to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

In particular, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act in that it ensures clarity in the rules. The Exchange believes that removing the obsolete term “FBW” from the rules, maintains clarity in the rules and eliminates potential confusion. The Exchange believes that the alleviation of potential confusion will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, protect investors and the public interest.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed changes to conform Exchange rules and alleviate confusion are not intended for competitive reasons and only apply to CBOE. The Exchange also does not believe the proposed rule change affects intramarket or intermarket competition, and notes that no rights or obligations of Trading Permit Holders are affected by the change.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

The Exchange neither solicited nor received written comments on the proposed rule change.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b–412 thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission will institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission’s Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR–CBOE–2016–031 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549–1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR–CBOE–2016–031. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission’s Internet Web site (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for Web site viewing and printing in the Commission’s Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR–CBOE–2016–031, and should be submitted on or before May 11, 2016.

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

Robert W. Errett,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2016–09063 Filed 4–19–16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 9527]

Secretary of State’s Determination Under the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998

SUMMARY: The Secretary of State’s designation of “countries of particular concern” for religious freedom violations.

Pursuant to Section 408(a) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (Pub. L. 105–292), as amended (the Act), notice is hereby given that, on February 29, 2016, the Secretary of State, under authority delegated by the President, has designated each of the following as a “country of particular concern” (CPC) under sec. 402(b) of the Act, for having engaged in or tolerated particularly severe violations of religious freedom: Burma, China, Eritrea, Iran, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.

The Secretary simultaneously designated the following Presidential Actions for these CPCs:

For Burma, the existing ongoing arms embargo referenced in 22 CFR 126.1(a), pursuant to sec. 402(c)(5) of the Act;

For China, the existing ongoing restriction on exports to China of crime control and detection instruments and equipment, under the Foreign Relations Authorization Act of 1990 and 1991 (Pub. L. 101–246), pursuant to sec. 402(c)(5) of the Act;

For Eritrea, the existing ongoing arms embargo referenced in 22 CFR 126.1(a), pursuant to sec. 402(c)(5) of the Act;

For Iran, the existing ongoing travel restrictions based on serious human rights abuses under sec. 221(a)(1)(C) of the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012, pursuant to sec. 402(c)(5) of the Act;

For the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the existing ongoing restrictions to which the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea is subject, pursuant to sec. 402 and 409 of the Trade Act of 1974 (the Jackson-Vanik Amendment), pursuant to sec. 402(c)(5) of the Act;

The Secretary simultaneously designated the following CPCs:

For Burma, the existing ongoing arms embargo referenced in 22 CFR 126.1(a), pursuant to sec. 402(c)(5) of the Act;

For China, the existing ongoing restriction on exports to China of crime control and detection instruments and equipment, under the Foreign Relations Authorization Act of 1990 and 1991 (Pub. L. 101–246), pursuant to sec. 402(c)(5) of the Act;

For Eritrea, the existing ongoing arms embargo referenced in 22 CFR 126.1(a), pursuant to sec. 402(c)(5) of the Act;

For Iran, the existing ongoing travel restrictions based on serious human rights abuses under sec. 221(a)(1)(C) of the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012, pursuant to sec. 402(c)(5) of the Act;

For the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the existing ongoing restrictions to which the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea is subject, pursuant to sec. 402 and 409 of the Trade Act of 1974 (the Jackson-Vanik Amendment), pursuant to sec. 402(c)(5) of the Act;


For Saudi Arabia, a waiver as required in the “important national interest of the United States,” pursuant to sec. 407 of the Act:

For Sudan, the restriction in the annual Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act on making certain appropriated funds available for assistance to the Government of Sudan, currently set forth in sec. 7042(k) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015 (Div. J, Pub. L. 113–238), and any provision of law that is the same or substantially the same as this provision, pursuant to sec. 402(c)(5) of the Act:

For Tajikistan, a waiver as required in the “important national interest of the United States,” pursuant to sec. 407 of the Act:

