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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Office of the Secretary

#### 7 CFR Part 12

[Docket ID NRCS–2026–0067]

RIN 0578–AA73

#### Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, USDA.

**ACTION:** Interim rule with request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is amending its regulations to ensure that wetland determinations issued after November 28, 1990, have been and will be certified as sufficient to serve as the basis for determining ineligibility for certain USDA program benefits under the Wetland Conservation provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended. Certification requires notifying the affected person at the time of the determination and informing them of their appeal rights. This interim rule addresses inconsistencies in how wetland determinations certified and issued between November 28, 1990, and July 3, 1996, have been treated. It also responds to a February 22, 2024, Federal court ruling that determined that Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) did not fully meet procedural requirements in its 2020 final rule concerning certification of pre-1996 determinations. This interim rule aligns USDA's regulations with the governing statute, legislative history, and congressional intent.

**DATES:** This rule is effective July 29, 2026. Comments concerning this rule must be received by September 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments, identified by Docket ID NRCS–2026–0067, should be sent using any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online

instructions for submitting comments; or

- *Mail or Hand-Delivery:* Public Comments Processing, Attention: National Leader for Wetland and Highly Erodible Land Conservation, USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250. In your comment, please specify the Docket ID NRCS–2026–0067.

All timely comments will be included in the rulemaking record and made available for public inspection at <https://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. Do not submit any information you consider to be private, confidential business information, or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jason Outlaw; telephone: 202–720–7838; or email: [jason.outlaw@usda.gov](mailto:jason.outlaw@usda.gov). Individuals with disabilities who require alternative means for communication should contact the USDA Target Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice and text telephone (TTY mode)) or dial 711 for Telecommunications Relay Service (both voice and text telephone users can initiate this call from any telephone).

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G. E-Government Act Compliance

#### I. Background

Title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (“the 1985 Farm Bill”; Pub. L. 99–198) encourages USDA program participants to adopt land conservation measures by linking eligibility for program benefits to farming practices on highly erodible land and wetlands. Program benefits include most USDA commodity and conservation programs, loans, and crop insurance subsidies. In particular, the wetland conservation (WC) provisions state that after December 23, 1985, a program participant is ineligible for certain USDA program benefits if they produce an agricultural commodity on a converted wetland. After November 28, 1990, participants may not convert a wetland that makes it possible to produce an agricultural commodity and still maintain eligibility for program benefits. However, if program participants meet certain conditions, some actions are exempt from the WC ineligibility provisions. The USDA regulations implementing the Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELCS) and WC provisions of the 1985 Farm Bill are found in 7 CFR part 12.

NRCS helps farm program participants comply with WC provisions by providing certified wetland determinations. As discussed later in this rule, the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (“the 1990 Farm Bill”; Pub. L. 101–624, 104 Stat. 3573) introduced the concept of wetland certification. A wetland determination is a decision regarding whether an area is a wetland, including identifying the wetland type and size, see 61 FR 47027 (September 6, 1996). The boundary of each wetland is delineated on a certified wetland determination map, see 83 FR 63052 (December 7, 2018). To receive a wetland determination, USDA program participants must complete a HELCS and WC self-certification form (AD–1026) and indicate on the form whether they have conducted (or are planning to conduct) activities that may alter land in a manner that could result in the conversion of a wetland. Examples of activities that may convert a wetland include land clearing, leveling, or the installation of drainage systems.

If the AD–1026 indicates that land is being altered in a manner that could result in wetland conversion, the

request is referred to NRCS to evaluate whether a certified wetland determination needs to be completed. If a previous wetland determination exists for the area in question, NRCS must determine its certification status. If the previous determination is certified, that certification remains valid and effective until the person affected by the certification requests that NRCS review the certification, see 61 FR 47036 (September 6, 1996). If the previous determination is not certified, NRCS must conduct a new determination.

On December 7, 2018, USDA published an interim rule in the **Federal Register** (83 FR 63046–63052) that amended 7 CFR part 12 to provide USDA program participants and stakeholders transparency concerning how USDA delineates, determines, and certifies wetlands. Regarding the certification of wetland determinations, the interim rule made the following changes to 7 CFR part 12.30:

- Wetland determinations made after November 28, 1990, and before July 3, 1996, are certified wetland determinations if: (1) the determination was issued on the June 1991 version of forms NRCS–CPA–026 or SCS–CPA–026; (2) the person affected by the determination was notified by NRCS (or, by the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) prior to October 1994) that the determination had been certified; and (3) the map depicting the determination is of sufficient quality to determine ineligibility for program benefits;

- For a wetland determination map to be of sufficient quality to determine ineligibility for program benefits, the map document must be legible enough to identify the wetland areas from other ground features; and

- Wetland determinations will be certified by NRCS on a field or subfield basis.

On August 9, 2019, the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) filed a suit in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. Among other issues, NWF contended that NRCS's 2018 interim rule violated the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) by changing its policy regarding the certification status of wetland determinations made prior to 1996 without giving a reasoned explanation. NRCS notified the court that it intended to issue a final rule so the court granted a stay while that rule could be published.

On August 28, 2020, USDA published a final rule in the **Federal Register** (85 FR 53137–53152) that adopted the provisions of the interim rule, making some changes in response to public comments received on the 2018 interim

rule. In response to comments, NRCS relocated language on conducting certified wetland determinations on a field or subfield basis from 7 CFR part 12.30(c)(1) to 7 CFR part 12.30(a)(3) to clarify that the provision only applied to determinations made after the publication of the final rule (prior to this change, determinations were conducted on a tract basis). The final rule made no additional changes to the interim rule regarding certification of wetland determinations, see 7 CFR part 12.30.

On February 22, 2024, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia issued a decision, finding that NRCS violated the APA by changing its policy regarding the certification of wetland determinations made prior to 1996 without providing a reasoned explanation (*National Wildlife Fed'n v. Lohr*, 2024 WL 727695 (D.D.C. 2024)). In its decision, the court compared the text of the 1996 regulations with the 2020 final rule and found that NRCS changed its policy to be “far more lenient towards certifying wetland maps, informally beginning around 2013 and formally in the 2020 final rule” (*Lohr*, 2024 WL 727695, at 8 (D.D.C. 2024)). More specifically, the court based its decision not only on the 2020 final rule, but also on an assessment of agency practice, indicating that from 1997 to 2013, NRCS did not consider most wetland determinations made prior to 1996 as certified, but then changed its process to be more lenient and accept them as certified, despite no official agency action. The 2024 district court decision vacated (voided) the final rule, remanding (sending) the case to NRCS for further deliberation.

## II. Purpose

NRCS is publishing this interim rule to adhere to the statutory Farm Bill provisions regarding certification and duration of wetland determinations. As stated in the *Lohr* decision, the APA requires an agency to provide a reasoned explanation when changing its prior policy position. This interim rule provides the history of previous statutes and regulations and explains NRCS's implementation of policy regarding the certification status of wetland determinations over time.

The APA also requires an agency to consider any serious reliance interests that may be affected by a change in policy (*FCC v. Fox Television Stations, Inc.*, 556 U.S. 502, 515 (2009); see also *Smiley v. Citibank (South Dakota), N. A.*, 517 U.S. 735, 742 (1996)). Considering reliance interests ensures that policy changes do not unfairly disrupt the expectations of regulated

parties who have structured their actions around existing policy. Producers who received a certified wetland determination between November 28, 1990 and July 3, 1996, faced changing policy regarding those determinations. This created uncertainty for these producers. Producers have relied on their certified wetland determinations (since 1990) when making decisions about their agricultural operations. For example, if a producer has a wetland determination showing where wetlands are located and conversely where wetlands are not located, the producer relies on this information when planning to install drainage structures that can improve crop productivity. By relying on their certified wetland determinations, producers can take these actions on non-wetlands without risk to their eligibility for USDA program benefits. Prior versions of the wetland determination policy did not account for producers' reliance interests and were contrary to statute when post-1990 determinations were considered not certified. By maintaining the certification status of these wetland determinations, a producer can rely on these determinations that were issued as certified between 1990 and 1996.

Any rule that questioned these prior determinations would destroy producers' certainty over not only future decision-making regarding farmland but also cast into doubt decisions made decades ago. The agency's policy changes and clarifications made in this rule are designed to conform to the statute while protecting producers' reliance interests. See *Perez v. Mortg. Bankers Ass'n*, 575 U.S. 92, 106 (2015) (noting that the APA requires agencies to “take[] into account” the “serious reliance interests” affected by a policy change).

To the extent that NRCS may have received deference from the courts for its previous policies towards wetland determinations made prior to 1996, that deference ended in 2024. The Supreme Court determined that courts should not defer to an agency's interpretation of the text of a statute. See *Loper Bright Enters. v. Raimondo*, 603 U.S. 369 (2024). Regardless of any prior deference, this interim rule follows the statutory language governing wetland determination certification. All wetland determinations issued after November 28, 1990, are considered certified if the person affected by the certification was notified of the certification and provided information on the right to appeal.

### III. History and Background of Wetland Determination Certification

#### A. 1985 Farm Bill—Establishment of Wetland Conservation Provisions

Title XII of the 1985 Farm Bill (Pub. L. 99–198, 99 Stat. 1504–08) established the WC provisions (informally known as “swampbuster”). The original provisions stated that producers were ineligible for certain USDA program benefits if they produced an agricultural commodity on a converted wetland, unless an exemption applied. The SCS, which was renamed NRCS in October 1994, began identifying wetlands on agricultural lands after the enactment of the 1985 Farm Bill (signed into law on December 23, 1985) and the interim final rule for 7 CFR part 12 (51 FR 23496–23508 (June 27, 1986)). SCS (and later NRCS) completed wetland determinations using information such as soil surveys and hydric soil lists, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetland Inventory maps, USDA aerial imagery, and site visits. According to the regulations, producers could appeal these determinations. However, Congress provided little direction in the 1985 Farm Bill as to how wetlands were to be identified other than the definitions for “wetland”, “converted wetland”, “hydric soil”, and “hydrophytic vegetation.” The Secretary of Agriculture (Secretary) was required to develop lists of criteria for the identification of hydric soils and hydrophytic vegetation and was mandated to consult with the Secretary of the Interior when implementing the provisions in the 1985 Farm Bill.

#### B. 1990 Farm Bill—Introduction of Certification

The 1990 Farm Bill (Pub. L. 101–624, 104 Stat. 3573) directed the Secretary to delineate wetlands on wetland delineation maps for the first time and introduced the concept of certification, stating that:

Upon providing notice to affected owners or operators, the Secretary shall certify each such map as sufficient for the purpose of making determinations of ineligibility for program benefits under section 1221 and shall, in accordance with section 1243, provide an opportunity to appeal such delineations to the Secretary prior to making such certification final.

The conference report accompanying the 1990 Farm Bill offered background on certification stating, “The Managers agree that the certification process is to provide farmers with certainty as to which of their lands are to be considered wetlands for purposes of Swampbuster.” (136 Cong. Rec. 32238 (1990)). The report also provides a

description of the “current USDA wetland delineation process” and notes that “this process is adequate for certification of any new maps delineated after the date of enactment of this Act.”

USDA issued regulations finalizing changes to the HELC and WC provisions in 7 CFR part 12, as required by the 1990 Farm Bill, in a final rule published at 56 FR 18630–18641 (Apr. 23, 1991). Through these regulations, USDA added this instruction to 7 CFR part 12.30(c): “The wetland determination and wetland delineation shall be certified as final by the SCS official 45 days after providing the [affected] person notice or, if appeal is filed with SCS, after a final appeal decision is made by SCS.” (56 FR 18640).

In May 1991, SCS revised part 512 of the National Food Security Act Manual (NFSAM) to add a “Procedure for certification” consistent with direction provided in the 1990 Farm Bill. The policy required SCS to “certify that the wetland delineations on each tract are sufficient to make determinations of eligibility for USDA program benefits” and to “Notify the [affected] person that a wetland determination has been made, and that the determination has been certified as correct and sufficient for determining eligibility for USDA programs.”

To help implement this policy, SCS revised form SCS-CPA-026 (“Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation Determination”), and beginning in June 1991, field offices used the updated form—which included the certification statement “I certify that the above determination is correct and adequate for use in determining eligibility for USDA program benefits.” The reverse side of the form provided appeal rights.

As described above, the regulations and policy resulting from the 1990 Farm Bill provided for wetland determination certification. Congress clearly stated that “the certification process is to provide farmers with certainty as to which of their lands are to be considered wetlands for purposes of Swampbuster” (136 Cong. Rec. 32238 (1990)). All affected persons who received certified determinations completed after the 1990 Farm Bill’s enactment date were provided with a certification statement by a USDA official and information notifying them of their appeal rights; therefore, these determinations are certified as a matter of law.

#### C. 1994 Memorandum of Agreement—An Effort To Provide One Answer

Following an August 1993 recommendation from the White House

Office on Environmental Policy, USDA entered into a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Department of the Interior, and the Department of the Army. The purpose of the MOA (which was signed in January 1994) was to minimize duplication and inconsistencies when implementing the WC provisions and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), which had its own requirements that could affect agricultural wetlands. The MOA outlined the agreed upon “manner in which wetland delineations and certain other determinations of waters of the United States made by the [USDA] under the [WC provisions] will be relied upon for purposes of CWA Section 404” (59 FR 2921). In effect, the MOA attempted to provide a single answer regarding the location of wetlands that could sufficiently implement both Section 404 of the CWA and the WC provisions.

The 1994 MOA had a significant impact on future NRCS policies and procedures related to wetland determination certification. Its implementation formalized a process, described in the paragraphs below, in which prior determinations were evaluated to determine if they were acceptable for implementation of both the CWA and WC provisions. As a result, a previously issued certified wetland determination could be considered insufficient and replaced with a new certified determination, without regard to whether it had already been issued as certified (because the determination was conducted after passage of the 1990 Farm Bill). Some aspects of the 1994 MOA were subsequently rendered obsolete by the 1996 Farm Bill, and it was fully nullified in 2005; however, its effect on wetland determination certification was long-lasting, particularly the concept of evaluating prior certifications for quality.

To understand the 1994 MOA’s effect on wetland determination certification, it is necessary to differentiate between determinations made before and after its effective date of January 6, 1994. For determinations made *after* that date, the MOA established which agency had the lead for wetland identification and enforcement on agricultural and non-agricultural lands. It also required SCS to work cooperatively with the Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), EPA, and USFWS to develop or update wetland mapping conventions. Determinations completed by SCS on agricultural lands *after* the effective date were certified for WC purposes and accepted by EPA and

USACE for determining CWA Section 404 wetland jurisdiction.

For determinations made *before* the effective date, the MOA did not provide specific direction on evaluating prior SCS wetland delineations. Instead, SCS issued guidance in a March 1994 NFSAM update (180–V, Third Edition (March 1994)), which stated that the 1990 Farm Bill:

. . . amended the wetland provisions of [the 1985 Farm Bill] to include a certification requirement for all wetland determinations. Since wetland determinations made before the effective date of [the 1990 Farm Bill] did not require certification, a post certification process must be used.

This “post-certification process” required that determinations completed before November 28, 1990, be “post-certified” if the determination was appealed. If the determination was not appealed, it could be considered certified only if there was a satisfactory assessment of wetland inventories (maps of potential wetlands), mapping conventions, and a sample of determinations in each field office. In effect, this required an assessment of the reference maps and procedures used to identify wetlands, as well as a sample of previously conducted determinations completed under the jurisdiction of each field office, conducted under the direction of the SCS or NRCS State Conservationist. For certifications completed after the 1990 Farm Bill but before the implementation of the 1994 MOA, the evaluation process was the same except that it added a requirement that the affected persons had to have been notified of the determination and provided appeal rights, and it omitted the requirement to assess a sample of determinations.

To summarize the policy generated by the 1994 MOA that applied retroactively to determinations issued between November 28, 1990, and January 6, 1994, determinations were considered certified if they were: (1) appealed; or (2) conducted according to adequate wetland inventories and mapping conventions and the affected person had to have been notified of the determination and provided appeal rights. Beginning on January 6, 1994 (the effective date of the 1994 MOA), all new determinations had to be completed according to jointly approved mapping conventions and were certified for USDA purposes and accepted for CWA purposes.

Because of the 1994 MOA, NRCS was at times certifying new determinations that replaced previously issued determinations, regardless of whether the previous determinations were issued before or after passage of the 1990 Farm

Bill. More importantly, the 1994 MOA introduced a process that replaced previously certified determinations based on whether they were acceptable for Section 404 of the CWA.

#### *D. 1995 Moratorium on Wetland Determinations—Congressional Concerns*

Implementation of the 1994 MOA generated significant concern in the agricultural community, particularly regarding SCS (NRCS) unilaterally changing wetland delineations. In response to these concerns, Senator Grassley introduced legislation on January 25, 1995, intending to halt NRCS wetland determinations until the new farm bill was enacted. In introductory remarks, Senator Grassley described the situation in Iowa (where new wetland determinations were being issued pursuant to the 1994 MOA), contending that “farmers can never be certain if their conduct is allowed under the current regulatory scheme” (141 Cong. Rec. S1703 (1995)).

During Daniel Glickman’s nomination hearing before Congress, he was encouraged to place a moratorium on new wetland determinations and was asked whether it would be prudent to halt the current recertification of new wetland delineations until the new farm bill was enacted. Daniel Glickman was sworn in as Secretary of Agriculture on April 5, 1995. The next day, and in response to these congressional concerns, Secretary Glickman issued a moratorium on wetland determinations, absent a specific request from the farmer. On April 13, 1995, NRCS issued direction to State Conservationists that all previously provided determinations were “frozen” and would only be replaced by new certified determinations when requested by the person affected by the existing determination. This guidance provided a form that required a signature from the affected person who requested the new wetland determination.

