

not be released under the Freedom of Information Act.

**ADDRESSES:** Objections relating to the prospective license may be submitted to Patent Counsel, Bryan A. Geurts, Goddard Space Flight Center, 8800 Greenbelt Road M/S 140.1, Greenbelt MD 20771. Phone (301) 286-7351. Facsimile (301) 286-9502.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Enidia Santiago-Arce, Innovative Partnerships Program Office, Goddard Space Flight Center, 8800 Greenbelt Road M/S 504, Greenbelt, MD 20771. Phone (301) 286-5810.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice of intent to grant a partially-exclusive term patent license is issued in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 209(e) and 37 CFR 404.7(a)(1)(i). The patent rights in these inventions have been assigned to the United States of America as represented by the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The prospective partially exclusive license will comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

Information about other NASA inventions available for licensing can be found online at <http://technology.nasa.gov>.

**Mark P. Dvorscak,**

*Agency Counsel for Intellectual Property.*

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**BILLING CODE 7510-13-P**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### Sunshine Act Meetings

**TIME AND DATE:** 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 18, 2018.

**PLACE:** Closed Commission Hearing Room 10800.

**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.

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), 9(B) 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.

Commissioner Stein, as duty officer, voted to consider the items listed for the closed meeting in closed session.

The subject matters of the closed meeting will be:

Institution and settlement of injunctive actions;

Institution and settlement of administrative proceedings; and

Other matters relating to enforcement proceedings.

At times, changes in Commission priorities require alterations in the scheduling of meeting items.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

For further information and to ascertain what, if any, matters have been added, deleted or postponed; please contact Brent J. Fields from the Office of the Secretary at (202) 551-5400.

Dated: January 11, 2018.

**Brent J. Fields,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2018-00739 Filed 1-12-18; 11:15 am]

**BILLING CODE 8011-01-P**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[**Securities Act of 1933 Release No. 33-10453/January 10, 2018; Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Release No. 34-82483/January 10, 2018**]

### Order Approving Public Company Accounting Oversight Board Budget and Annual Accounting Support Fee for Calendar Year 2018

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, as amended (the “Sarbanes-Oxley Act”),<sup>1</sup> established the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (“PCAOB”) to oversee the audits of companies that are subject to the securities laws, and related matters, in order to protect the interests of investors and further the public interest in the preparation of informative, accurate and independent audit reports. Section 982 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd-Frank Act”)<sup>2</sup> amended the Sarbanes-Oxley Act to provide the PCAOB with explicit authority to oversee auditors of broker-dealers registered with the Commission. The PCAOB is to accomplish these goals through registration of public accounting firms and standard setting, inspection, and disciplinary programs. The PCAOB is subject to the comprehensive oversight of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”).

Section 109 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act provides that the PCAOB shall establish

a reasonable annual accounting support fee, as may be necessary or appropriate to establish and maintain the PCAOB. Under Section 109(f) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, the aggregate annual accounting support fee shall not exceed the PCAOB’s aggregate “recoverable budget expenses,” which may include operating, capital and accrued items. The PCAOB’s annual budget and accounting support fee are subject to approval by the Commission. In addition, the PCAOB must allocate the annual accounting support fee among issuers and among brokers and dealers.

Section 109(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act directs the PCAOB to establish a budget for each fiscal year in accordance with the PCAOB’s internal procedures, subject to approval by the Commission. Rule 190 of Regulation P governs the Commission’s review and approval of PCAOB budgets and annual accounting support fees.<sup>3</sup> This budget rule provides, among other things, a timetable for the preparation and submission of the PCAOB budget and for Commission actions related to each budget, a description of the information that should be included in each budget submission, limits on the PCAOB’s ability to incur expenses and obligations except as provided in the approved budget, procedures relating to supplemental budget requests, requirements for the PCAOB to furnish on a quarterly basis certain budget-related information, and a list of definitions that apply to the rule and to general discussions of PCAOB budget matters.

In accordance with the budget rule, in March 2017 the PCAOB provided the Commission with a narrative description of its program issues and outlook for the 2018 budget year. In response, the Commission provided the PCAOB with economic assumptions and general budgetary guidance for the 2018 budget year. The PCAOB subsequently delivered a preliminary budget and budget justification to the Commission. Staff from the Commission’s Office of the Chief Accountant and Office of Financial Management dedicated a substantial amount of time to the review and analysis of the PCAOB’s programs, projects, and budget estimates; reviewed the PCAOB’s estimates of 2017 actual spending; and attended several meetings with management and staff of the PCAOB to further develop their understanding of the PCAOB’s budget and operations. During the course of this review, Commission staff relied upon representations and supporting documentation from the PCAOB. Based

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 7201 *et seq.*

<sup>2</sup> Public Law 111-203, 124 Stat. 1376 (2010).

<sup>3</sup> 17 CFR 202.190.