For Turkmenistan, a waiver as required in the “important national interest of the United States,” pursuant to sec. 407 of the Act:

For Uzbekistan, a waiver as required in the “important national interest of the United States,” pursuant to sec. 407 of the Act:

For Sudan, the restriction in the annual Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act on making certain appropriated funds available for assistance to the Government of Sudan, currently set forth in sec. 7042(k) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015 (Div. J, Pub. L. 113–238), and any provision of law that is the same or substantially the same as this provision, pursuant to sec. 402(c)(5) of the Act:

For Tajikistan, a waiver as required in the “important national interest of the United States,” pursuant to sec. 407 of the Act:

For Turkmenistan, a waiver as required in the “important national interest of the United States,” pursuant to sec. 407 of the Act:

For Uzbekistan, a waiver as required in the “important national interest of the United States,” pursuant to sec. 407 of the Act:

Dated: April 14, 2016.

Dave Morris,
Acting Director, Office of International Religious Freedom, Department of State.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, including a list of the imported objects, contact the Office of Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs in the Office of the Legal Adviser, U.S. Department of State (telephone: 202–632–6471; email: section2459@state.gov). The mailing address is U.S. Department of State, L/PD, SA–5, Suite 5H03, Washington, DC 20522–0505.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 9526]

U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

The U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy will hold a public meeting from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m., Thursday, May 12, 2016 in Room SVC 203–02 of the Capitol Visitors Center, Senate Side on First Street NE., Washington, DC 20002.

The meeting’s topic will be “Presidential Priorities for Public Diplomacy” and will feature officials from the National Security Council, U.S. Department of State and Broadcasting Board of Governors. Other representatives from the State Department will be in attendance.

This meeting is open to the public, members and staff of Congress, the State Department, Defense Department, the media, and other governmental and non-governmental organizations. To attend and make any requests for reasonable accommodation, email pdcommission@state.gov by 5 p.m. on Monday, May 9, 2016. Please arrive for the meeting by 9:45 a.m. to allow for a prompt meeting start.

The United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy appraises U.S. Government activities intended to understand, inform, and influence foreign publics. The Advisory Commission may conduct studies, inquiries, and meetings, as it deems necessary. It may assemble and disseminate information and issue reports and other publications, subject to the approval of the Chairperson, in consultation with the Executive Director. The Advisory Commission may undertake foreign travel in pursuit of its studies and coordinate, sponsor, or oversee projects, studies, events, or other activities that it deems desirable and necessary in fulfilling its functions.

The Commission consists of seven members appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The members of the Commission represent the public interest and are selected from a cross section of educational, communications, cultural, scientific, technical, public service, labor, business, and professional backgrounds. Not more than four members are from any one political party. The President designates a member to chair the Commission.

The current members of the Commission are: Mr. William Hybl of Colorado, Chairman; Ambassador Lyndon Olson of Texas, Vice Chairman; Mr. Sim Farar of California, Vice Chairman; Ambassador Penne Korth-Peacock of Texas; Ms. Lezlee Westine of Virginia; and Ms. Anne Terman Wedner of Illinois.

Mr. Douglas Wilson of Delaware has been nominated by the President to fill the current vacancy on the Commission and Ms. Geogette Mosbacher of New York has been nominated by the President to replace Ms. Lezlee Westine. They are both currently awaiting Senate confirmation.

To request further information about the meeting or the U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy, you may contact its Executive Director, Katherine Brown, at BrownKA4@state.gov.

Dated: April 12, 2016.

Katherine Brown,
Executive Director, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 2016–09163 Filed 4–19–16; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4710–18–P

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. FD 36006]

West Branch Intermediate Holdings, LLC and Continental Rail, LLC—Continuation in Control Exemption—Central Gulf Acquisition Company

West Branch Intermediate Holdings, LLC (West Branch) and Continental Rail, LLC (Continental), both...