#### *E. 1996 Farm Bill—Further Statutory Clarification*

The Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (“the 1996 Farm Bill”; Pub. L. 104–127), signed into law on April 4, 1996, addressed ongoing concerns regarding wetland determinations by stating that a final certification remains “valid and in effect as long as the area is devoted to an agricultural use or until such time as the person affected by the certification requests review of the certification . . .” (Pub. L. 104–127, 110 Stat. 988). Consistent with this change, the 1996 Farm Bill also removed the 1990 Farm

Bill requirement for the periodic review and update of wetland delineations (which was never implemented) and added that a certified wetland delineation was not “subject to a subsequent wetland certification or delineation by the Secretary, unless requested by the [affected] person . . .” (Pub. L. 104–127, 110 Stat. 988).

On September 6, 1996, USDA issued regulations that implemented the 1996 Farm Bill changes regarding wetland certification (61 FR 47019–47038). According to section 12.30(c)(1) of these regulations, “Certification of a wetland determination means that the wetland determination is of sufficient quality to make a determination of ineligibility for program benefits under § 12.4 of this part . . .” and it goes on to state, “All wetland determinations made after July 3, 1996, will be done on a tract basis and will be considered certified wetland determinations.” Section 12.30(c)(6) states that as long as the affected person is in compliance with the wetland conservation provisions and the area is used for agricultural purposes, “a certification made under this section will remain valid and in effect until such time as the person affected by the certification requests review of the certification by NRCS.”

Because the September 1996 regulations specifically addressed only determinations made after July 3, 1996, there has been confusion about the certification status of determinations made prior to that date. However, the preamble to the September 1996 rule stated that if NRCS certified a wetland determination prior to July 3, 1996, the certification would be valid (61 FR 47025), even though the regulatory text itself was silent on pre-1996 determinations. The 1996 regulations referenced the procedures for certification in the 1994 MOA, acknowledging that the signatory agencies recognized the importance of providing certainty to the agricultural community regarding the status of wetland determinations that had *not* been certified, and stating that the agencies would coordinate to develop policies and procedures for evaluating the accuracy of existing *non-certified* determinations (61 FR 47022).

However, NRCS policy issued in November 1996 did not fully reflect the principles communicated in the 1996 Farm Bill and the September 1996 USDA regulations. Differing from the 1994 policy initially implementing the 1994 MOA, the November 1996 policy did not consider the statutory date of November 28, 1990. Instead, it based certification status on whether the existing determination met the criteria

of the 1994 MOA (and other subjective criteria). If the prior determination did not meet the MOA's criteria, it was subject to replacement with a new determination. The 1996 policy required that the affected person be notified of the proposed changes to their determination and that NRCS "encourage the [affected] person to seek a certified wetland determination" (NFSAM, 180-V, Third Edition, Amend. 2, § 519.13(d) (Nov. 1996)). To document a request under the 1996 policy, NRCS formally issued a new form, the "Request for Certified Wetland Determination/Delineation" (NRCS-CPA-38).

The November 1996 policy did not explicitly state that if NRCS had certified a wetland determination prior to July 3, 1996, the certification remained valid. However, the November 1996 policy did support the certification status of determinations conducted between November 28, 1990, and July 3, 1996, if the person affected by the determination did *not* submit a NRCS-CPA-38 requesting that the existing certified determination be changed.

#### *F. Post-1996 Farm Bill Policy*

The statement that "all wetland determinations completed after July 3, 1996 are considered certified" first appeared in an August 1998 NRCS policy update (NFSAM, 180-V, Third Edition, Amend. 3, § 514.11(a) (Aug. 1998)). The 1998 policy continued to base pre-1996 certification status on the criteria in the 1994 MOA and continued to require a signed NRCS-CPA-38 to initiate a new certified wetland determination. Therefore, the practice in the 1998 policy was a continuation of the practice established in the September 1996 regulations and subsequent November 1996 NRCS policy, and all determinations conducted after November 28, 1990, were considered certified and not subject to replacement without a request from the person affected by the determination.

In February 2005, USDA and USACE withdrew from the 1994 MOA, citing (among other things) privacy concerns and the requirement for interagency coordination when revising wetland determinations. NRCS revised its policy in August 2006, eliminating the requirement that a producer sign the NRCS-CPA-38 prior to NRCS conducting a certified wetland determination; however, a person could still request a wetland determination by completing AD-1026 or NRCS-CPA-38. Regarding post-1996 determinations, the 2006 policy provided slightly revised wording, stating that "[a]ll wetland

determinations and delineations completed after July 3, 1996, are considered as being certified," but the policy continued to base pre-1996 certification status on criteria established in the 1994 MOA (NFSAM, 180-V, Third Edition, Circular No. 1, § 514.11(a) (Aug. 2006)). However, at this time the policy regarding how previously completed determinations were provided to affected persons was changed. The policy established in 1994 said that if persons affected by the determination had previously appealed the determination or chose not to exercise their appeal rights, then they did *not* have a right to further appeal a determination. The 2006 policy created a venue for affected persons to appeal determinations, but only when the affected persons requested change to a determination issued after November 28, 1990. The 2006 policy stated that the affected person does not have appeal rights "unless he/she requests that the decision be reviewed and is consequently changed" (NFSAM, 180-V, Third Edition, Circular No. 1, § 514.51(d) (Aug. 2006)). If the determination was changed, then the affected person would have the right to appeal. The 2006 policy further bolstered the practice established in the November 1996 policy in which all determinations conducted after November 28, 1990, were considered certified and were not subject to replacement unless an affected person requested a review of the determination.

In January 2008, NRCS modified its certification policy (NFSAM, 180-V, Fourth Edition, Amend. 4, § 514.1(A)(1) (Jan. 2008)) to reflect 7 CFR 12.30(c)(1) and to read as follows:

Certification of a wetland determination means that the wetland determination is of sufficient quality to make a determination of ineligibility for USDA program benefits. All wetland determinations made after July 3, 1996, are considered certified determinations.

The 2008 policy removed any reference to evaluating prior determinations to meet established criteria stating that "All certified wetland determinations, conditions, and exemptions remain valid and in effect as long as the area is devoted to an agricultural use or until such time as the person affected by the certification requests review of the certification" consistent with 16 U.S.C. 3822 (a)(4). For the first time, NRCS policy clearly communicated the 1996 statutory and regulatory provisions regarding duration of certification (NFSAM, 180-V, Fourth Edition, Amend. 4, § 514.1(C) (Jan. 2008)).

The fifth edition of the NFSAM was issued in January 2010 and addressed determinations made before July 3, 1996, by adding the following text to the 2008 policy statement on certification: "Determinations made prior to July 3, 1996, are considered certified if they met the procedural (appeal rights) and quality mandates as provided in 7 CFR part 12" (NFSAM, 180-V, Fifth Edition, § 514.1(A)(1) (Jan. 2010)). However, no further guidance was provided on how determinations met the procedural and quality mandates.

In response to a recommendation in a USDA Office of Inspector General (OIG) audit report, NRCS issued policy in January 2017 that was later incorporated into December 2018 and August 2020 rules. This policy confirmed that determinations issued between 1990 and 1996 were certified if: (1) the person was notified of the certification and provided appeal rights; and (2) the map document was of sufficient quality to determine the location of designated wetlands in relation to other ground features.

#### **IV. Summary of This Rulemaking**

This interim rule establishes that all wetland determinations issued after November 28, 1990, are certified if the person was notified of the certification and provided appeal rights when the determination was issued.

##### *A. What This Rule Means*

Farmers, ranchers, forest landowners, and land managers must comply with the wetland conservation provisions of the 1985 Farm Bill to maintain their eligibility for USDA program benefits. NRCS helps producers maintain their eligibility by providing certified wetland determinations. When determinations indicate that wetlands are present, producers have the option to tailor their activities to avoid wetland conversion so that they can continue to receive USDA program benefits, or they may receive a statutory exemption (such as mitigation for wetland conversion impacts) to maintain eligibility for USDA programs. If the wetland determination does not indicate wetlands are present, the producer can proceed with their activities without risk to their USDA program eligibility.

As discussed in this interim rule, there has been confusion on the status of wetland determinations issued between November 28, 1990, and July 3, 1996; however, the statutory basis for the certification status of these determinations is clear. If a determination is certified, a producer can immediately act based on the certification and does not have to

undergo the administrative and technical wetland determination process of obtaining a new determination. If a producer disagrees with a certified wetland determination, the producer can ask for the existing certification to be reviewed. In addition, according to the current regulation in 7 CFR part 12.30(c)(6), which is unaffected by this rulemaking, a producer may request review of a certified wetland determination if a natural event has altered the topography or hydrology of the land, or if NRCS agrees that an error exists.

This interim rule provides certainty to producers who have a certified determination issued any time between November 28, 1990, and July 3, 1996. By clarifying the regulation to ensure conformance with the statutory provisions, administrative burden is reduced for both the producer and NRCS by avoiding the additional work created by new wetland determinations that would unnecessarily replace issued determinations that are legally certified. Current regulations provide the opportunity for a producer to request review of a certification if the producer disagrees with their existing certified determination.

#### *B. Change in Policy Reflected in This Rule*

Prior to NRCS's January 2017 guidance, its policy on wetland determination certification was contained in the 2010 NFSAM, 180–V, Fifth Edition, § 514.1(A)(1) (Jan. 2010):

Certification of a wetland determination means that the wetland determination is of sufficient quality to make a determination of ineligibility for USDA program benefits. All wetland determinations made after July 3, 1996, are considered certified determinations (7 CFR 12.30(c)(1)). Determinations made prior to July 3, 1996, are considered certified if they met the procedural (appeal rights) and quality mandates as provided in 7 CFR 12.

Implementation of this policy was inconsistent, and consequently, treatment of pre-1996 wetland determinations was inconsistent, which was captured in the findings of the previously mentioned 2017 OIG report. OIG observed that NRCS was rejecting most pre-1996 determinations as certified, and then later began accepting them as certified beginning in 2013.

This inconsistent treatment of pre-1996 determinations can be attributed to a lack of definitive criteria in the 2010 policy provided above. When considering the status of a pre-1996 determination, NRCS had to determine if it “met the procedural (appeal rights) and quality mandates as provided in 7 CFR 12” (NFSAM, 180–V, Fifth Edition,

§ 514.1(A)(1) (Jan. 2010)). The procedural requirement was clearly met if there was evidence that appeal rights were provided with the determination. However, applying the quality mandate was more difficult. With no criteria provided in the policy, staff had to consider the “quality mandates as provided in 7 CFR 12” for additional criteria. Referring to the CFR, staff would only discover that “Certification of a wetland determination means that the wetland determination is of sufficient quality to make a determination of ineligibility for program benefits” (61 FR 47036). Consequently, to evaluate a pre-1996 determination according to the quality mandate, staff needed to decide if the certification was “of sufficient quality to make a determination of ineligibility for program benefits” without any additional guidance on what qualified as “sufficient quality.”

This interim rule does not constitute a change in the certification status of pre-1996 determinations as established in the regulatory preamble to the 1996 text, which stated that “If NRCS certified a wetland determination prior to July 3, 1996, the certification will remain valid” (61 FR 47025). However, this interim rule changes how these determinations will be treated. Previously, discretion was left to NRCS to decide if a determination conducted between November 28, 1990, and July 3, 1996, was certified; however, this rule confirms that those determinations are certified if the person affected by the determination was notified of the certification and provided appeal rights.

This interim rule reflects the statutory language of the 1990 Farm Bill which required that a determination be certified as sufficient for the purpose of making a determination of ineligibility for program benefits, at the time it was issued, and the statutory language of the 1996 Farm Bill which requires that such determinations remain valid as long as the area is devoted to an agricultural use or until such time as the person affected by the certification requests review. The change to adhere to the statutory text provides certainty to producers so they can rely on their existing certified determination while continuing to manage their agricultural operations. Clarity is also provided on how to implement these statutory provisions, removing the prior subjectivity left in interpreting the “quality” mandate.

#### *C. Justification for the Interim Rule*

The certification status of determinations issued after November 28, 1990, is based on legislative and regulatory history:

- Regulations and policy were put in place following the 1990 Farm Bill to certify determinations, and Congress intended the certification process to provide farmers with certainty about whether their lands were considered wetlands;

- Congress raised concerns regarding the constant replacing of previous determinations under the 1994 MOA, as changing determinations undermined the reliance of producers on previous certified determinations; and

- The 1996 Farm Bill addressed these concerns by clarifying that a final certification remains “valid and in effect as long as the area is devoted to an agricultural use or until such time as the person affected by the certification requests review of the certification by the Secretary.” (Pub. L. 104–127, 110 Stat. 988).

In the preamble to the regulations implementing the 1996 Farm Bill, USDA explained that a certified wetland determination made prior to July 3, 1996, remained valid.

Despite the preamble's clarity, some confusion remained because the regulation itself only addressed determinations conducted after July 3, 1996. In clarifying the status of determinations made prior to July 3, 1996, NRCS is adhering to the statutory direction provided by Congress while taking into consideration the reliance interest of producers by confirming the status of their wetland determinations. NRCS has no independent authority to question prior certified wetland determinations of land in agricultural use. Only a person affected by the prior determination may request a review of their determination.

#### **V. Regulatory Certifications**

##### *A. Executive Orders 12866, 13563, and 14192*

Executive Order 12866, “Regulatory Planning and Review,” and Executive Order 13563, “Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review,” direct agencies to assess all costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects, distributive impacts, and equity). Executive Order 13563 emphasized the importance of quantifying both costs and benefits, of reducing costs, of harmonizing rules, and of promoting flexibility. Executive Order 14192, “Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation,” announced the Administration policy to significantly reduce the private expenditures

required to comply with Federal regulations to secure America's economic prosperity and national security and the highest possible quality of life for each citizen and to alleviate unnecessary regulatory burdens placed on the American people. In line with the Executive Order requirements, the Agency chose this regulatory approach, which provides clarity with respect to the certification status of wetland determinations issued between November 28, 1990, and July 3, 1996, to minimize burden on American producers. This rule is not an Executive Order 14192 regulatory action because it does not impose any more than de minimis regulatory costs.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) designated this rule as not significant under Executive Order 12866.

#### *B. Regulatory Flexibility Act*

The Regulatory Flexibility Act is not applicable to this rule because USDA is not required by 5 U.S.C. 553 or any other provisions of law to publish a notice of proposed rulemaking with respect to the subject matter of this rule.

#### *C. Environmental Review*

As previously mentioned, the 1996 Farm Bill clarified that a final certification remains "valid and in effect as long as the area is devoted to an agricultural use or until such time as the person affected by the certification requests review of the certification by the Secretary." (16 U.S.C. 3822(a)(4)). Because this rule implements that clear congressional direction on the status and treatment of previously conducted and issued wetland determinations, it is not necessary to take any action other than what is set forth in this rule to confirm the certification of the wetland determinations issued as certified after November 28, 1990. According to USDA regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA, 42 U.S.C. 4321–4347), NEPA does not apply in circumstances where Congress has prescribed, by statute, decisional criteria with sufficient completeness and precision such that a Federal agency retains no residual discretion to alter its action based on the consideration of environmental factors (7 CFR part 1b.2(e)(4)). Similarly, the Endangered Species Act applies only to actions in which the agency has discretionary Federal involvement or control (50 CFR 402.03). Therefore, USDA will not prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement for this action, nor will it undergo consultation

under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

#### *D. Executive Order 13175*

This rule has been reviewed in accordance with Executive Order 13175, "Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments." Executive Order 13175 requires Federal agencies to consult and coordinate with Tribes on a Government-to-Government basis on policies that have Tribal implications, including regulations, legislative comments or proposed legislation, and other policy statements or actions that have substantial direct effects on one or more Indian Tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian Tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian Tribes.

USDA has assessed the impact of this rule on Indian Tribes and determined that this rule does not, to our knowledge, have Tribal implications that required Tribal consultation at this time. If a Tribe requests consultation in the future, NRCS's Federal Preservation Officer will work with the Office of Tribal Relations, as needed, to ensure meaningful consultation is provided.

#### *E. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act*

Title II of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA, Pub. L. 104–4) requires Federal agencies to assess the effects of their regulatory actions on State, local, and Tribal governments or the private sector. Agencies generally must prepare a written statement, including cost benefit analysis, for proposed and final rules with Federal mandates that may result in expenditures of \$100 million or more in any 1 year for State, local or Tribal governments, in the aggregate, or to the private sector. UMRA generally requires agencies to consider alternatives and adopt the more cost effective or least burdensome alternative that achieves the objectives of the rule. This rule contains no Federal mandates, as defined in Title II of UMRA, for State, local, and Tribal governments or the private sector. Therefore, this rule is not subject to the requirements of sections 202 and 205 of UMRA.

#### *F. Paperwork Reduction Act, Congressional Review Act, and Effective Date*

Section 1246 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3846) provides that regulations issued under Title XII of such Act, including those at 7 CFR part 12, are exempt from the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) and are to be published as

interim rules that are effective upon publication with an opportunity for notice and comment. The section also requires the Secretary to use the authority at 5 U.S.C. 808 regarding the effective date of the rule for purposes of the Congressional Review Act (CRA). Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 808(2), the Secretary has determined that there is good cause to waive the 60-day delayed effective date otherwise required by the CRA because the rule implements a statutory mandate that the regulations be effective immediately upon publication. Delaying effectiveness would leave producers without clarity on certification status, undermining the reliance interests of agricultural producers and delaying critical program administration. Making this rule effective immediately is therefore necessary, reasonable, and not contrary to the public interest.

#### *G. E-Government Act Compliance*

USDA is committed to complying with the E-Government Act of 2002, to promote the use of the internet and other information technologies to provide increased opportunities for citizen access to Government information and services, and for other purposes.

#### *Federal Assistance Programs*

This rule has a potential impact on participants for many programs listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance in the Agency Program Index under the Department of Agriculture.

#### **List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 12**

Administrative practice and procedure, Coastal zone, Crop insurance, Flood plains, Loan programs—agriculture, Price support programs, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Soil conservation.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, USDA amends 7 CFR part 12 as follows:

#### **PART 12—HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND CONSERVATION AND WETLAND CONSERVATION**

- 1. The authority citation for part 12 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 3801, 3811–12, 3812a, 3813–3814, and 3821–3824.

