company controlled by the fund is a joint or a joint and several participant in contravention of the Commission's rules. Rule 17d-1 ("Applications regarding joint enterprises or arrangements and certain profit-sharing plans" [17 CFR 270.17d-1]) permits a fund to enter into a joint arrangement with a portfolio affiliate (an issuer of which a fund owns a position in excess of five percent of the voting securities), or an affiliated person of a portfolio affiliate, as long as certain other affiliated persons of the fund (*e.g.*, the fund's adviser, persons controlling the fund, and persons under common control with the fund) are not parties to the transaction and do not have a financial interest in a party to the transaction. Rule 17d-1 provides that, in addition to the interests identified in the rule not to be "financial interests," the term "financial interest" also does not include any interest that the fund's board of directors (including a majority of the directors who are not interested persons of the fund) finds to be not material. The rule requires that the minutes of the board's meeting record the basis for the board's finding.

The information collection requirements in rule 17d-1 are intended

to ensure that Commission staff can review, in the course of its compliance and examination functions, the basis for a board of director's finding that the financial interest of a prohibited participant in a party to a transaction with a portfolio affiliate is not material.

Based on analysis of past filings, the Commission's staff estimates that 148 funds are affiliated persons of 668 issuers as a result of the fund's ownership or control of the issuer's voting securities, and that there are approximately 1,000 such affiliate relationships. Staff discussions with mutual fund representatives have suggested that no funds are currently relying on rule 17d-1 exemptions. We do not know definitively the reasons for this change in transactional behavior, but differing market conditions from year to year may offer some explanation for the current lack of fund interest in the exemptions under rule 17d-1. Accordingly, we estimate that annually there will be no joint transactions under rule 17d-1 that will result in a collection of information. The Commission requests authorization to maintain an inventory of one burden hour to ease future renewals of rule 17d-1 collection of information analysis should reliance on the rule increase in the coming years.

The estimate of average burden hours is made solely for the purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act. The estimate is not derived from a comprehensive or even a representative survey or study of the costs of Commission rules. Complying with this collection of information requirement is necessary to obtain the benefit of relying on rule 17d-1. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number.

General comments regarding the above information should be directed to the following persons: (i) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10102, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or email to: [David\\_Rostker@omb.eop.gov](mailto:David_Rostker@omb.eop.gov); and (ii) R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: June 6, 2005.

**J. Lynn Taylor,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E5-3106 Filed 6-16-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon written request, copies available from: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

#### Extension:

Rule 17Ac3-1(a), SEC File No. 270-96, OMB Control No. 3235-0151. Form TA-W, SEC File No. 270-96, OMB Control No. 3235-0151.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget requests for approval of extension on the following rule and form: Rule 17Ac3-1(a) and Form TA-W.

Subsection (c)(4)(B) of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act") authorizes transfer agents registered with an appropriate regulatory agency ("ARA") to withdraw from registration by filing with the ARA a written notice of withdrawal and by agreeing to such terms and conditions as the ARA deems necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or in the furtherance of the purposes of Section 17A.

In order to implement Section 17A(c)(4)(B) of the Exchange Act the Commission, on September 1, 1977, promulgated Rule 17Ac3-1(a) and accompanying Form TA-W. Rule 17Ac3-1(a) provides that notice of withdrawal of registration as a transfer agent with the Commission shall be filed on Form TA-W. Form TA-W requires the withdrawing transfer agent to provide the Commission with certain information, including: (1) The locations where transfer agent activities are or were performed; (2) the reasons for ceasing the performance of such activities; (3) disclosure of unsatisfied judgments or liens; and (4) information regarding successor transfer agents.

The Commission uses the information disclosed on Form TA-W to determine whether the registered transfer agent applying for withdrawal from registration as a transfer agent should be allowed to deregister and, if so, whether