

**PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION****Interest Assumption for Determining Variable-Rate Premium; Interest Assumptions for Multiemployer Plan Valuations Following Mass Withdrawal**

**AGENCY:** Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

**ACTION:** Notice of interest rates and assumptions.

**SUMMARY:** This notice informs the public of the interest rates and assumptions to be used under certain Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation regulations. These rates and assumptions are published elsewhere (or are derivable from rates published elsewhere), but are collected and published in this notice for the convenience of the public. Interest rates are also published on the PBGC's web site (<http://www.pbgc.gov>).

**DATES:** The interest rate for determining the variable-rate premium under part 4006 applies to premium payment years beginning in December 1999. The interest assumptions for performing multiemployer plan valuations following mass withdrawal under part 4281 apply to valuation dates occurring in January 2000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Harold J. Ashner, Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005, 202-326-4024. (For TTY/TDD users, call the Federal relay service toll-free at 1-800-877-8339 and ask to be connected to 202-326-4024.)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Variable-Rate Premiums**

Section 4006(a)(3)(E)(iii)(II) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and § 4006.4(b)(1) of the PBGC's regulation on Premium Rates (29 CFR part 4006) prescribe use of an assumed interest rate in determining a single-employer plan's variable-rate premium. The rate is the "applicable percentage" (currently 85 percent) of the annual yield on 30-year Treasury securities for the month preceding the beginning of the plan year for which premiums are being paid (the "premium payment year"). The yield figure is reported in Federal Reserve Statistical Releases G.13 and H.15.

The assumed interest rate to be used in determining variable-rate premiums for premium payment years beginning in December 1999 is 5.23 percent (*i.e.*, 85 percent of the 6.15 percent yield figure for November 1999).

The following table lists the assumed interest rates to be used in determining

variable-rate premiums for premium payment years beginning between January 1999 and December 1999.

For premium payment years beginning in:	The assumed interest rate is:
January 1999 .....	4.30
February 1999 .....	4.39
March 1999 .....	4.56
April 1999 .....	4.74
May 1999 .....	4.72
June 1999 .....	4.94
July 1999 .....	5.13
August 1999 .....	5.08
September 1999 .....	5.16
October 1999 .....	5.16
November 1999 .....	5.32
December 1999 .....	5.23

**Multiemployer Plan Valuations Following Mass Withdrawal**

The PBGC's regulation on Duties of Plan Sponsor Following Mass Withdrawal (29 CFR part 4281) prescribes the use of interest assumptions under the PBGC's regulation on Allocation of Assets in Single-employer Plans (29 CFR part 4044). The interest assumptions applicable to valuation dates in January 2000 under part 4044 are contained in an amendment to part 4044 published elsewhere in today's **Federal Register**. Tables showing the assumptions applicable to prior periods are codified in appendix B to 29 CFR part 4044.

Issued in Washington, DC, on this 13th day of December 1999.

**David M. Strauss,**

*Executive Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.*

[FR Doc. 99-32607 Filed 12-14-99; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7708-01-P**

**RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD****Agency Forms Submitted for OMB Review**

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) has submitted the following proposal(s) for the collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for review and approval.

**Summary of Proposal(s)**

(1) *Collection title:* Gross Earnings Report.

(2) *Form(s) submitted:* BA-11.

(3) *OMB Number:* 3220-0132.

(4) *Expiration date of current OMB clearance:* 1/31/2000.

(5) *Type of request:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

(6) *Respondents:* Business or other for-profit.

(7) *Estimated annual number of respondents:* 536.

(8) *Total annual responses:* 556.

(9) *Total annual reporting hours:* 345.

(10) *Collection description:* Section 7(c)(2) of the Railroad Retirement Act requires a financial interchange between the OASDHI trust funds and the railroad retirement account. The collection obtains gross earnings of railway employees on a 1% basis. The information is used in determining the amount which would place the OASDHI trust funds in the position they would have been if railroad service had been covered by the Social Security and FIC acts.

**Additional Information or Comments**

Copies of the forms and supporting documents can be obtained from Chuck Mierzwa, the agency clearance officer (312-751-3363). Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Ronald J. Hodapp, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60611-2092 and the OMB reviewer, Lori Schack (202-395-7316), Office of Management and Budget, Room 10230, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503.

**Chuck Mierzwa,**

*Clearance Officer.*

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**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

(Release No. 34-42210; File No. SR-MSRB-99-10)

**Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board Amending Rule A-4(d), "Action Without a Meeting"**

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on December 1, 1999, the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("MSRB" or "Board") filed with Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the MSRB. The Commission is published this notice to

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.