#### **Subpart C—Wetland Conservation**

- 2. Amend § 12.30 by revising paragraph (c)(1) to read as follows:

#### **§ 12.30 NRCS responsibilities regarding wetlands.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(c) *Certification of wetland determinations and wetland delineations.* (1) Certification of a wetland determination means that the wetland determination is sufficient for the purpose of making a determination of ineligibility for program benefits under § 12.4. NRCS may certify a wetland determination without making a field investigation. NRCS must notify the person affected by the certification and provide an opportunity to appeal the determination prior to the certification becoming final. All wetland determinations issued after November 28, 1990, are considered certified if the person affected by the certification was notified of the certification and provided information on the right to appeal.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Stephen Vaden,**

*Deputy Secretary, United States Department of Agriculture.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15284 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–16–P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2026–3874; Project Identifier MCAI–2025–01426–T; Amendment 39–23425; AD 2026–15–13]

RIN 2120–AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The FAA is superseding Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2025–16–12, which applied to all Airbus SAS Model A319–151N, –153N, –171N, and –173N airplanes; Model A320–251N, –252N, –253N, –271N, –272N, and –273N airplanes; and Model A321–251N, –252N, –253N, –271N, –272N, –251NX, –252NX, –253NX, –271NX, –272NX, –253NY, and –271NY airplanes. AD 2025–16–12 required revising the existing airplane flight manual (AFM) and the existing FAA-approved minimum equipment list (MEL), allowed replacement of each affected high-pressure bleed valve (HPV) as an optional terminating action, and prohibited the installation of affected parts. Since the FAA issued AD 2025–16–12, the FAA has determined that repetitive replacement of the HPV clips is necessary to address the unsafe

condition. This AD continues to require the actions in AD 2025–16–12 and requires repetitive replacement of each affected HPV clip. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

**DATES:** This AD is effective September 2, 2026.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of a certain publication listed in this AD as of August 29, 2025 (90 FR 39102, August 14, 2025; corrected August 22, 2025 (90 FR 40964)).

#### ADDRESSES:

**AD Docket:** You may examine the AD docket at [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) under Docket No. FAA–2026–3874; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this final rule, the mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI), any comments received, and other information. The address for Docket Operations is U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

#### Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) material identified in this AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email [ADS@easa.europa.eu](mailto:ADS@easa.europa.eu). You may find this material on the EASA website at [ad.easa.europa.eu](https://ad.easa.europa.eu).

- You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195. It is also available at [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) under Docket No. FAA–2026–3874.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Frank Carreras, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA 98198; phone: 206–231–3539; email: [Frank.Carreras@faa.gov](mailto:Frank.Carreras@faa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

The FAA issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend 14 CFR part 39 to supersede AD 2025–16–12, Amendment 39–23110 (90 FR 39102, August 14, 2025; corrected August 22, 2025 (90 FR 40964)) (AD 2025–16–12). AD 2025–16–12 applied to all Airbus SAS Model A319–151N, –153N, –171N, and –173N airplanes; Model A320–251N, –252N, –253N, –271N, –272N, and –273N airplanes; and Model A321–251N, –252N, –253N, –271N, –272N,

–251NX, –252NX, –253NX, –271NX, –272NX, –253NY, and –271NY airplanes. AD 2025–16–12 required revising the existing AFM and the existing FAA-approved MEL, allowed replacement of each affected HPV as an optional terminating action, and prohibited the installation of affected parts. The FAA issued AD 2025–16–12 to address high pressure and temperatures in the duct downstream from the pressure regulating valve, which could lead to duct burst and result in damage to several systems or the airframe and consequent loss of control of the airplane.

The NPRM was published in the **Federal Register** on April 29, 2026 (91 FR 23025). The NPRM was prompted by EASA AD 2025–0096, dated April 28, 2025 (EASA AD 2025–0096) (also referred to as the MCAI), issued by EASA, which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Union. The MCAI states that occurrences were reported of HPV butterfly seal retention clip rupture, which causes the butterfly seals to no longer be retained in the butterfly groove. This may increase internal leakage, triggering an alert that the HPV has failed in the open condition. It may also release foreign object debris, which could damage the systems (e.g., engine bleed air system and pneumatic system) downstream from the HPV on the engine pylon and wing.

In the NPRM, the FAA proposed to continue to require the actions in AD 2025–16–12 and require repetitive replacement of each affected HPV clip, as specified in EASA AD 2025–0096. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) under Docket No. FAA–2026–3874.

#### Discussion of Final Airworthiness Directive

##### Comments

The FAA received a comment from the Air Line Pilots Association, International (ALPA) who supported the NPRM without change.

##### Conclusion

These products have been approved by the civil aviation authority of another country and are approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA's bilateral agreement with this State of Design Authority, that authority has notified the FAA of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI referenced above. The FAA reviewed the relevant data, considered any comments received, and determined

that air safety requires adopting this AD as proposed. Accordingly, the FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products. Except for minor editorial changes, this AD is adopted as proposed in the NPRM. None of the changes will increase the economic burden on any operator.

#### Material Incorporated by Reference Under 1 CFR Part 51

This AD requires EASA AD 2025–0096, dated April 28, 2025, which the Director of the Federal Register approved for incorporation by reference as of August 29, 2025 (90 FR 39102, August 14, 2025; corrected August 22, 2025 (90 FR 40964)).

This material is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in the **ADDRESSES** section.

#### Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD affects 554 airplanes of U.S. registry. The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this AD:

#### ESTIMATED COSTS FOR REQUIRED ACTIONS

| Action                                    | Labor cost                                 | Parts cost | Cost per product | Cost on U.S. operators |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Retained actions from AD 2025–16–12 ..... | 2 work-hours × \$85 per hour = \$170 ..... | \$0        | \$170            | \$94,180               |
| New actions .....                         | 5 work-hours × \$85 per hour = \$425 ..... | 383        | 808              | 447,632                |

#### ESTIMATED COSTS FOR OPTIONAL TERMINATING ACTION

| Labor cost                                    | Parts cost | Cost per product |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------|------------------|
| 32 work-hours × \$85 per hour = \$2,720 ..... | \$2,800    | \$5,520          |

#### Authority for This Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII: Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

The FAA is issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements. Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

#### Regulatory Findings

This AD will not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This AD will not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that this AD:

- (1) Is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866,
- (2) Will not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and

(3) Will not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

#### List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

#### The Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA amends 14 CFR part 39 as follows:

#### PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

- 1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701.

##### § 39.13 [Amended]

- 2. The FAA amends § 39.13 by:
  - a. Removing Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2025–16–12, Amendment 39–23110 (90 FR 39102, August 14, 2025; corrected August 22, 2025 (90 FR 40964)); and
  - b. Adding the following new AD:

**2026–15–13 Airbus SAS:** Amendment 39–23425; Docket No. FAA–2026–3874; Project Identifier MCAI–2025–01426–T.

##### (a) Effective Date

This airworthiness directive (AD) is effective September 2, 2026.

##### (b) Affected ADs

This AD replaces AD 2025–16–12, Amendment 39–23110 (90 FR 39102, August

14, 2025; corrected August 22, 2025 (90 FR 40964)) (AD 2025–16–12).

##### (c) Applicability

This AD applies to all Airbus SAS airplanes identified in paragraphs (c)(1) through (3) of this AD, certificated in any category.

(1) Model A319–151N, –153N, –171N, and –173N airplanes.

(2) Model A320–251N, –252N, –253N, –271N, –272N, and –273N airplanes.

(3) Model A321–251N, –252N, –253N, –271N, –272N, –251NX, –252NX, –253NX, –271NX, –272NX, –253NY, and –271NY airplanes.

##### (d) Subject

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 36, Pneumatic.

##### (e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by occurrences of high-pressure bleed valve (HPV) butterfly seal retention clip rupture. The FAA is issuing this AD to address high pressure and temperatures in the duct downstream from the pressure regulating valve, which could lead to duct burst and result in damage to several systems or the airframe and consequent loss of control of the airplane.

##### (f) Compliance

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

##### (g) Requirements

Except as specified in paragraph (h) of this AD: Comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with, European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2025–0096, dated April 28, 2025 (EASA AD 2025–0096).

**(h) Exceptions to EASA AD 2025–0096**

(1) Where paragraphs (1) and (6.2) of EASA AD 2025–0096 refer to its effective date, this AD requires August 29, 2025 (the effective date of AD 2025–16–12).

(2) Where paragraph (4) of EASA AD 2025–0096 refers to its effective date, this AD requires using the effective date of this AD.

(3) Where paragraphs (1) and (3) of EASA AD 2025–0096 specify to “inform all flight crews, and, thereafter, operate the aeroplane accordingly,” this AD does not require those actions as those actions are already required by existing FAA operating regulations (see 14 CFR 91.9, 91.505, 121.137, and 121.628(a)(2) and (a)(5)).

(4) Where paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2025–0096 specifies to “implement the instructions of the MMEL update, as applicable, depending on aeroplane configuration (see Note 1 of this AD), on the basis of which the operator’s MEL must be amended”, this AD requires replacing that text with “revise the operator’s existing FAA-approved MEL by incorporating the applicable information identified in “The MMEL update” as defined in EASA AD 2025–0096”.

(5) Where the service information required by EASA AD 2025–0096 specifies discarding parts, this AD requires removing those parts from service.

(6) This AD does not adopt the “Remarks” section of EASA AD 2025–0096.

**(i) Additional AD Provisions**

The following provisions also apply to this AD:

(1) *Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)*: the Manager, AIR–520, Continued Operational Safety Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or responsible Flight Standards Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the Continued Operational Safety Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (j)(1) of this AD and email to: [AMOC@faa.gov](mailto:AMOC@faa.gov). Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the responsible Flight Standards Office.

(2) *Contacting the Manufacturer*: For any requirement in this AD to obtain instructions from a manufacturer, the instructions must be accomplished using a method approved by the Manager, AIR–520, Continued Operational Safety Branch, FAA; or EASA; or Airbus SAS’s EASA Design Organization Approval (DOA). If approved by the DOA, the approval must include the DOA-authorized signature.

(3) *Required for Compliance (RC)*: Except as required by paragraph (i)(2) of this AD, if any material contains procedures or tests that are identified as RC, those procedures and tests must be done to comply with this AD; any procedures or tests that are not identified as RC are recommended. Those procedures and tests that are not identified as RC may be deviated from using accepted methods in accordance with the operator’s maintenance or inspection program without obtaining approval of an AMOC, provided the

procedures and tests identified as RC can be done and the airplane can be put back in an airworthy condition. Any substitutions or changes to procedures or tests identified as RC require approval of an AMOC.

**(j) Additional Information**

(1) For more information about this AD, contact Frank Carreras, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA 98198; phone: 206–231–3539; email: [Frank.Carreras@faa.gov](mailto:Frank.Carreras@faa.gov).

(2) For Airbus material identified in this AD that is not incorporated by reference, contact Airbus SAS, Airworthiness Office—ELAS, Rond-Point Emile Dewoitine No: 2, 31700 Blagnac Cedex, France; telephone +33 5 61 93 36 96; fax +33 5 61 93 44 51; email [account.airworth-eas@airbus.com](mailto:account.airworth-eas@airbus.com); website [airbus.com](http://airbus.com).

**(k) Material Incorporated by Reference**

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference (IBR) of the material listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this material as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless this AD specifies otherwise.

(3) The following material was approved for IBR on August 29, 2025 (90 FR 39102, August 14, 2025; corrected August 22, 2025 (90 FR 40964)).

(i) European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2025–0096, dated April 28, 2025.

(ii) [Reserved]

(4) For EASA material identified in this AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email [ADs@easa.europa.eu](mailto:ADs@easa.europa.eu). You may find this material on the EASA website at [ad.easa.europa.eu](http://ad.easa.europa.eu).

(5) You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195.

(6) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit [www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations](http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations) or email [fr.inspection@nara.gov](mailto:fr.inspection@nara.gov).

Issued on July 23, 2026.

**Brian Knaup,**

*Acting Deputy Director, Integrated Certificate Management Division, Aircraft Certification Service.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15308 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–13–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES****Food and Drug Administration****21 CFR Part 892**

[Docket No. FDA–2026–N–7955]

**Medical Devices; Radiology Devices; Classification of the Phase-Changing Fiducial Marker for Radiation Therapy**

**AGENCY:** Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

**ACTION:** Final amendment; final order.

**SUMMARY:** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is classifying the phase-changing fiducial marker for radiation therapy into class II (special controls). The special controls that apply to the device type are identified in this order and will be part of the codified language for classification of the phase-changing fiducial marker for radiation therapy. We are taking this action because we have determined that classifying the device into class II will provide a reasonable assurance of safety and effectiveness of the device. We believe this action will also enhance patients’ access to beneficial innovative devices, in part by reducing regulatory burdens.

**DATES:** This order is effective July 29, 2026. The classification was applicable on December 23, 2022.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lora Weidner, Center for Devices and Radiological Health, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 66, Rm. 3652, Silver Spring, MD 20993–0002, 240–402–6424, [Lora.Weidner@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Lora.Weidner@fda.hhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****I. Background**

Upon request, FDA (the Agency or we) has classified the phase-changing fiducial marker for radiation therapy into class II (special controls), which we have determined will provide a reasonable assurance of safety and effectiveness of the device. In addition, we believe this action will enhance patients’ access to beneficial innovation, in part by reducing regulatory burdens by placing the device into a lower device class than the automatic class III assignment.

The automatic assignment of class III occurs by operation of law and without any action by FDA, regardless of the level of risk posed by the new device. Any device that was not in commercial distribution before May 28, 1976, is automatically classified into, and remains within, class III and requires

premarket approval unless and until FDA takes an action to classify or reclassify the device (21 U.S.C. 360c(f)(1)). We refer to these devices as “postamendments devices” because they were not in commercial distribution prior to the date of enactment of the Medical Device Amendments of 1976, which amended the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act).

FDA may take a variety of actions in appropriate circumstances to classify or reclassify a device into class I or II. We may issue an order finding a new device to be substantially equivalent under section 513(i) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. 360c(i)) to a predicate device that does not require premarket approval. We determine whether a new device is substantially equivalent to a predicate device by means of the procedures for premarket notification under section 510(k) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. 360(k)) and part 807 (21 CFR part 807).

FDA may also classify a device through “De Novo” classification, a common name for the process authorized under section 513(f)(2) of the FD&C Act (see also part 860, subpart D (21 CFR part 860, subpart D)). Section 207 of the Food and Drug Administration Modernization Act of 1997 (Pub. L. 105–115) established the first procedure for De Novo classification. Section 607 of the Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act (Pub. L. 112–144) modified the De Novo classification process by adding a second procedure. A device sponsor may utilize either procedure for De Novo classification.

Under the first procedure, the person submits a premarket notification (510(k)) for a device that has not previously been classified. After receiving an order from FDA classifying the device into class III under section

513(f)(1) of the FD&C Act, the person then requests a classification under section 513(f)(2).

Under the second procedure, rather than first submitting a 510(k) and then a request for classification, if the person determines that there is no legally marketed device upon which to base a determination of substantial equivalence, that person requests a classification under section 513(f)(2) of the FD&C Act.

Under either procedure for De Novo classification, FDA is required to classify the device by written order within 120 days. The classification will be according to the criteria under section 513(a)(1) of the FD&C Act. Although the device was automatically placed within class III, the De Novo classification is considered to be the initial classification of the device.

We believe this De Novo classification will enhance patients’ access to beneficial innovation, in part by reducing regulatory burdens. When FDA classifies a device into class I or II via the De Novo process, the device can serve as a predicate for future devices of that type, including for 510(k)s (see section 513(f)(2)(B)(i) of the FD&C Act). As a result, other device sponsors do not have to submit a De Novo request or premarket approval application to market a substantially equivalent device (see section 513(i) of the FD&C Act, defining “substantial equivalence”). Instead, sponsors can use the less burdensome 510(k) process, when necessary, to market their device.

## II. De Novo Classification

For this device, FDA issued an order on August 13, 2015, finding the BioXmark not substantially equivalent to a predicate not subject to PMA. Thus, the device remained in class III in

accordance with section 513(f)(1) of the FD&C Act when we issued the order.

On March 4, 2022, FDA received Nanovi A/S’s request for De Novo classification of the BioXmark device. FDA reviewed the request in order to classify the device under the criteria for classification set forth in section 513(a)(1) of the FD&C Act.

We classify devices into class II if general controls by themselves are insufficient to provide reasonable assurance of safety and effectiveness of the device, but there is sufficient information to establish special controls that, in combination with the general controls, provide reasonable assurance of the safety and effectiveness of the device for its intended use (see section 513(a)(1)(B) of the FD&C Act). After review of the information submitted in the request, we determined that the device can be classified into class II with the establishment of special controls. FDA has determined that these special controls, in addition to the general controls, will provide reasonable assurance of the safety and effectiveness of the device.

Therefore, on December 23, 2022, FDA issued an order to the requester classifying the device into class II. In this final order, FDA is codifying the classification of the device by adding 21 CFR 892.5727.<sup>1</sup> We have named the generic type of device “phase-changing fiducial marker for radiation therapy,” and it is identified as a single-use, sterile liquid material that changes phase in situ when injected in tissue for the purposes of aiding radiation therapy treatment. The device is intended to be visualized using one or more radiologic imaging modalities.

FDA has identified the risks to health associated with this type of device and the measures required to mitigate these risks in table 1.

