DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Agency Information Collection Activities: Information Collection Renewal; Comment Request; Margin and Capital Requirements for Covered Swap Entities: Exemptions

AGENCY: Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The OCC, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on a continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA).

In accordance with the requirements of the PRA, the OCC may not conduct or sponsor, and the respondent is not required to respond to, an information collection unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number.

The OCC is soliciting comment concerning the renewal of its information collection titled, “Margin and Capital Requirements for Covered Swap Entities: Exemptions.”

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before June 20, 2016.

ADDRESSES: Because paper mail in the Washington, DC area and at the OCC is subject to delay, commenters are encouraged to submit comments by email, if possible. Comments may be sent to: Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 400 7th Street SW., Washington, DC 20219. In addition, comments may be sent by fax to (202) 649–4326 or by electronic mail to prainfo@occ.treas.gov. You may personally inspect and photocopy comments at the OCC, 400 7th Street SW., Washington, DC 20219. For security reasons, the OCC requires that visitors make an appointment to inspect comments. You may do so by calling (202) 649–6700 or, for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing, TTY, (202) 649–5597. Upon arrival, visitors will be required to present valid government-issued photo identification and to submit to security screening in order to inspect and photocopy comments.

All comments received, including attachments and other supporting materials, are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. Do not include any information in your comment or supporting materials that you consider confidential or inappropriate for public disclosure.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the OMB for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. “Collection of information” is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c) to include agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)) requires Federal agencies to provide a 60-day notice in the Federal Register concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information, before submitting the collection to OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, the OCC is publishing notice of the proposed collection of information set forth in this document.

In connection with issuance of the interim final rule entitled “Margin and Capital Requirements for Covered Swap Entities,” the OCC provided a six-month approval for this information collection. The OCC is proposing to extend OMB approval of the collection for the standard three years.

Title: Margin and Capital Requirements for Covered Swap Entities: Exemptions.

OMB Control No.: 1557–0335.

Description: The OCC issued an interim final rule required by the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2015 (TRIPRA).

Title III of TRIPRA, the “Business Risk Mitigation and Price Stabilization Act of 2015,” amended the statutory provision added by the Dodd-Frank Act relating to margin requirements for non-cleared swaps and non-cleared security-based swaps. Section 302 of TRIPRA amends sections 731 and 764 of the Dodd-Frank Act to provide that the initial and variation margin requirements do not apply to certain transactions with specified counterparties that qualify for an exemption or exception from clearing. Non-cleared swaps and non-cleared security-based swaps that are exempt under section 302 of TRIPRA will not be subject to the Agencies’ rules implementing margin requirements. The effect of the interim final rule is to augment provisions of the final rule published by the Agencies in November 2015 that allow swap entities to collect no initial or variation margin from certain “other counterparties” like commercial end-users with a provision that grants an exception from the margin requirements for certain swaps with these and certain additional counterparties.

The reporting requirements in the interim final rule are found in 12 CFR 45.1(d), which refers to other statutory provisions that set forth conditions for an exemption from clearing. Section 45.1(d)(1) provides an exemption for non-cleared swaps if one of the counterparties to the swap is not a financial entity, is using swaps to hedge or mitigate commercial risk, and notifies the Commodity Futures Trading Commission of how it generally meets its financial obligations associated with entering into non-cleared swaps. Section 45.1(d)(2) provides an exemption for security-based swaps if the counterparty notifies the Securities and Exchange Commission of how it generally meets its financial obligations associated with entering into non-cleared security-based swaps.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals; Businesses or other for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 20.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 20,000.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized, included in the request for OMB approval, and will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on:

(a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the OCC, including whether the information has practical utility;

(b) The accuracy of the OCC’s estimate of the information collection burden;

1 80 FR 74915 (November 30, 2015).
3 The Agencies are the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Farm Credit Administration, and the Federal Housing Finance Agency.
4 The interim final rule is a companion rule to a final rule adopted to implement section 731 and 764 of the Dodd-Frank Act.
5 The final rule was issued on November 30, 2015 (80 FR 74840).
DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
Office of Foreign Assets Control

AGENCY: Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) is publishing the names of eight individuals and one entity whose property and interests in property have been blocked pursuant to the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act (Kingpin Act), 21 U.S.C. §§ 1901–1908, 8 U.S.C. § 1182.