TABLE 1—RISKS TO HEALTH AND MITIGATION MEASURES FOR PHASE-CHANGING FIDUCIAL MARKERS FOR RADIATION THERAPY

| Identified risks to health                                                                                 | Mitigation measures                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Adverse tissue reaction .....                                                                              | Biocompatibility evaluation; and Animal performance testing.                                     |
| Interference with image-guided radiation therapy or radiotherapy response assessment.                      | Clinical performance testing; Non-clinical performance testing; and Labeling.                    |
| Treatment delays due to device malfunction, marker migration, or inability to locate marker on imaging.    | Clinical performance testing; Non-clinical performance testing; and Labeling.                    |
| Infection .....                                                                                            | Sterilization validation; Shelf life testing; and Labeling.                                      |
| Inaccurate radiation dose delivery due to incorrect marker positioning, marker migration, or implantation. | Clinical performance testing; Non-clinical performance testing; Usability testing; and Labeling. |
| Complications due to implantation of marker or marker migration .....                                      | Clinical performance testing; Animal performance testing; and Labeling.                          |

<sup>1</sup> FDA notes that the “ACTION” caption for this final order is styled as “Final amendment; final order,” rather than “Final order.” Beginning in December 2019, this editorial change was made to

indicate that the document “amends” the Code of Federal Regulations. The change was made in accordance with the Office of Federal Register’s (OFR) interpretations of the Federal Register Act (44

U.S.C. chapter 15), its implementing regulations (1 CFR 5.9 and parts 21 and 22), and the Document Drafting Handbook.

FDA has determined that special controls, in combination with the general controls, address these risks to health and provide reasonable assurance of safety and effectiveness of the device. For a device to fall within this classification, and thus avoid automatic classification in class III, it would have to comply with the special controls named in this final order. The necessary special controls appear in the regulation codified by this final order. FDA supports the principles of the “3Rs,” to replace, reduce, and/or refine animal use in testing when feasible. We encourage sponsors to consult with us if they wish to use a non-animal testing method they believe is suitable, adequate, validated, and feasible. We will consider if such an alternative method could be assessed for equivalency to an animal test method.

Under the FD&C Act, submission of a premarket notification under section 510(k) is required to reasonably assure the safety and effectiveness of class II devices unless FDA determines that the device type should be exempt under section 510(m) of the FD&C Act. At this time FDA has not made this determination for phase-changing fiducial markers for radiation therapy. This device is therefore subject to premarket notification requirements under section 510(k) of the FD&C Act.

### III. Analysis of Environmental Impact

The Agency has determined under 21 CFR 25.34(b) that this action is of a type that does not normally have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required.

### IV. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

This final order establishes special controls that refer to previously approved collections of information found in other FDA regulations and guidance. These collections of information are subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3521). The collections of information in part 860, subpart D, regarding De Novo classification have been approved under OMB control number 0910–0844; the collections of information in 21 CFR part 814, subparts A through E, regarding premarket approval have been approved under OMB control number 0910–0231; the collections of information in part 807, subpart E, regarding premarket notification submissions have been approved under OMB control number 0910–0120; the

collections of information in 21 CFR part 820 regarding quality management system regulation have been approved under OMB control number 0910–0073; and the collections of information in 21 CFR part 801 regarding labeling have been approved under OMB control number 0910–0485.

### List of Subjects in 21 CFR Part 892

Medical devices, Radiation protection, X-rays.

Therefore, under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and under authority delegated to the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, 21 CFR part 892 is amended as follows:

### PART 892—RADIOLOGY DEVICES

- 1. The authority citation for part 892 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 21 U.S.C. 351, 360, 360c, 360e, 360j, 360l, 371.

- 2. Add § 892.5727 to subpart F to read as follows:

#### § 892.5727 Phase-changing fiducial marker for radiation therapy.

(a) *Identification.* A phase-changing fiducial marker for radiation therapy is a single-use, sterile liquid material that changes phase in situ when injected in tissue for the purposes of aiding radiation therapy treatment. The device is intended to be visualized using one or more radiologic imaging modalities.

(b) *Classification.* Class II (special controls). The special controls for this device are:

(1) Clinical performance data under anticipated conditions of use must evaluate:

(i) Risk of marker migration in tissue during the course of radiation therapy through post-treatment follow-up;

(ii) The ability to visualize the marker to allow for adequate localization during the course of radiation therapy through post-treatment follow-up;

(iii) Risk of device interference with tumor response assessment post-treatment; and

(iv) All adverse events.

(2) Animal performance data under anticipated conditions of use must evaluate device toxicity and the risk of marker migration.

(3) Non-clinical performance data under anticipated conditions of use must evaluate:

(i) Maintenance of physical form throughout the course of therapy and post-treatment follow-up;

(ii) Device visibility on one or more radiologic imaging modalities; and

(iii) Device interference with radiation dose delivery.

(4) Performance testing must demonstrate the patient-contacting

components of the device are biocompatible.

(5) Performance testing must support the shelf life of the device by demonstrating continued sterility, package integrity, and device functionality over the labeled shelf life.

(6) Performance testing must demonstrate device sterility and non-pyrogenicity.

(7) Usability testing must demonstrate that the device can be positioned as indicated based solely on reading the directions for use.

(8) The labeling must include:

(i) A detailed description of the device including materials and composition, chemical and physical properties, a description of the mechanism of the change of phase, and timeframe for achieving final state;

(ii) Summary of all reported device-related adverse events from clinical testing;

(iii) Information describing the injection procedure, including any use of image guidance, and the range of compatible injection needle gauges; and

(iv) A shelf life.

**Grace R. Graham,**

*Deputy Commissioner for Policy, Legislation, and International Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15303 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4164–01–P**

### PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

#### 29 CFR Part 4044

#### Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing Benefits

##### Correction

In rule document 2026–13124, appearing on pages 39463–39465 in the issue of Tuesday, June 30, 2026, make the following corrections:

#### PART 4044—ALLOCATION OF ASSETS IN SINGLE-EMPLOYER PLANS

##### § 4044.54 [Corrected].

■ 1. On page 39464, the table, the heading titled “TABLE 1 TO PARAGRAPH—SPREADS” should read “TABLE 1 TO PARAGRAPH(e)—SPREADS”

■ 2. On page 39465, in the table, the heading titled “TABLE 1 TO PARAGRAPH—SPREADS—Continued” should read “TABLE 1 TO

PARAGRAPH(e)—SPREADS—  
Continued”

[FR Doc. C1–2026–13124 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 0099–10–P

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND  
SECURITY****Coast Guard****33 CFR Part 165**

[Docket Number USCG–2026–0861]

RIN 1625–AA00

**Safety Zone; Lake Ontario, Olcott, NY****AGENCY:** Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security.**ACTION:** Temporary final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary safety zone for navigable waters on Lake Ontario, Olcott, NY. The safety zone is needed to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment from potential hazards associated with an over water fireworks display. Entry of vessels or persons into this zone is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the Captain of the Port, Sector Eastern Great Lakes, or their designated representative.

**DATES:** This rule is effective on August 8, 2026, from 8:45 p.m. through 10:15 p.m. local time.

**ADDRESSES:** To view available documents go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for USCG–2026–0861.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** If you have questions about this rule, contact MST1 Alexander Leatherman, Sector Eastern Great Lakes Waterways Management Division, U.S. Coast Guard; telephone 716–931–4680, or email [D09-SMB-SECBuffalo-WWM@uscg.mil](mailto:D09-SMB-SECBuffalo-WWM@uscg.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****I. Table of Abbreviations**

CFR Code of Federal Regulations  
COTP Captain of the Port  
DHS Department of Homeland Security  
FR Federal Register  
NPRM Notice of proposed rulemaking  
§ Section  
U.S.C. United States Code

**II. Background and Authority**

The Coast Guard received notification that fireworks will be launched from a point on land over Lake Ontario, in Olcott, NY. The Captain of the Port (COTP) Eastern Great Lakes has determined that potential hazards

associated with fireworks are a safety concern for anyone within a 280-foot radius of the fireworks launch site. Therefore, the COTP is issuing this rule under the authority in 46 U.S.C. 70034, which is needed to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment in the navigable waters within the safety zone.

Because of these potential hazards, the Coast Guard is issuing this rule without prior notice and comment. As is authorized by 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for not publishing a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) with respect to this rule because it is impracticable. The Coast Guard was notified of this event on June 22, 2026, but we must establish this safety zone by August 8, 2026, to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment. Therefore, we do not have enough time to solicit and respond to comments.

For the same reason, the Coast Guard finds that under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register**.

**III. Discussion of the Rule**

This rule establishes a safety zone from 8:45 p.m. to 10:15 p.m. on August 8, 2026. The safety zone will cover all navigable waters in Lake Ontario within a 280-foot radius of the launch position at 43° 20'26.2" N, 78° 43'06.8" W. Vessels and persons will not be allowed to enter the zone during this time, unless authorized by the Captain of the Port.

**IV. Regulatory Analyses**

We developed this rule after considering numerous statutes and Executive orders related to rulemaking. Below we summarize our analyses based on a number of these statutes and Executive orders.

**A. Impact on Small Entities**

The regulatory flexibility analysis provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980, 5 U.S.C. 601–612, do not apply to rules that are not subject to notice and comment. Because the Coast Guard has, for good cause, waived the notice and comment requirement that would otherwise apply to this rulemaking, the Regulatory Flexibility Act's flexibility analysis provisions do not apply here.

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104–121), if this rule will affect your small business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction and you have questions,

contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

Small businesses may send comments to the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman and the Regional Small Business Regulatory Fairness Boards by calling 1–888–REG–FAIR (1–888–734–3247). The Coast Guard will not retaliate against small entities that question or complain about this rule or any policy or action of the Coast Guard.

**B. Collection of Information**

This rule will not call for a new collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520).

**C. Federalism and Indian Tribal Governments**

We have analyzed this rule under Executive Order 13132, Federalism, and have determined that it is consistent with the fundamental federalism principles and preemption requirements described in that Order.

Also, this rule does not have tribal implications under Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, because it does not have a substantial direct effect on one or more Indian tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian tribes.

**D. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act**

As required by The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1531–1538), the Coast Guard certifies that this rule will not result in an annual expenditure of \$100,000,000 or more (adjusted for inflation) by a State, local, or tribal government, in the aggregate, or by the private sector.

**E. Environment**

We have analyzed this rule under Department of Homeland Security Directive 023–01, Rev. 1, associated implementing instructions, and Environmental Planning COMDTINST 5090.1 (series), which guide the Coast Guard in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), and have determined that this action is one of a category of actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment.

This rule is a safety zone. It is categorically excluded from further review under paragraph L60(a) of Appendix A, Table 1 of DHS Instruction Manual 023–01–001–01, Rev. 1. A

Record of Environmental Consideration supporting this determination is available in the docket.

#### List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 165

Harbors, Marine safety, Navigation (water), Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Security measures, Waterways.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR part 165 as follows:

#### PART 165—REGULATED NAVIGATION AREAS AND LIMITED ACCESS AREAS

- 1. The authority citation for part 165 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 46 U.S.C. 70034, 70051, 70124; 33 CFR 1.05–1, 6.04–1, 6.04–6, and 160.5; DHS Delegation No. 00170.1, Revision No. 01.4.

- 2. Add § 165.T09–0861 to read as follows:

#### § 165.T09–0861 Safety Zone; Lake Ontario, Olcott, NY.

(a) *Location.* The following area is a safety zone: All waters of Lake Ontario from surface to bottom, within a 280-foot radius of 43° 20'26.2" N, 78° 43'06.8" W. These coordinates are based on the North American Datum 83 (NAD 83).

(b) *Definitions.* As used in this section, *designated representative* means a Coast Guard Patrol Commander, including a Coast Guard coxswain, petty officer, or other officer operating a Coast Guard vessel and a Federal, State, and local officer designated by or assisting the Captain of the Port Eastern Great Lakes (COTP) in the enforcement of the safety zone.

(c) *Regulations.* (1) Under the general safety zone regulations in subpart C of this part, you may not enter the safety zone described in paragraph (a) of this section unless authorized by the COTP or the COTP's designated representative.

(2) To seek permission to enter, contact the COTP or the COTP's representative on VHF–FM channel 16 or by telephone at (888) 230–4703. Those in the safety zone must comply with all lawful orders or directions given to them by the COTP or the COTP's designated representative.

(d) *Enforcement period.* This section will be enforced from 8:45 p.m. to 10:15 p.m. on August 8, 2026.

**Matthew J. Walter,**  
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port Sector Eastern Great Lakes.

[FR Doc. 2026–15300 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

##### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### 50 CFR Part 17

[Docket No. FWS–R6–ES–2024–0142;  
FXES1111090FEDR–267–FF09E21000]

RIN 1018–BH59

#### Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Revised Designation of Critical Habitat for the Contiguous U.S. Distinct Population Segment of the Canada Lynx; Correction

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Final rule; correction.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), are correcting one amendatory instruction in the final rule that published in the **Federal Register** on June 16, 2026. That rule finalized the revised critical habitat designation for the contiguous U.S. distinct population segment (DPS) of the Canada lynx (*Lynx canadensis*) under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act).

**DATES:** August 17, 2026.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Amity Bass, Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Montana Ecological Services Field Office, 585 Shepard Way, Suite 1, Helena, MT 59601; telephone 406–449–5225.

Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In FR document 2026–14299, appearing on page 43732 in the **Federal Register** of Thursday, July 16, 2026, the following correction is made:

#### § 17.95 [Corrected]

- On page 43768, in the second column, amendment 2 is corrected to read, “2. In § 17.95, in paragraph (a), amend the entry for “Canada Lynx (*Lynx canadensis*)” by:

- a. Revising paragraphs (1) through (5);  
■ b. Adding figure captions to paragraphs (6) and (7); and  
■ c. Revising paragraphs (8) through (10).

These revisions and additions read as follows:

**Jillian Eanett,**

Acting Chief, Policy and Regulations Branch,  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 2026–15298 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4333–15–P

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

##### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### 50 CFR Part 17

[Docket No. FWS–R4–ES–2022–0104;  
FXES1111090FEDR–267–FF09E21000]

RIN 1018–BG24

#### Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for Florida Keys Mole Skink; Correction

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Final rule; correction.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), are correcting a final rule that appeared in the **Federal Register** on July 21, 2026. The rule added the Florida Keys mole skink (*Plestiodon egregius egregius*), a lizard subspecies from the Florida Keys, Florida, to the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife.

**DATES:** This rule is effective August 20, 2026.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nikki Colangelo, Division Manager, Classification and Recovery, Florida Ecological Services Field Office; 772–226–8138, [nikki\\_colangelo@fws.gov](mailto:nikki_colangelo@fws.gov). Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Federal Register Correction

- In FR document 2026–14636, appearing on page 45697 in the **Federal Register** of Tuesday, July 21, 2026, in the third column, in amendatory instruction 2, paragraph (h), the following correction is made:

#### § 17.11 [Corrected]

\* \* \* \* \*  
(h) \* \* \*

| Common name              | Scientific name                     | Where listed         | Status | Listing citations and applicable rules |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--------|----------------------------------------|
| *                        | *                                   | *                    | *      | *                                      |
| Reptiles                 |                                     |                      |        |                                        |
| *                        | *                                   | *                    | *      | *                                      |
| Skink, Florida Keys mole | <i>Plestiodon egregius egregius</i> | Wherever found ..... | E      | 91 FR 45683, 7/21/2026.                |
| *                        | *                                   | *                    | *      | *                                      |

\* \* \* \* \*

Jillian Eanett,  
Acting Chief, Policy and Regulations Branch,  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.  
[FR Doc. 2026–15299 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 4333–15–P

# Proposed Rules

Federal Register

Vol. 91, No. 144

Wednesday, July 29, 2026

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2026-7231; Project Identifier MCAI-2026-00112-R]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

**SUMMARY:** The FAA proposes to supersede Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2022-01-01, which applies to all Airbus Helicopters Model AS350B, AS350BA, AS350B1, AS350B2, AS350B3, AS350D, AS355E, AS355F, AS355F1, AS355F2, AS355N, AS355NP, AS 365 N2, AS 365 N3, EC130B4, EC130T2, SA 365 C1, SA 365 C2, SA 365 N, and SA 365 N1 helicopters. AD 2022-01-01 requires the application of alignment markings on, and repetitive inspections of, the main rotor (MR) pitch rod upper links and, depending on findings, the accomplishment of applicable corrective actions. Since the FAA issued AD 2022-01-01, the manufacturer designed a new pitch rod lever axis attachment screw and issued applicable modification material as an alternative option. This proposed AD would retain all the actions of AD 2022-01-01 and would allow the modification as a terminating action to the repetitive inspections and corrective actions. This proposed AD would also prohibit installing a certain affected pitch rod lever axis attachment screws unless certain requirements are met. The FAA is proposing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

**DATES:** The FAA must receive comments on this NPRM by September 14, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** You may send comments, using the procedures found in 14 CFR 11.43 and 11.45, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to *regulations.gov*. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *Fax:* (202) 493-2251.

- *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

- *Hand Delivery:* Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

*AD Docket:* You may examine the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA-2026-7231; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this NPRM, the mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations is listed above.

*Material Incorporated by Reference:*

- For European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) material identified in this proposed AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; phone: +49 221 8999 000; email: *ADs@easa.europa.eu*; website: *easa.europa.eu*. You may find the EASA material on the EASA website at *ad.easa.europa.eu*.

- You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 10101 Hillwood Parkway, Fort Worth, TX 76177. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222-5110.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Olivia Rasmussen, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (847) 294-7117; email: *olivia.e.rasmussen@faa.gov*.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Comments Invited

The FAA invites you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposal. Send your comments using a method listed under **ADDRESSES**. Include "Docket No. FAA-2026-7231; Project Identifier MCAI-2026-00112-R" at the beginning of your comments. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the proposal, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. The FAA will consider

all comments received by the closing date and may amend the proposal because of those comments.

Except for Confidential Business Information (CBI) as described in the following paragraph, and other information as described in 14 CFR 11.35, the FAA will post all comments received, without change, to *regulations.gov*, including any personal information you provide. The agency will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact received about this NPRM.

#### Confidential Business Information

CBI is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this NPRM contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this NPRM, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as "PROPIN." The FAA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA, and they will not be placed in the public docket of this NPRM. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Olivia Rasmussen, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590. Any commentary that the FAA receives which is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

#### Background

The FAA issued AD 2022-01-01, Amendment 39-21889 (87 FR 4800, January 31, 2022) (AD 2022-01-01), for all Airbus Helicopters Model AS350B, AS350BA, AS350B1, AS350B2, AS350B3, AS350D, AS355E, AS355F, AS355F1, AS355F2, AS355N, AS355NP, AS 365 N2, AS 365 N3, EC130B4, EC130T2, SA 365 C1, SA 365 C2, SA 365 N, and SA 365 N1, helicopters. AD 2022-01-01 was prompted by an MCAI originated by EASA, which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Union. EASA issued EASA AD 2021-0048, dated February 16, 2021 (EASA AD 2021-0048) to correct an unsafe condition identified as an increased vibration during flight.

AD 2022–01–01 requires the application of alignment markings on, and repetitive inspections of, the MR pitch rod upper links and, depending on findings, the accomplishment of applicable corrective actions. The FAA issued AD 2022–01–01 to address loss of tightening torque of the screws connecting the MR pitch rods to the horns of the upper links, which if not addressed, could result in loss of one or more MR pitch rod upper links and result in loss of control of the helicopter.

#### Actions Since AD 2022–01–01 Was Issued

Since the FAA issued AD 2022–01–01, EASA superseded EASA AD 2021–0048 and issued EASA AD 2023–0064, dated March 20, 2023 (EASA AD 2023–0064) (also referred to as the MCAI). The MCAI states the manufacturer designed a new pitch rod lever axis attachment screw and has issued applicable modification instructions, for in-service embodiment. The MCAI further states that this modification is optional and constitutes a terminating action for the corrective actions and the repetitive marking inspections.

You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) under Docket No. FAA–2026–7231.

#### Material Incorporated by Reference Under 1 CFR Part 51

The FAA reviewed EASA AD 2023–0064, which specifies procedures for the application of alignment markings on the screw, washer, nut, and horn on both sides of each MR pitch rod upper link, and repetitive visual inspections of the two alignment markings to determine if the markings are aligned on both sides. If, during any inspection the markings on one or both sides of an MR pitch rod upper link are found misaligned, EASA AD 2023–0064 requires additional actions and corrective actions, which include but are not limited to, measuring torque, further inspections, replacing and installing new parts, and applying primer and paint. EASA AD 2023–0064 also specifies that accomplishing the modification in accordance with the applicable modification material is an

alternative to the corrective actions and the modification also is a terminating action for the repetitive marking inspections. Additionally, EASA AD 2023–0064 prohibits installing an affected pitch rod lever axis attachment screw part number (P/N) 350A31–1873–20 on any helicopter unless certain requirements are met.

This material is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in the **ADDRESSES** section.

#### FAA’s Determination

These products have been approved by the civil aviation authority (CAA) of another country and are approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA’s bilateral agreement with this State of Design Authority, that authority has notified the FAA of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI referenced above. The FAA is issuing this NPRM after determining that the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop on other products of the same type design.

#### Proposed AD Requirements in This NPRM

This proposed AD would retain all of the requirements of AD 2022–01–01 and would require accomplishing the actions specified in EASA AD 2023–0064, described previously, as incorporated by reference, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this proposed AD. See “Differences Between This Proposed AD and the MCAI” for a discussion of the general differences included in this proposed AD.

#### Differences Between This Proposed AD and the MCAI

The MCAI applies to Airbus Helicopters Model AS350BB and SA 365 C3 helicopters, whereas this proposed AD would not because those models do not have an FAA type certificate.

Where the MCAI specifies to repetitively inspect the two alignment markings on each MR pitch rod upper link in accordance with the instructions of the applicable material, for this proposed AD, the owner/operator (pilot)

holding at least a private pilot certificate may inspect the two alignment markings on each MR pitch rod upper link and must enter compliance with this proposed AD in the helicopter maintenance records in accordance with 14 CFR 43.9(a) and 91.417(a)(2)(v). The pilot may perform this action because it only involves visually inspecting the two markings. This action can be performed equally well by a pilot or a mechanic. This action is an exception to the FAA’s standard maintenance regulations.

#### Explanation of Required Compliance Information

In the FAA’s ongoing efforts to improve the efficiency of the AD process, the FAA developed a process to use some CAA ADs as the primary source of information for compliance with requirements for corresponding FAA ADs. The FAA has been coordinating this process with manufacturers and CAAs. As a result, the FAA incorporates EASA AD 2023–0064 by reference in the FAA final rule. This proposed AD would, therefore, require compliance with EASA AD 2023–0064 in its entirety through that incorporation, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this proposed AD. Using common terms that are the same as the heading of a particular section in EASA AD 2023–0064 does not mean that operators need comply only with that section. For example, where the AD requirement refers to “all required actions and compliance times,” compliance with this AD requirement is not limited to the section titled “Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s)” in EASA AD 2023–0064. Material required by EASA AD 2023–0064 for compliance will be available at [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) under Docket No. FAA–2026–7231 after the FAA final rule is published.

#### Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD, if adopted as proposed, would affect 1,302 helicopters of U.S. registry.

The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this proposed AD:

#### ESTIMATED COSTS

| Action           | Labor cost                               | Parts cost | Cost per product | Cost on U.S. operators |
|------------------|------------------------------------------|------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Inspection ..... | 1 work-hour × \$85 = \$85 per hour ..... | \$0        | \$85             | \$110,670              |

The FAA has determined that application of alignment markings would take a minimal amount of time at a nominal cost.

The FAA estimates the following costs to do any proposed replacements that would be required based on the results of the proposed inspection. The

agency has no way of determining the number of helicopters that might need these replacements:

#### ON-CONDITION COSTS

| Action                                              | Labor cost                                    | Parts cost | Cost per product |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------|------------------|
| Screw, Washer, Nut, and Split Pin Replacement ..... | 1 work-hour × \$85 per hour = \$85 .....      | \$40       | \$125            |
| Spherical Bearing Replacement .....                 | 4 work-hours × \$85 per hour = \$340 .....    | 500        | 840              |
| Pitch Rod Replacement .....                         | 4 work-hours × \$85 per hour = \$340 .....    | 3,000      | 3,340            |
| Pitch Horn Replacement .....                        | 16 work hours × \$85 per hour = \$1,360 ..... | 4,000      | 5,360            |

#### ESTIMATED COSTS FOR OPTIONAL ACTIONS

| Action                                        | Labor cost                                | Parts cost        | Cost per product |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Screw modification (including hardware) ..... | 4 work-hour × \$85 per hour = \$340 ..... | Up to \$506 ..... | Up to \$846.     |

#### Authority for This Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII, Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

The FAA is issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements. Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

#### Regulatory Findings

The FAA determined that this proposed AD would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This proposed AD would not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national Government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that the proposed regulation:

- (1) Is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866,
- (2) Would not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and
- (3) Would not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities

under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

#### List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

#### The Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA proposes to amend 14 CFR part 39 as follows:

#### PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

- 1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701.

##### § 39.13 [Amended]

- 2. The FAA amends § 39.13 by:
- a. Removing Airworthiness Directive 2022–01–01, Amendment 39–21889 (87 FR 4800, January 31, 2022); and
  - b. Adding the following new airworthiness directive:

**Airbus Helicopters:** Docket No. FAA–2026–7231; Project Identifier MCAI–2026–00112–R.

##### (a) Comments Due Date

The FAA must receive comments on this airworthiness directive (AD) by September 14, 2026.

##### (b) Affected ADs

This AD replaces AD 2022–01–01, Amendment 39–21889 (87 FR 4800, January 31, 2022) (AD 2022–01–01).

##### (c) Applicability

This AD applies to all Airbus Helicopters, certificated in any category, identified in paragraphs (c)(1) through (3) of this AD.

(1) Model AS350B, AS350BA, AS350B1, AS350B2, AS350B3, AS350D, EC130B4, and EC130T2 helicopters.

(2) Model AS355E, AS355F, AS355F1, AS355F2, AS355N, and AS355NP helicopters.

(3) Model AS 365 N2, AS 365 N3, SA 365 C1, SA 365 C2, SA 365 N, and SA 365 N1 helicopters.

##### (d) Subject

Joint Aircraft System Component (JASC) Code 6200, Main rotor drive system.

##### (e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by a report of increased vibration during flight on an Airbus Helicopters Model AS 365 helicopter. Subsequent investigation found a total loss of tightening torque of one screw connecting the main rotor (MR) pitch rod to the horn of its upper link, which led to abnormal wear of the screw and consequently increased the vibrations coming from the MR control chain to the pilot's flight controls. The FAA is issuing this AD to address loss of tightening torque of the screws connecting the MR pitch rods to the horns of the upper links. The unsafe condition, if not addressed, could result in loss of one or more MR pitch rod upper links and result in loss of control of the helicopter.

##### (f) Compliance

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

##### (g) Requirements

Except as specified in paragraphs (h) and (i) of this AD: Comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with, European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2023–0064, dated March 20, 2023 (EASA AD 2023–0064).

##### (h) Exceptions to EASA AD 2023–0064

(1) Where EASA AD 2023–0064 refers to its effective date, this AD requires using the effective date of this AD.

(2) Where EASA AD 2023–0064 refers to March 2, 2021 (the effective date of EASA AD 2021–0048), this AD requires using March 7, 2022 (the effective date of AD 2022–01–01).

(3) Where paragraph (2) of EASA AD 2023–0064 specifies “accomplish a visual inspection of the two alignment markings on each MR pitch rod upper link in accordance with the instructions of Section 3.B.2.b of the ASB,” this AD requires replacing that text with “accomplish a visual inspection of the two alignment markings on each MR pitch rod upper link by ensuring that the two red lines of the pitch rod upper link are aligned. The owner/operator (pilot) holding at least a private pilot certificate may inspect the two alignment markings on each MR pitch rod upper link and must enter compliance with paragraph (g) of this AD in the helicopter maintenance records in accordance with 14 CFR 43.9(a) and 91.417(a)(2)(v). The record must be maintained as required by 14 CFR 91.417, 121.380, or 135.43”.

(4) Where the material referenced in EASA AD 2023–0064 specifies discarding parts, this AD requires removing those parts from service.

(5) Where the material referenced in EASA AD 2023–0064 specifies returning a part to the manufacturer, this AD does not include that requirement.

(6) For Model AS 365 helicopters: For the visual inspection of the pitch horn, where the material referenced in EASA AD 2023–0064 specifies to do a dye penetrant inspection “if in doubt,” this AD requires doing a fluorescent penetrant inspection.

(7) For Model EC130 helicopters: where the material referenced in EASA AD 2023–0064 refers to “the pitch change lever,” for this AD, that term is equivalent to “pitch horn.”

(8) This AD does not adopt the “Remarks” section of EASA AD 2023–0064.

#### (i) No Reporting Requirement

Although the material referenced in EASA AD 2023–0064 specifies to submit certain information to the manufacturer, this AD does not include that requirement.

#### (j) Special Flight Permits

Special flight permits, as described in 14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199, are not allowed.

#### (k) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(1) The Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or local Flight Standards District Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the International Validation Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (l) of this AD and email to: [AMOC@faa.gov](mailto:AMOC@faa.gov).

(2) Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local flight standards district office/certificate holding district office.

#### (l) Additional Information

For more information about this AD, contact Olivia Rasmussen, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (847) 294–7117; email: [olivia.e.rasmussen@faa.gov](mailto:olivia.e.rasmussen@faa.gov).

#### (m) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of the material listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this material as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.

(i) European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2023–0064, dated March 20, 2023.

(ii) [Reserved]

(3) For EASA material identified in this AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; phone: +49 221 8999 000; email: [ADs@easa.europa.eu](mailto:ADs@easa.europa.eu); website: [easa.europa.eu](http://easa.europa.eu). You may find the EASA material on the EASA website at [ad.easa.europa.eu](http://ad.easa.europa.eu).

(4) You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 10101 Hillwood Parkway, Fort Worth, TX 76177. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222–5110.

(5) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit [www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations](http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations) or email [fr.inspection@nara.gov](mailto:fr.inspection@nara.gov).

Issued on July 24, 2026.

Steven W. Thompson,

Acting Deputy Director, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2026–15283 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 71

[Docket No. FAA–2026–7895; Airspace Docket No. 25–AGL–14]

RIN 2120–AA66

#### Amendment of Jet Routes J–190 and J–584 and Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Range Federal Airways V–170 and V–188 in the Vicinity of Slate Run, Pennsylvania

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking; correction; extension of comment period.

**SUMMARY:** This action corrects a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) that the FAA published in the **Federal Register** on July 20, 2026, proposing to amend Jet Routes J–190 and J–584 and Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Range (VOR) Federal Airways V–170 and V–188 in the vicinity of Slate Run, Pennsylvania. Specifically, this action

corrects the docket number associated with the NPRM.

**DATES:** The comment period is extended. Comments must be received on or before September 14, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments identified by FAA Docket No. FAA–2026–7895 and Airspace Docket No. 25–AGL–14 using any of the following methods:

\* *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and follow the online instruction for sending your comments electronically.

\* *Mail:* Send comments to Docket Operations, M–30; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W58–213, West Building, 5th Floor, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

\* *Hand Delivery or Courier:* Take comments to Docket Operations in Room W58–213 of the West Building, 5th Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

\* *Fax:* Fax comments to Docket Operations at (202) 493–2251.

*Docket:* Background documents or comments received may be read at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) at any time. Follow the online instructions for accessing the docket or go to Docket Operations in Room W58–213 of the West Building, 5th Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FAA Order JO 7400.11K, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, and subsequent amendments can be viewed online at [www.faa.gov/air\\_traffic/publications/](http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/). You may also contact the Rules and Regulations Group, Office of Policy, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20591; telephone: (202) 267–8783.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Steven Roff, Rules and Regulations Group, Office of Policy, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20591; telephone: (202) 267–8783.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### History

The FAA published an NPRM for Docket No. FAA–2025–7895 in the **Federal Register** (91 FR 45228; July 20, 2026), proposing to amend Jet Routes J–190 and J–584 and Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Range (VOR) Federal Airways V–170 and V–188 in the vicinity of Slate Run, Pennsylvania. Subsequent to publication, it was determined that the FAA docket number for the NPRM listed the incorrect year

for the airspace action. The NPRM listed the FAA docket number as FAA–2025–7895. The correct FAA docket number is FAA–2026–7895 and is reflected in the heading of this correction.

### Correction to Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me, **Federal Register** Doc. No. 2026–14552, published in the **Federal Register** on July 20, 2026 (91 FR 45228), is corrected as follows:

1. On page 45228, in the third column, in the document headings, delete “Docket No. FAA–2025–7895” and replace it with “Docket No. FAA–2026–7895”.

2. On page 45229, in the first column, in the **ADDRESSES** section, delete “Docket No. FAA–2025–7895” and replace it with “Docket No. FAA–2026–7895”.

Issued in Washington, DC, on July 27, 2026.

Alex W. Nelson,

Manager, Rules and Regulations Group.

[FR Doc. 2026–15321 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### 50 CFR Part 216

[Docket No. 260723–0179]

RIN 0648–BO43

#### Implementation of Fish and Fish Product Import Provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS is soliciting public input to inform potential revisions to the implementing regulations pursuant to the import provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). NMFS is initiating a comprehensive review of the import regulations to increase efficiency of the program while ensuring that the objectives of the statute are met.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received by 5 p.m. on September 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by NOAA–NMFS–2026–0826 by any of the following methods:

(1) *Electronic Submissions:* Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Visit <http://www.regulations.gov> and type NOAA–NMFS–2026–0826 in the Search box. Click on the “Comment” icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

(2) *Mail:* Julia Goss, Foreign Affairs Specialist, Office of International Affairs, Trade, and Commerce, Attn: MMPA Fish Import Provisions, NMFS, F/IA, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted to <http://www.regulations.gov> without change. All Personal Identifying Information (e.g., name, address) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter N/A in the required fields, if you wish to remain anonymous). Attachments to electronic comments will be accepted in Microsoft Word, Excel, WordPerfect, or Adobe portable document file (pdf) formats only.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Julia Goss at [julia.goss@noaa.gov](mailto:julia.goss@noaa.gov) or 301–427–8360.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*, contains provisions to address the incidental mortality and serious injury of marine mammals in both domestic and foreign commercial fisheries. Section 1371(a)(2) requires the United States to ban the importation of commercial fish or fish products caught with commercial fishing technology that results in the incidental kill or serious injury of marine mammals in excess of U.S. standards. The regulations at 50 CFR 216.24(h), finalized on August 15, 2016, established procedures for making comparability findings, *i.e.*, assessments of whether a nation has met certain conditions for its fisheries to be considered comparable to the U.S. regulatory program for addressing marine mammal bycatch. The statute further requires the Secretary of Commerce to insist on reasonable proof from exporting nations of the effects of commercial fishing technology on marine mammals incidental to those fisheries.

NMFS’ implementation of the import provisions followed a multi-year rulemaking process. In 2008, NMFS received a petition to ban the import of swordfish and swordfish products from

nations that could not provide reasonable proof regarding their fishing technology’s impact on marine mammals. NMFS subsequently published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (75 FR 22731, April 30, 2010) requesting comments on the standards to be used for implementing the import provisions for all fish and fish product imports; procedures for ensuring the established standards and their associated criteria are met; and procedures for developing recommendations regarding import prohibitions if those standards are not met. NMFS then issued a proposed rule on August 11, 2015 (80 FR 48172) and a final rule on August 15, 2016 (81 FR 54390). The import provisions established an initial 5-year exemption period before imports would be subject to trade restrictions to allow harvesting nations time to develop their regulatory programs governing mortality and serious injury of marine mammals incidental to commercial fishing. The exemption period was extended three times and ended on December 31, 2025.