DATES: The designation by the Director of OFAC of the eight individuals and one entity identified in this notice pursuant to section 805(b) of the Kingpin Act is effective on April 14, 2016.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic and Facsimile Availability

This document and additional information concerning OFAC are available on OFAC’s Web site at http://www.treasury.gov/ofac or via facsimile through a 24-hour fax-on-demand service at (202) 622–0077.

Background

The Kingpin Act became law on December 3, 1999. The Kingpin Act provides a statutory framework for the imposition of sanctions against significant foreign narcotics traffickers and their organizations on a worldwide basis, with the objective of denying their businesses and agents access to the U.S. financial system and the benefits of trade and transactions involving U.S. companies and individuals.

The Kingpin Act blocks all property and interests in property, subject to U.S. jurisdiction, owned or controlled by significant foreign narcotics traffickers as identified by the President. In addition, the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Attorney General, the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of Homeland Security, may designate and block the property and interests in property, subject to U.S. jurisdiction, of persons who are found to be: (1) Materially assisting in, or providing financial or technological support for or to, or providing goods or services in support of, the international narcotics trafficking activities of a person designated pursuant to the Kingpin Act; (2) owned, controlled, or directed by, or acting for or on behalf of, a person designated pursuant to the Kingpin Act; or (3) playing a significant role in international narcotics trafficking.

On April 14, 2016, the Acting Director of OFAC designated the following eight individuals and one entity whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to section 805(b) of the Kingpin Act.

Individuals

1. BARRIOS HERNANDEZ, Mercedes (a.k.a. “LA MECHE”), Xochitepec, Morelos, Mexico; DOB 05 May 1971; P.O.B. Acapulco de Juarez, Guerrero, Mexico; citizen Mexico; Gender Female; R.F.C. BAHM710505Q91 (Mexico); C.U.R.P. BAHM710505MGRRRR07 (Mexico) (individual) [SDNTK] (Linked To: LAREDO DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION). Designated for materially assisting in, or providing financial or technological support for or to, or providing services in support of, the international narcotics trafficking activities of the LAREDO DTO and/or Ismael LAREDO DONJUAN, and/or is directed by, or acting for or on behalf of, the LAREDO DTO and/or Ismael LAREDO DONJUAN, and therefore meets the statutory criteria for designation pursuant to section 805(b)(2) and/or (3) of the Kingpin Act, 21 U.S.C. 1904(b)(2) and/or (3).

2. GOMEZ VELAZQUEZ, Daniela (a.k.a. GOMEZ VELASQUEZ, Daniela), Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico; DOB 25 Nov 1989; P.O.B. Poza Rica de Hidalgo, Veracruz, Mexico; citizen Mexico; Gender Female; R.F.C. GOVD891125EK6 (Mexico); National ID No. 96088982044 (Mexico); alt. National ID No. 96098907692 (Mexico); C.U.R.P. GOVD891125MVZMLN04 (Mexico) (individual) [SDNTK] (Linked To: LAREDO DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION). Designated for materially assisting in, or providing financial or technological support for or to, or providing services in support of, the international narcotics trafficking activities of the LAREDO DTO and/or Ismael LAREDO DONJUAN, and/or is directed by, or acting for or on behalf of, the LAREDO DTO and/or Ismael LAREDO DONJUAN, and therefore meets the statutory criteria for designation pursuant to section 805(b)(2) and/or (3) of the Kingpin Act, 21 U.S.C. 1904(b)(2) and/or (3).