The final rule established procedures for NMFS to identify foreign commercial fisheries that export fish and fish products to the United States, evaluate whether the nations’ regulatory programs for each of those fisheries are comparable in effectiveness to the U.S. regulatory program, and implement import prohibitions when fisheries do not receive a comparability finding. To establish the scope of the evaluations, NMFS publishes a List of Foreign Fisheries (LOFF), which identifies the foreign commercial fisheries subject to the MMPA import provisions. The LOFF classifies these fisheries based on the frequency of marine mammal mortality and serious injury: “Exempt” fisheries are classified as having a remote likelihood of, or no known, incidental mortality and serious injury, while “Export” fisheries are those having more than a remote likelihood of such mortality or injury. Additional information on the LOFF can be found on the NMFS website at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/foreign/international-affairs/list-foreign-fisheries>. In order to receive a comparability finding for Exempt fisheries, a nation must demonstrate that it prohibits the intentional mortality or serious injury of marine mammals in the course of commercial fishing operations or has procedures to reliably certify that exports of fish and fish products to the United States are not the product of intentional killing or serious injury of a marine mammal. In addition, Export fisheries must maintain

a regulatory program with respect to the fishery that is comparable in effectiveness to the U.S. regulatory program.

Comparability findings for Exempt and Export fisheries are made on a fishery-by-fishery basis. Additional details regarding the process for making such findings can be found in the proposed rule published in 2015, the final rule published in 2016, and the NMFS website at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/foreign/marine-mammal-protection/marine-mammal-protection-act-import-provisions>. Before NMFS denies a foreign fishery a comparability finding, NMFS provides the harvesting nation notice of the preliminary finding and an opportunity to submit reliable information to refute the denial and communicate corrective actions. Unless terminated by NMFS, a comparability finding remains valid for 4 years from the publication of the finding or for such other period specified by NMFS. To seek renewal, harvesting nations must submit the application and required documentary evidence by November 30 of the year prior to the expiration date of its current comparability finding. If a harvesting nation begins exporting fish or fish product to the United States from a fishery that is not on the LOFF, the harvesting nation must notify NMFS, and NMFS may issue a provisional comparability finding allowing such imports for a period not to exceed 12 months while the nation submits the required application materials for NMFS to evaluate comparability.

Denial of a comparability finding for a fishery results in an import prohibition of fish and fish products harvested in that fishery into the United States. Import prohibitions become effective 30 days after publication of the **Federal Register** notice announcing the denial of the comparability finding and remain in effect until NMFS issues a comparability finding for that fishery. A harvesting nation may reapply at any time by submitting an application and providing new documentary evidence that the fishery meets the required conditions.

To allow for the lawful entry of product that is the same or similar to product harvested in a fishery subject to an import prohibition, the product must be accompanied by a Certification of Admissibility (COA) or an electronic equivalent. The COA is a government attestation that the fish or fish products being imported into the United States were not harvested in a fishery subject to an import prohibition under the MMPA import provisions. As traded products are identified by tariff codes,

the COA allows for the identification of products that are admissible to the United States, but may otherwise be blocked because they share tariff codes with prohibited products. COA reporting requirements allow verification that fish and fish products are not sourced from a prohibited fishery and must be signed by an authorized government official of the harvesting or exporting nation. The COA must be filed with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) upon entry through the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) portal. The COA is required to be provided upon entry into ACE as a condition for CBP to release the import into the United States. Imports that are the same or similar to fish and fish products subject to import restrictions under the MMPA are not admissible unless a completed COA is provided through ACE.

Under the 2016 final rule, no fish or fish products caught or harvested in a fishery subject to an import prohibition may be imported into the United States from any intermediary nations (*i.e.*, nations processing and re-exporting products to the United States). NMFS may identify intermediary nations that import and re-export fish and fish products to the United States from prohibited fisheries and require those intermediary nations to certify either that they do not import such prohibited products or that they have procedures in place to reliably certify that exports to the United States do not contain fish or fish products from prohibited fisheries.

The 2016 final rule also established an ongoing oversight mechanism through periodic progress reports. A harvesting nation must submit progress reports every 4 years, offset with the 4-year cycle for comparability findings, to document actions taken to develop, adopt, and implement its regulatory program and to meet the conditions in 50 CFR 216.24(h)(6)(iii). The first progress reports received from harvesting nations in 2019 helped establish baselines and prepare harvesting nations for the comparability finding application. Finally, the final rule addressed international cooperation and assistance, including the possibility of technical support, subject to existing authority and appropriations.

As NMFS moved from developing to implementing the regulatory framework, completing the first full round of comparability findings proved to be significantly more complex and time-intensive than NMFS anticipated when the final rule was promulgated. On September 2, 2025, NMFS issued comparability findings for

approximately 2,500 fisheries from 135 harvesting nations with a highly diverse set of management systems. For each of these fisheries, NMFS evaluated multiple, detailed conditions for each comparability finding as outlined in 50 CFR 216.24(h)(6)(iii) and (h)(7), a task complicated by vastly different legal systems, institutional capacities, monitoring programs, bycatch reduction strategies, and data availability among the harvesting nations. This required NMFS to review massive volumes of documentation, conduct extensive follow-up engagement with harvesting nations to clarify its understanding of the harvesting nations' regulatory programs, resolve inconsistencies, and prepare fishery-specific determinations for publication. Including several extensions to the exemption period, the first comparability finding review took NMFS more than 3 years to complete. Because these evaluations, in addition to the progress reports, are scheduled to occur on 4-year cycles, processing this volume of data consistently across thousands of fisheries creates a high level of administrative burden for harvesting nations and NMFS under restrictive timelines.

A related challenge is that the "U.S. standards" component of the MMPA import provisions requires NMFS to evaluate foreign harvesting nations' programs through the lens of the MMPA's domestic framework (*i.e.*, 16 U.S.C. 1386 and 1387), which relies on systematic prioritization and is specific to commercial fisheries in the United States. As described in more detail in the proposed rule published in 2015 and the final rule published in 2016, effective bycatch reduction programs for harvesting nations should include estimating population abundance and bycatch, monitoring fisheries, and mitigating unsustainable bycatch; however, their practical implementation can be constrained by lack of data, poor data quality, and lack of technical expertise.

The United States experiences many similar challenges in regard to managing marine mammal bycatch in its domestic fisheries. Under 16 U.S.C. 1387(f)(3), for example, these limitations necessitate a domestic prioritization process to determine which species or stocks are designated as "strategic"—defined as those for which the level of human-caused mortality exceeds the stock's potential biological removal level, those declining and listed (or likely to be listed) as endangered or threatened under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, or are designated as depleted under the MMPA. If those stocks interact with a Category I or Category II fishery (defined

as those having frequent or occasional incidental death or serious injury of marine mammals), they are prioritized for the development of Take Reduction Plans (TRPs). Once a TRP is developed, the process remains highly iterative as the Take Reduction Teams develop and refine both regulatory and voluntary measures to ensure the fishery meets MMPA requirements while adapting to the specific operational realities of the fleet. While the regulatory conditions in 50 CFR 216.24(h)(6)(iii) and (h)(7) provide a framework for evaluation, they do not explicitly reflect this underlying prioritization prescribed for the domestic program or the iterative, resource-dependent nature of domestic bycatch management. Consequently, defining “U.S. standards” and what may be considered to be “comparable in effectiveness” for a multitude of fisheries under a range of systems of governance presents an immense analytical hurdle. NMFS has had to grapple with applying a dynamic and tailored domestic set of requirements in determining comparability consistently for thousands of diverse foreign fisheries.

Linking comparability findings to U.S. market access is a central feature of the statute and is intended to create incentives for regulatory improvements and bycatch reduction as well as address disadvantages facing domestic fishermen with unfair competition from imports. However, the structure of the program under the final rule requires substantial operational effort to implement. When NMFS denies a comparability finding for a fishery, the agency translates that determination into an import prohibition by identifying the affected fish and fish products and the most appropriate U.S. HTS codes associated with those products. The combination of the HTS codes and the Country of Origin associated with the product determine whether or not a COA is required. Because HTS codes are designed for trade classification rather than tracing products to a specific fishery of harvest, NMFS relies on the COA to distinguish allowable from prohibited products at the point of entry into the United States. This task is complicated by dynamic seafood supply chains, where products are often landed, processed, or re-exported through multiple jurisdictions, including intermediary nations that may process catch from various sources. Consequently, the COA process requires constant coordination among foreign officials, the fishing and seafood industries, the trade community, and U.S. agencies, creating delays at ports, a

heavy administrative workload, and enforcement concerns.

Traceability challenges are particularly acute for certain highly processed products, such as fish oil or fish sauce. The final rule acknowledges that NMFS may not be able to include certain products in an import prohibition where it is not feasible to identify the species or link a product back to the specific fishery subject to the prohibition. Determining whether to apply a COA requirement to any fish or fish product on a case-by-case basis places a significant demand on agency resources and, in some cases, may not be feasible. Taken together, these factors require substantial ongoing effort by NMFS and its partners to implement, administer, and maintain the trade-related components of the program.

NMFS’ implementation experience indicates that the MMPA import provisions framework is an important tool that can be used to encourage harvesting nations to implement more effective measures to reduce marine mammal bycatch, but that administering the program at the scale required by the current regulations is resource-intensive and operationally complex. NMFS is therefore seeking public comment on whether and how to: (1) clarify the term “U.S. standards” for purposes of issuing comparability findings; (2) better account for the diversity among harvesting nations’ legal and regulatory programs and their capacity to develop and oversee bycatch reduction programs that could meet the requirements of the MMPA at 16 U.S.C. 1371(a)(2); (3) change the procedures to improve administrative operations and efficiency; (4) ensure fair and consistent application across exporting nations; and (5) ensure a level playing field such that fisheries abide by marine mammal bycatch standards that are comparable in effectiveness to the U.S. regulatory program when introducing fish or fish products into the U.S. market. NMFS requests comments on the current processes but also welcomes comments related to the LOFF, comparability findings, international cooperation and assistance, and import prohibitions. NMFS also seeks responses to the specific questions provided below to help inform future rulemaking that revises implementation of the MMPA import provisions while maintaining fidelity to the MMPA’s statutory requirements and the outcomes the import provisions are intended to achieve.

### Overarching Questions

1. What changes should NMFS make to its regulations to improve marine

mammal conservation outcomes while treating exporting nations fairly and consistently?

2. What opportunities or challenges have the MMPA import provisions introduced to you as a harvesting nation, intermediary nation, seafood importer, or seafood consumer?

### Questions on U.S. Standards

3. For purposes of determining comparability, NMFS requires harvesting nations wishing to export fish and fish products to the United States to demonstrate comparability with U.S. standards as set out for domestic fisheries under the MMPA at 16 U.S.C. 1386 and 1387 of MMPA. Comparability under the current regulations is defined to mean “comparable in effectiveness to that of the United States [regulatory program],” not necessarily identical or as detailed. How else could NMFS define “U.S. standards” for purposes of rendering comparability determinations and are there other ways to assess comparability?

4. How can NMFS make the process for evaluating whether exporting nations’ fisheries are in excess of U.S. standards more straightforward, while maintaining marine mammal conservation outcomes across data-rich as well as data-limited contexts and a level playing field for U.S. commercial fishing operations? (See 50 CFR 216.24(h)(6)(iii)).

### Questions on Scope

5. Should NMFS consider revising the current regulations to specify that NMFS will prioritize comparability findings for nations with commercial fisheries that co-occur with marine mammals based on conservation status and risk of bycatch, similar to NMFS’ prioritization scheme under the MMPA at 16 U.S.C. 1387(f)(3)? If so, what criteria should NMFS consider and apply to its evaluation?

6. Are there any factors or elements that NMFS is not considering under the current program but should be?

7. Instead of imposing an immediate import prohibition on harvesting nations, should NMFS consider allowing “conditional” comparability findings based on a harvesting nation’s commitments to meeting “U.S. standards”? In other words, should a discretionary consultation period be allowed to afford nations time to address issues identified concerning their fisheries that result in incidental mortality or incidental serious injury of marine mammals in “excess of U.S. standards”?

8. Should fisheries be categorically excluded from the comparability finding process because they would, whether by gear type, likelihood of killing or seriously injuring marine mammals, or other reasons, be considered to have de minimis impacts on marine mammals and thus, the fishery would not be expected to exceed “U.S. standards”?

#### *Questions on Timeline*

9. How do the current 4-year progress report and application cycle deadlines impact the ability of harvesting nations to plan and implement long-term conservation goals? Should the current four-year cycles be modified, and if so, how? (See 50 CFR 216.24(h)(8)(v); 50 CFR 216.24(h)(10)(iii)).

#### *Questions on Trade Restrictions*

10. In what ways should NMFS structure and implement trade-related measures under the MMPA import provisions, including the timing and operationalization of trade measures to support fair, efficient, and enforceable implementation? (See 50 CFR 216.24(h)(9)).

11. Should potential economic impacts inform NMFS’ comparability

findings, specifically to the trade community, small entities, and harvesting nations?

#### *Questions on Intermediary Nations*

12. How could NMFS revise or clarify the intermediary nation provisions, including what constitutes procedures that can reliably certify that exports do not contain fish from prohibited fisheries? (See 50 CFR 216.24(h)(9)(iv)).

#### *Questions on Public Input/Data Gathering*

13. How should NMFS account for uncertainty and incomplete information when evaluating comparability of foreign fisheries, while ensuring fair and consistent treatment across exporting nations?

14. What changes, if any, would improve NMFS’ processes for receiving, evaluating, and incorporating public input that is relevant to the agency’s evaluation of the harvesting nations’ regulatory programs? (See 50 CFR 216.24(h)(6)(ii)).

#### *Questions on the COA Process*

15. How could the admissibility process, using the COA form or alternative means, be changed to more

efficiently and effectively facilitate lawful entry of fish and fish products that are the same or similar to products that are subject to an import ban? (See 50 CFR 216.24(h)(9)(iii)).

#### *Questions on Capacity Building*

16. Which technical areas are the highest priority for harvesting nations to achieve and maintain comparability (e.g., marine mammal stock assessments, monitoring programs, mitigation measures, enforcement) and what forms of assistance are the most effective in building these capacities in harvesting nations? (See 50 CFR 216.24(h)(11)).

#### **Classification**

This advance notice of proposed rulemaking has been determined to be significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866.

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Samuel D. Rauch III,**

*Deputy Assistant Administrator for  
Regulatory Programs, National Marine  
Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15294 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

# Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 91, No. 144

Wednesday, July 29, 2026

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS–2026–0925]

#### Notice of Request for Revision to and Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; Importation of Beef and Ovine Meat From Uruguay and Beef From Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Revision to and extension of approval of an information collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's intention to request revision to and extension of approval of an information collection associated with regulations for the importation of beef and ovine meat from Uruguay and beef from Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay.

**DATES:** We will consider all comments that we receive on or before September 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** Go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Enter APHIS–2026–0925 in the Search field. Select the Documents tab, then select the Comment button in the list of documents.
- **Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:** Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS–2026–0925, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, 5601 Sunnyside Avenue, #AP760, Beltsville, MD 20705.

Supporting documents and any comments we receive on this docket may be viewed at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) or in our reading room, which is located in Room 1620 of the USDA South

Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 799–7039 before coming.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information on the regulations for the importation of beef and ovine meat from Uruguay and beef from Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay, contact Dr. Lindsay Chase, Veterinary Medical Officer, Animal Product Imports, Strategy and Policy, VS, APHIS, 5601 Sunnyside Ave., Beltsville, MD 20705; [apie@usda.gov](mailto:apie@usda.gov); (301) 851–3300. For more detailed information on the information collection process, contact Ms. Sheniqua Harris, APHIS' Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, at (301) 851–2538; [APHIS.PRA@usda.gov](mailto:APHIS.PRA@usda.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** Importation of Beef and Ovine Meat From Uruguay and Beef From Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay.

**OMB Control Number:** 0579–0372.

**Type of Request:** Revision to and extension of approval of an information collection.

**Abstract:** The Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301 *et seq.*) authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to, among other things, prohibit or restrict the importation and interstate movement of animals and animal products into the United States to prevent the introduction of animal diseases and pests. The regulations for the importation of animals and animal products are contained in 9 CFR parts 92 through 98; part 94 is pertinent to this collection.

The regulations in part 94 provide the requirements for the importation of specified animals and animal products to prevent the introduction into the United States of various animal diseases, including foot-and-mouth disease (FMD). Among other things, the regulations in § 94.1 place certain restrictions on beef and ovine meat exported to the United States in accordance with § 94.29, when the beef or ovine meat enters a port or otherwise transits a region where FMD exists during shipment to the United States. An authorized official of the exporting region must provide the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) with certification that specific

conditions for importation listed in § 94.1 have been met.

Section 94.29 places certain restrictions on the importation of beef and ovine meat from Uruguay and fresh (chilled or frozen) beef from certain regions in Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay into the United States to prevent the introduction of FMD. These conditions involve information collection activities such as the requirement that APHIS collect, for each shipment, certification from an authorized veterinary official of the country of export that the conditions in § 94.29 have been met. For some of these conditions to be met, the facility in which the bovines and sheep are slaughtered must allow periodic on-site evaluation and subsequent inspection of its facilities. Additional information collection activities included in this extension of approval include animal identification and testing of select lambs.

The information collection activities currently reported under OMB number 0579–0487 (Importation of Fresh Beef from Paraguay) are being merged into this collection (0579–0372). After OMB approves and combines the burden for both collections under 0579–0372, 0579–0487 will be discontinued.

We are asking OMB to approve our use of these information collection activities, as described, for an additional 3 years. APHIS has amended this information collection by decreasing the number of Respondents, and Responses; however, the Total Burden Hours being reported has increased.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. These comments will help us:

- (1) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- (2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic,

mechanical, and other collection technologies; e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

**Estimate of burden:** The public burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.999 hours per response.

**Respondents:** Authorized veterinary officials employed by the governments of Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, and Paraguay and managers of foreign facilities that process meat and meat products.

**Estimated annual number of respondents:** 22.

**Estimated annual number of responses per respondent:** 1,063.

**Estimated annual number of responses:** 23,379.

**Estimated total annual burden on respondents:** 23,361 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the reporting burden per response.)

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Done in Washington, DC, this 23rd day of July 2026.

**Kelly Moore,**

*Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15276 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-34-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Black Hills National Forest; Wyoming; Bear Lodge Rare Earth Project

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, Agriculture (USDA).

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

**SUMMARY:** The USDA Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment, through the Forest Service, Black Hills National Forest, intends to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to analyze and disclose effects from the proposed Mine Plan of Operations (MPO), submitted by Rare Element Resources Inc. (proponent), for the development of the Bear Lodge Rare Earth Project. This EIS will evaluate potential impacts of the proposed open-pit mining for rare earth elements from National Forest System (NFS) lands and its associated infrastructure. The proposed action is expected to require a project-specific forest plan amendment to authorize deviation from existing visual standards and guidelines in the

Black Hills Forest Plan. The Planning, Administrative Reviews, and Litigation System identification number for the project is #291093.

**DATES:** This notice initiates a 30-day period to solicit public comments and identify issues. The Forest Service requests that the public submit comments on the alternatives or effects and on relevant information, studies, or analyses with respect to the proposal by August 28, 2026. The Black Hills National Forest will publish the complete EIS in late 2027. Associated documentation will be published on the project web page, listed below. The Forest Service will not publish a draft environmental impact statement or conduct an objections process. A schedule for the decision-making process and additional information about the project can be found here: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/r02/blackhills/projects/291093>.

This project is a “covered project” under Title 41 of the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (FAST-41). FAST-41 provides increased transparency and predictability by requiring Federal agencies to publish comprehensive permitting timetables for all covered projects on the Permitting Council’s public dashboard. To view the FAST-41 Permitting Dashboard for the Project, visit: <https://www.permits.performance.gov/permitting-project/fast-41-covered-projects/bear-lodge-rare-earth-project>.

**ADDRESSES:** Additional information about the proposal; documents pertinent to this proposal; and direction regarding comment submission can be found on the following website: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/r02/blackhills/projects/291093>.

#### Written Comments

Comments may be sent electronically to <https://cara.fs2c.usda.gov/Public/CommentInput?Project=291093>. Written comments may also be submitted to Black Hills National Forest Supervisor’s Office, 1019 N 5th Street, Custer, SD 57730. Written comments will be accepted by 11:59 p.m. Mountain Standard Time on August 28, 2026. Comments submitted after this date may not be included in the analysis. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be part of the public record for this proposed action. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Wendy Schuyler, Project Manager, Black Hills National Forest, by email at

[wendy.schuyler@usda.gov](mailto:wendy.schuyler@usda.gov), or by phone at 605-673-9361.

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the hearing-impaired may call 711 to reach the Telecommunications Relay Service, 24 hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Rare Element Resources Inc. submitted a proposed Mine Plan of Operations (MPO) to the Forest Service, Black Hills National Forest on March 20, 2026, proposing to develop the Bear Lodge Rare Earth Project, in accordance with 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 228, subpart A.

#### Purpose and Need for Action

The purpose of the Forest Service action is to respond to the applicant’s proposal for the mining and development of essential rare earth elements, specifically neodymium-praseodymium (Nd/Pr), from its unpatented lode mining claims located on NFS administered lands in the project area and land use authorizations requested for siting of proposed support facilities and infrastructure. The need for Forest Service action is established by the Agency’s responsibilities under the Organic Administration Act of 1897 (16 U.S.C. 478, 482, and 551) and the locatable minerals regulations at 36 CFR 228 Subpart A. This sets forth rules and procedures through which use of the surface of NFS lands in connection with operations authorized by the United States Mining laws (30 United States Code 21–54) confer a statutory right to enter upon the public lands to search for minerals. In accordance with 36 CFR 228.5, the Forest Service must analyze and provide a timely response to the submittal of an MPO. Furthermore, the Forest Service must assess whether the proposed operations will be conducted so as, where feasible, to minimize adverse environmental impacts on National Forest surface resources in accordance with 36 CFR 228.8.

#### Preliminary Proposed Action and Alternatives

Under the Proposed Action, the Forest Service would approve, with terms and conditions for the protection of surface resources and any necessary modifications to comply with applicable laws and regulations, the applicant’s MPO, which describes the development of an open pit mine and associated infrastructure and support facilities. The proposed action includes extracting rare earth elements-bearing material via open-pit mining methods, hauling on NFS land, and mineral processing at a facility located on adjacent private

lands. Additional support infrastructure on NFS lands such as a guardhouse, access and haul roads, safety fencing, utilities, dewatering pond and water pipeline would also be constructed. The MPO incorporates reclamation and closure, monitoring, and mitigation activities throughout the life of the mine.

Construction of facilities, access roads, and power is estimated at two years. Mine life is estimated at 17 years, with additional mineral processing on private land for one year after mining. Upon completion of mining operations, closure and final reclamation phases would occur over approximately two years with environmental monitoring and maintenance until successful reclamation is demonstrated. The total time from construction through reclamation is expected to be 22 years.

Under the no action alternative, the Forest Service would deny approval of the applicant's MPO. The Forest Service will use a no action alternative as an environmental baseline to provide a comparative base for the potential effects of the proposed action. Other alternatives that may be considered in the EIS are alternative access/haul routes and variations of mine and facility configuration.

#### **Preliminary List of Substantive Issues and Expected Impacts**

Substantive issues are those that meaningfully inform the consideration of reasonably foreseeable impacts of the proposed action or a decision on the alternative selected for implementation (7 CFR 1b.11(a)(53)). The following preliminary substantive issues are expected to be evaluated:

- Hydrologic effects on stream channels, in-stream flows, water quality standards, and beneficial uses;
- Construction and operation of a mine may impair the scenic environment and alter grazing allotments overlapping the proposed mine project area;
- Potential for the mining operation to impact local air quality;
- Public health and safety concerns due to potential exposure to radioactive or hazardous elements from dust or ingesting meat, contaminants in water, dangers from road use;
- Current and future land uses and related socioeconomic consequences;
- Construction and mining operations may impact cultural sites or historic properties and sites that are important to Tribal Nations; and
- Construction and mining operations could affect wildlife species and habitats, including northern long-eared bats.

If fully implemented, the project represents a private investment in excess of \$500 million, expected to boost economic growth in Weston and Crook Counties, WY and surrounding communities. Rare Element Resources, Ltd. anticipates creating about 240 direct and indirect jobs during construction and employing 120 workers during the approximate 20-year operational period.

#### **Anticipated Permits and Other Authorizations**

The applicant requires Forest Service approval of the MPO and issuance of a special use permit as part of that MPO. In addition, the applicant will need to obtain approval from other regulatory agencies, including but not limited to:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, responsible for issuing a permit for Section 404 of the Clean Water Act;
- Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality:
  - Land Quality Division, for a permit to mine and reclamation;
  - Water Quality Department, permit to address any water discharge;
  - Air Quality Department, permit for construction, operating permit, to address emissions;
  - Industrial Siting Council, construction and operation of an industrial facility to assess socio-economic and environmental impacts;
- Wyoming State Engineer's Office, for all water appropriations, groundwater permits, and surface water permits; and
- Crook County is responsible for issuing any permits, agreements, and policy with regards to the construction, reconstruction, maintenance or use of County roads. The County may have other permits or agreements in conjunction with State of Wyoming regulations.

#### **Comments and the Objection Process**

This notice of intent initiates the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) timeline, which guides the development of the environmental impact statement. In this process, the Agency is requesting comments on potential alternatives and impacts, and identification of any relevant information, studies, or analyses of any kind concerning impacts affecting the quality of the human environment.

This Forest Service action is proposed by the Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment, and is not subject to the project-level objection procedures at 36 CFR 218 (36 CFR 218.13(b)). Approval of projects and activities by the Under Secretary constitutes the final administrative

determination of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (36 CFR 218.13(a)). If a project-level plan amendment is required, it would also not be subject to administrative review under 36 CFR 218 or 36 CFR 219 (36 CFR 219.59(b)).

It is important that interested members of the public provide their comments at such times and in such manner that they are useful to the Agency's preparation of the EIS; therefore, comments should be provided prior to the close of the comment period and should clearly articulate the commenter's concerns and contentions. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be part of the public record for this proposed action. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

#### **Cooperating and Participating Agencies**

The Forest Service is the lead Federal Agency. Based on specialized expertise and jurisdiction by law, the Cooperating Agencies include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality: Land Quality Division, Water Quality Department, Air Quality Division, and Industrial Siting Council. Participating Agencies include the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. National Park Service, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Wyoming State Engineer's Office, Wyoming Department of Agriculture, Crook County, Crook County Natural Resource District, and Weston County.

#### **Responsible Official**

The responsible official is Michael Boren, Under Secretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment.

#### **Nature of Decision To Be Made**

Based on environmental analysis and disclosure documented in the EIS, the responsible official will decide: (1) whether to approve the MPO as proposed or modified, or as described in an alternative; (2) what mitigation

measures, if needed, would be required; (3) what monitoring, if any, would be required; and (4) whether approval of an action alternative would be consistent with the Black Hills Forest Plan or whether an amendment to the Forest Plan would be required.

### Substantive Provisions

The proposed action may require a project-specific plan amendment to make the project consistent with the Black Hills Forest Plan. The 2012 Planning Rule at 36 CFR 219.13(b)(2) requires identification in the initial notice of the amendment of the substantive requirements of 36 CFR 219.8 through 219.11 that are likely to be directly related to the amendment. The substantive Planning Rule provisions that are likely be directly related to the proposed amendment are: § 219.10(a), Integrated resource management for multiple use, specifically (2): Renewable and nonrenewable energy and mineral resources, based on purpose of the project for which the amendment is needed, and (1) “aesthetic value,” “scenery,” and “viewsheds.” This is based on the purpose of the proposed amendment to exempt the project from certain Forest Plan scenic integrity standards and guidelines.

**Michael Boren,**

*Under Secretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15255 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3411–15–P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Office of the Secretary

#### **Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery**

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public’s reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on January 15,

2026 (91 FR 1746) during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

*Agency:* Office of the Secretary, Department of Commerce.

*Title:* Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery.

*OMB Control Number:* 0690–0030.

*Form Number(s):* None.

*Type of Request:* Regular submission. Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Number of Respondents:* 150,090.

*Average Hours per Response:* 5 to 30 minutes for surveys; 1 to 2 hours for focus groups; 30 minutes to 1 hour for interviews.

*Total Annual Burden Hours:* 30,495 hours.

*Needs and Uses:* The Executive Order 12862 directs Federal agencies to provide service to the public that matches or exceeds the best service available in the private sector. In order to work continuously to ensure that the Department of Commerce (DOC) programs are effective and meet our customers’ needs we use a generic clearance process to collect qualitative feedback on our service delivery. This collection of information is necessary to enable DOC to garner customer and stakeholder feedback in an efficient, timely manner, in accordance with our commitment to improving service delivery. The information collected from our customers and stakeholders will help ensure that users have an effective, efficient, and satisfying experience with the programs. This feedback will provide insights into customer or stakeholder perceptions, experiences and expectations, provide an early warning of issues with service, or focus attention on areas where communication, training or changes in operations might improve delivery of products or services. These collections will allow for ongoing, collaborative and actionable communication between DOC and its customers and stakeholders. It will also allow feedback to contribute directly to the improvement of program management.

Feedback collected under this generic clearance will provide useful information, but it will not yield data that can be generalized to the overall population. This type of generic clearance for qualitative information will not be used for quantitative information collections that are designed to yield reliably actionable results, such as monitoring trends over time or documenting program performance.

*Affected Public:* Federal, State, Local and Tribal governments, Individuals, and Private Sector.

*Frequency:* One-time.

*Respondent’s Obligation:* Voluntary.

*Legal Authority:* 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

This information collection request may be viewed at [www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov). Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function and entering either the title of the collection or the OMB Control Number 0690–0030.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

*Departmental PRA Compliance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15272 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–17–P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Office of the Secretary

#### **Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Generic Clearance for Requests for Meetings and Registrations for Events and Conferences**

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public’s reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on June 01, 2026 (91 FR 32374) during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

*Agency:* Office of the Secretary, Department of Commerce.

*Title:* Generic Clearance for Requests for Meetings and Registrations for Events and Conferences.

*OMB Control Number:* 0690–0038.

*Form Number(s):* None.

*Type of Request:* Regular submission. Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Number of Respondents:* 51,000.

*Average Hours per Response:* The average time per response is one hour.

*Total Annual Burden Hours:* 17,000 hours.

*Needs and Uses:* This generic provides a quick and efficient process to create forms for DOC to register sponsored conferences, workshops, meetings, outreach events, process temporary employees, excepted service positions, advisory committee members, website content and respondents for miscellaneous reasons. For such activities to be timely and to optimally use available resources to address customer needs and provide opportunities for program events and services, it is necessary for DOC to have a means to timely select the participants, and to quickly accommodate the participants' request according to the type or purpose of a given activity. The information collected from our customers and stakeholders will help ensure that users have effective, efficient, and satisfying experiences with our programs and services, in compliance with E.O. 12862.

*Affected Public:* Federal, State, Local and Tribal governments, Individuals, and Private Sector.

*Frequency:* One-time.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary.

*Legal Authority:* 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

This information collection request may be viewed at [www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov). Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function and entering either the title of the collection or the OMB Control Number 0690–0038.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

*Departmental PRA Compliance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15275 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–17–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Telecommunications and Information Administration

#### First Responder Network Authority Special Virtual Public Combined Board and Finance and Investment Committee Meeting

**AGENCY:** First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority), National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), U.S. Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Announcement of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The FirstNet Authority Board will convene a special virtual public meeting of the Board and Finance and Investment Committee.

**DATES:** August 17, 2026; 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT); virtual only via Microsoft Teams.

**ADDRESSES:** Members of the public may listen to this virtual meeting and view the presentation by joining from the Microsoft Teams meeting link: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/24001698523765?p=1I8Qxe6ENKhoI fAxF2>.

*Meeting ID:* 240 016 985 237 65.

*Passcode:* Vj28MK6k.

If you experience technical difficulty, contact the FirstNet Authority Customer Support Service Desk at [CCSD@FirstNet.gov](mailto:CCSD@FirstNet.gov). Teams link and information can also be found on the FirstNet Authority website ([FirstNet.gov](http://FirstNet.gov)).

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

*General information:* Jennifer Watts, (571) 665–6178, [Jennifer.Watts@FirstNet.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Watts@FirstNet.gov).

*Media inquiries:* Ryan Oremland, (571) 665–6186, [Ryan.Oremland@FirstNet.gov](mailto:Ryan.Oremland@FirstNet.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Background:* The Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (codified at 47 U.S.C. 1401 *et seq.*) (Act) established the FirstNet Authority as an independent authority within NTIA. The Act directs the FirstNet Authority to ensure the building, deployment, and operation of a nationwide interoperable public safety broadband network. The FirstNet Authority Board is responsible for making strategic decisions regarding the operations of the FirstNet Authority.

*Matters to be Considered:* The FirstNet Authority will post a detailed agenda for the Special Virtual Public Combined Board and Finance and Investment Committee Meeting on [FirstNet.gov](http://FirstNet.gov) prior to the meeting. The agenda topics are subject to change. Please note that the subjects discussed

by the Board and Finance and Investment Committee may involve commercial or financial information that is privileged or confidential, or other legal matters affecting the FirstNet Authority. As such, the Board may, by majority vote, close the meeting only for the time necessary to preserve the confidentiality of such information, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 1424(e)(2).

*Other Information:* The Special Virtual Public Combined Board and Board Finance and Investment Committee Meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. Individuals requiring accommodations are asked to notify Jennifer Watts at (571) 665–6178 or email: [Jennifer.Watts@FirstNet.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Watts@FirstNet.gov) before the meeting.

*Records:* The FirstNet Authority maintains records of all Board proceedings. Minutes of the Special Virtual Public Combined Board and Finance and Investment Committee Meeting will be available on [FirstNet.gov](http://FirstNet.gov).

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Jennifer Watts,**

*Board Secretary, First Responder Network Authority.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15237 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[B–90–2026]

#### Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 46, Notification of Proposed Production Activity; Patheon Pharmaceuticals Inc.; (Pharmaceutical Products); Cincinnati, Ohio

Patheon Pharmaceuticals Inc., (Patheon) submitted a notification of proposed production activity to the FTZ Board (the Board) for its facilities in Cincinnati, Ohio within Subzone 46K. The notification conforming to the requirements of the Board's regulations (15 CFR 400.22) was received on July 16, 2026.

Pursuant to 15 CFR 400.14(b), FTZ production activity would be limited to the specific foreign-status material(s)/ component(s) and specific finished product(s) described in the submitted notification (summarized below) and subsequently authorized by the Board. The benefits that may stem from conducting production activity under FTZ procedures are explained in the background section of the Board's website—accessible via [www.trade.gov/ftz](http://www.trade.gov/ftz). The proposed finished product(s) and material(s)/component(s) would be

added to the production authority that the Board previously approved for the operation, as reflected on the Board's website.

The proposed finished product is finished vibegron tablets (duty-free).

The proposed foreign-status material is vibegron (active pharmaceutical ingredient is Beta-3 adrenergic receptor) (duty rate 6.5%).

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary and sent to: [ftz@trade.gov](mailto:ftz@trade.gov). The closing period for their receipt is September 8, 2026.

A copy of the notification will be available for public inspection in the "Online FTZ Information System" section of the Board's website.

For further information, contact Christopher Wedderburn at [Chris.Wedderburn@trade.gov](mailto:Chris.Wedderburn@trade.gov).

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Elizabeth Whiteman,**  
Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026-15233 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[S-182-2026]

#### Approval of Subzone Status; Energy Recovery, Inc.; San Leandro, California

On April 1, 2026, the Executive Secretary of the Foreign-Trade Zones (FTZ) Board docketed an application submitted by the City of San Jose, grantee of FTZ 18, requesting subzone status subject to the existing activation limit of FTZ 18, on behalf of Energy Recovery, Inc., in San Leandro, California.

The application was processed in accordance with the FTZ Act and Regulations, including notice in the **Federal Register** inviting public comment (91 FR 17787, April 8, 2026). The FTZ staff examiner reviewed the application and determined that it meets the criteria for approval. Pursuant to the authority delegated to the FTZ Board Executive Secretary (15 CFR 400.36(f)), the application to establish Subzone 18X was approved on July 24, 2026, subject to the FTZ Act and the Board's regulations, including section 400.13, and further subject to FTZ 18's 2,000-acre activation limit.

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Elizabeth Whiteman,**  
Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026-15234 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

[Docket No. 260720-0174]

RIN 0625-XC060

#### Procedures To Administer Import Adjustment Offset Amounts for Certain Imports of Automobile and Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicle Parts for Automobile and Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicle Engine Manufacturers

**AGENCY:** International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** On May 15, 2026, the International Trade Administration published a Notice titled "Amending the Procedures To Administer Import Adjustment Offset Amounts for Certain Imports of Automobile Parts Under Proclamation 10908 to Include Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicle Parts" (May 15 Notice), which established amended procedures for automobile and medium- and heavy-duty vehicle (MHDV) manufacturers to apply for and use the import adjustment offset amounts established by Presidential Proclamation 10925 of April 29, 2025, "Amendments to Adjusting Imports of Automobiles and Automobile Parts Into the United States", and Presidential Proclamation 10984 of October 17, 2025, "Adjusting Imports of Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles, Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicle Parts, and Buses Into the United States." This notice provides procedures to allow domestic manufacturers of automobile engines and MHDV engines to claim import adjustment offsets for imports of parts in a manner consistent with those Proclamations. The procedures exclude certain engine assembly operations determined to be limited production operations from being considered in the calculation of offsets.

**DATES:** Applications from domestic manufacturers of automobile engines and MHDV engines can be submitted starting July 29, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** Offset applications must be submitted electronically to: [autooffset@trade.gov](mailto:autooffset@trade.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Emily Davis, Director for Public Affairs, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 202-482-3809, [Emily.Davis@trade.gov](mailto:Emily.Davis@trade.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

On March 26, 2025, the President issued Proclamation 10908, finding that

imports of automobiles (defined as passenger vehicles (sedans, sport utility vehicles, crossover utility vehicles, minivans, and cargo vans) and light trucks) and certain automobile parts continue to threaten to impair the national security of the United States and imposing specified tariffs to adjust imports of automobiles and certain automobile parts so that such imports will not threaten to impair national security pursuant to section 232 of the Expansion Act of 1962, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1862) (90 FR 14705). Proclamation 10908 imposed a 25 percent tariff on certain imports of automobiles, effective April 3, 2025, and certain imports of automobile parts, effective May 3, 2025. On April 29, 2025, the President issued Proclamation 10925, which allowed for automobile manufacturers assembling automobiles in the United States to apply for an import adjustment offset amount, which would offset certain tariff liability under Proclamation 10908 on imports of automobile parts (90 FR 18899). Proclamation 10925 required the Secretary of Commerce (Commerce) to establish a process by which automobile manufacturers may submit documentation supporting eligibility for an import adjustment offset amount. The International Trade Administration established an import adjustment offset process through a June 13, 2025 Notice, "Procedures To Administer Import Adjustment Offset Amounts for Certain Imports of Automobile Parts Under Proclamation 10908, as Amended" (90 FR 25027).

On October 17, 2025, the President issued Proclamation 10984, finding that imports of MHDVs, certain MHDVPs, and buses threaten to impair the national security of the United States and imposing specified tariffs to adjust imports of MHDVs, certain MHDVPs, and buses so that such imports will not threaten to impair national security (90 FR 48451). Given the "close connections and overlap between part suppliers" for the automobile industry and the MHDV industry, Proclamation 10984 also amended Proclamation 10925 to conform certain aspects of the tariff system imposed by Proclamations 10908 and 10925 for automobiles and automobile parts to the tariff system imposed by Proclamation 10984. On May 15, 2026, the International Trade Administration amended the import adjustment offset process to allow domestic manufacturers to apply for and receive an import adjustment offset for MHDVs assembled in the United States (91 FR 27914).

Proclamation 10984 also allowed engine manufacturers assembling

automobile engines and MHDV engines in the United States to apply for an import adjustment offset amount, which would offset certain tariff liability under Proclamations 10908 and 10984 on imports of engine parts. Proclamation 10984 required Commerce to establish an import adjustment offset process for automobile engine manufacturers and MHDV engine manufacturers equivalent to that provided for automobile manufacturers and MHDV manufacturers, with offset accruals based on the aggregate value of automobile engine and MHDV engines assembled in the United States by the engine manufacturer, with the same accrual percentage rate and U.S. assembly restrictions as were provided in the Proclamation for automobile manufacturers and MHDV manufacturers. This notice builds on the May 15 Notice by announcing the Engine Offset Process, which allows domestic manufacturers of automobile engines and MHDV engines to apply for and receive import adjustment offsets, including application, documentation, and certification requirements, eligibility conditions, and coordination with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). This notice was separate from the May 15 notice, as engines are a separate product category from automobiles and MHDVs, and Commerce needed time to research the engine industry and develop appropriate procedures for these distinct products. Import Adjustment Offset amounts may be used to offset any tariff liability incurred under clauses 1, 7, or 12 of Proclamation 10984 or Proclamation 10908 on MHDV or automobile parts.

Proclamation 10984 authorized Commerce to issue regulations and guidance consistent with that proclamation, including addressing operational necessity. Commerce has determined that, in light of the “close connections and overlap between part suppliers” for the automobile industry and the MHDV industry identified in Proclamation 10984, and the fact that the President found that conforming the tariff systems between automobiles and MHDVs will more effectively address the threat to national security found in Proclamations 10908 and 10984, it is necessary to allow automobile engine and MHDV engine manufacturers assembling engines in the United States to apply for an import adjustment offset amount for parts, allowing them to offset tariff liability under both Proclamation 10984 and Proclamation 10908.

Proclamation 10984 provides Commerce with the authority to prohibit

engine manufacturers from using offset amounts for imports of products where offsets would be inconsistent with addressing the threat to national security found in that Proclamation. Through Proclamation 10984, the President sought to strengthen supply chains, bolster industrial resilience, create high-quality jobs that will expand the skilled workforce in the United States, and increase domestic capacity utilization and U.S. market share. Similarly, for automobiles, Proclamation 10925 expressed the goals of reducing reliance on foreign manufacturing and importation of automobiles and automobile parts, strengthening U.S. vehicle assembly operations, shifting manufacturing activity into the United States, creating jobs in the automotive industry, and ensuring that other benefits of production are concentrated in the United States.

In light of these goals, and consistent with the May 15 Notice, Commerce has determined that it is appropriate to exclude assembly operations determined to be “limited production operations” from being considered in the calculation of engine offsets. Commerce has determined that engine production operations in the United States that do not utilize a minimum number of U.S. originating core engine components should be considered to be “limited production operations” under the Engine Offset Process; for purposes of the Engine Offset Process, “core engine components” are turbochargers and certain other engine parts identified in Table A.2 in the Appendix to Annex 4–B (Product-Specific Rules of Origin) of the United States-Mexico-Canada Trade Agreement (USMCA) (specifically heads, blocks, crankshafts, pistons, and rods). In the first two years of the Engine Offset Process, only engine production operations that utilize two or more U.S. originating core engine components are eligible for offsets. For year three of the Engine Offset Process and any subsequent years, only engine production operations that utilize four or more U.S. originating core engine components are eligible for offsets. A core engine component is considered to be U.S. originating if it has been substantially transformed in the United States, *i.e.*, has undergone processing in the United States which results in an article having a fundamental change in form, appearance, nature, or character from that of any imported article used in its production. For purposes of this requirement, engine blocks and heads will also be considered to be U.S.-originating if they have undergone all or substantially all machining in the

United States, evaluated by comparing the value added to the engine blocks and heads by machining in the United States and outside of the United States. In its Engine Offset Process submission, a manufacturer must provide a description of the machining performed on any core engine components that it claims to be U.S. originating, including the location where the machining occurred.

Proclamation 10925 states that Commerce, “in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Commissioner of CBP, shall issue such regulations, guidance, and procedures as necessary to carry out the provisions of this proclamation and Proclamation 10908, and may establish standards for . . . validating manufacturer certifications.” To validate engine manufacturer certifications used to calculate offsets provided in preceding years, Commerce has determined that it is necessary for U.S. manufacturers to describe in detail their production, including the number, type, and value of engines produced, from any year in which they claimed an offset. Should an applicant produce fewer engines or produce engines at a lower value than projected in information provided to Commerce in previous Engine Offset Process applications, Commerce may adjust the following year’s offset amount accordingly.

## II. Application Process

### A. Import Adjustment Offset Amount Structure and Duration

Proclamation 10984 provides that automobile engine and MHDV engine manufacturers are eligible for an import adjustment offset amount equal to 3.75 percent of the aggregate value of all engines assembled in the United States by that manufacturer, as determined annually by Commerce. The relevant annual periods for MHDV engines are:

- Year 1: MHDV engines assembled between November 1, 2025, and October 31, 2026;
- Year 2: MHDV engines assembled between November 1, 2026, and October 31, 2027;
- Year 3: MHDV engines assembled between November 1, 2027, and October 31, 2028;
- Year 4: MHDV engines assembled between November 1, 2028, and October 31, 2029; and
- Year 5: MHDV engines assembled between November 1, 2029, and October 31, 2030.

The relevant annual periods for automobile engines are:

- Year 1: Automobile engines assembled between May 1, 2026 and April 30, 2027;

- Year 2: Automobile engines assembled between May 1, 2027 and April 30, 2028;
- Year 3: Automobile engines assembled between May 1, 2028 and April 30, 2029; and
- Year 4: Automobile engines assembled between May 1, 2029 and April 30, 2030.

As applications for import adjustment offsets for automobiles assembled between April 5, 2025 and May 1, 2026 included the value of the engine in the calculation of the automobile import adjustment offset, Commerce has determined that permitting import adjustment offsets for automobile engines assembled in the United States in that same time period would inappropriately allow import adjustment offsets to accrue multiple times for the same engine.

Import adjustment offset amounts may be used by MHDV engine manufacturers to reduce tariffs on MHDVPs provided for in Proclamation 10984 or tariffs on automobile parts provided for in Proclamation 10908, as amended, and may be carried forward indefinitely until fully exhausted, provided they were granted based on qualifying engines assembled in the relevant annual periods described above. Similarly, import adjustment offset amounts may be used by automobile engine manufacturers to reduce tariffs on MHDVPs provided for in Proclamation 10984 or tariffs on automobile parts provided for in Proclamation 10908, and may be carried forward indefinitely until fully exhausted, provided they were granted based on qualifying engines assembled in the relevant annual periods described above.

For purposes of this notice:

- “MHDVPs” means the articles subject to duties under Proclamation 10984 and classified under the subheadings of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) that were established by Proclamation 10984 in U.S. note 38(i) of subchapter III of chapter 99 of the HTSUS, or goods entered under a tariff heading subject to Proclamation 10984, based on a certification by the importer of record that such parts will be used for MHDV production or repair activity in the United States.
- “Automobile parts” means the articles subject to duties under Proclamation 10908 and classified under the subheadings of the HTSUS that were established by that proclamation, in U.S. note 33(g) of the HTSUS, or goods entered under a tariff heading subject to Proclamation 10908, as amended, based on the appropriate

certification by the importer of record that such parts will be used in automobile production or repair activity in the United States.

- “MHDV” means articles that would be subject to duties under Proclamation 10984 and classified under the subheadings of the HTSUS that were established by that proclamation in U.S. note 38(b) of subchapter III of chapter 99 of the HTSUS.

- “Automobile” means articles that would be subject to duties under Proclamation 10908 and classified under the subheadings of the HTSUS that were established by that proclamation in U.S. note 33(b) of subchapter III of chapter 99 of the HTSUS. This definition includes light-duty trucks classified in Class 1 and 2 with a gross vehicle weight under 10,000 pounds.

- “Aftertreatment system” means the components that are attached to an internal-combustion engine to reduce exhaust emissions.

- “Turbocharger” means a device utilized in an internal combustion engine to compress the intake air and force more air into the engine to produce more power. For the purposes of the core engine components requirement, this includes superchargers.

#### B. Application Requirements

Manufacturers seeking an import adjustment offset amount must submit the following documentation for each period for which an import adjustment offset amount is sought. For MHDV engine manufacturers, this requires submission of one set of documentation for the period of November 1, 2025 through October 31, 2026; and separate sets of documentation for each of the periods of November 1, 2026 through October 31, 2027; November 1, 2027 through October 31, 2028; November 1, 2028 through October 31, 2029; and November 1, 2029 through October 31, 2030. For automobile engine manufacturers, this requires submission of one set of documentation for each period of May 1, 2026 through April 30, 2027; May 1, 2027 through April 30, 2028; May 1, 2028 through April 30, 2029; and May 1, 2029 through April 30, 2030.

#### 1. Production Forecast

a. For MHDV and automobile engines: The number of completed engines projected to be produced in the United States by model and the plant locations where the projected engines will undergo final production during each reporting period. Engine manufacturers shall also describe the U.S.

manufacturing activities for each model at each plant location. For the first two years of the program, engine manufacturer's production forecast shall include only models where production relies on two or more U.S. originating core engine components. Core engine components are turbochargers and a subset of engine parts identified in Table A.2 in the Appendix to Annex 4–B (Product-Specific Rules of Origin) of the USMCA, specifically, heads, blocks, crankshafts, pistons, and rods. For year three of the Engine Offset Process and any subsequent years, engine manufacturer's production forecast shall only include models where production relies on four or more U.S. originating core engine components. A core engine component is considered to be U.S.-originating if it has been substantially transformed in the United States, *i.e.*, has undergone processing in the United States which results in an article having a fundamental change in form, appearance, nature, or character from any imported article used in its production. For purposes of this requirement, engine blocks and heads will also be considered to be U.S. originating if they have undergone all or substantially all machining in the United States. In its submission, the engine manufacturer must provide a description of the machining performed on any core engine components it claims to be U.S. originating and the location where the machining occurred.

#### 2. Engine Value

a. For MHDV and automobile engines: The aggregate value of all such engines identified in the Production Forecast as eligible for an offset assembled in the United States during each reporting period. Automobile and MHDV manufacturers that produce their own engines must calculate the aggregate value of those engines using a methodology consistent with the method for calculating net cost set out in Chapter 4 of the USMCA. Automobile and MHDV manufacturers that manufacture their own engines and that receive offset for U.S. vehicle production under the May 15 Notice are required under that program to deduct the value of the engine contained in the automobiles or MHDVs in calculating the aggregate value of the relevant MHDVs or automobiles. For such manufacturers, the aggregate value of engines under the Engine Offset Process may not exceed the value of engines used in calculating the aggregate value of MHDVs or automobiles under the May 15 Notice. Engine manufacturers that produce engines for sale to MHDV or automobile manufacturers must

calculate the aggregate value of those engines using either a methodology consistent with the method for calculating net cost set out in Chapter 4 of the USMCA, or by using the forecasted sales price of the engine when sold to the automobile or MHDV manufacturer.

b. Aftertreatment systems: The value of aftertreatment systems may not be included in the aggregate value of engines under the Engine Offset Process unless the aftertreatment systems are included as part of the engine assembly process at an engine manufacturing facility. If the aftertreatment system is incorporated as part of the automobile or MHDV assembly process at the MHDV or automobile assembly facility, the value of the aftertreatment system shall not be included in the Engine Offset Process submission. Moreover, if the value of the aftertreatment system was included as part of the aggregate value of an automobile or MHDV in a submission under the May 15 Notice, the value of the aftertreatment system shall not be included in the aggregate value of the engine for purposes of the Engine Offset Process.

### 3. Prior Year Production and Vehicle Value

a. For MHDV and automobile engines: If a manufacturer received an offset in the previous year, the manufacturer must provide the number of completed engines produced in the United States in the previous reporting period, the aggregate value of those engines, and a description of the U.S. manufacturing activities for each engine model at each plant location, including a description of and the location of machining of any core engine components, if applicable. In providing these figures, manufacturers must use the eligibility considerations and value methodology used in the prior year's application.

### 4. Tariff Liability Estimate

a. For MHDV engines: Projected MHDVPs tariff liability under clauses 1, 7, and 12 of Proclamation 10984, broken down by Proclamation 10984 tariff costs the manufacturer will incur directly and Proclamation 10984 tariff costs the manufacturer's suppliers will incur.

b. For Automobile engines: Projected automobile parts tariff liability under Proclamation 10908 or under clause 12 of Proclamation 10984, broken down by tariff costs the manufacturer will incur directly and tariff costs the manufacturer's suppliers will incur.

### 5. Offset Calculation

a. For MHDV and automobile engines: Requested total import adjustment offset

amount for each reporting period, including details of how such amount was calculated.

### 6. Importers of Record

a. For MHDV and automobile engines: A list of authorized importers of record eligible to decrement against the manufacturer's import adjustment offset amount. This list must include the importer's Importer of Record number and the amount of the import adjustment offset amount allotted to each importer of record. Updates to this list may be submitted electronically to Commerce at [autooffset@trade.gov](mailto:autooffset@trade.gov). At its discretion, Commerce may update this list at other times during the duration of the Offset Process.

### 7. Certification

a. For MHDV and automobile engines: Each submission must include the following certification, which must be completed, signed, and dated by the time the application is submitted:

I, (PRINTED NAME AND TITLE), currently employed by (COMPANY NAME), certify that I prepared or otherwise supervised the preparation of the attached submission. I certify that the submission is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I am aware that the claims made herein, and the substantiating documentation, may be subject to audit by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and/or the U.S. Department of Commerce. I am also aware that U.S. law (including, but not limited to, 18 U.S.C. 1001) imposes criminal sanctions on individuals who knowingly and willfully make material false statements to the U.S. Government.

### 8. Additional Information

a. For MHDV and automobile engines: Any other information the applicant feels is necessary to facilitate decision making.

### C. Review and Approval Process

Commerce will review applications for completeness. Commerce may request supplemental documentation or clarification. Approved manufacturers will be notified in writing of approval and amount of offset granted, and relevant import adjustment offset amount data, including amounts and importer of record numbers, will be transmitted by Commerce to CBP. CBP will administer the offset at the time of entry summary filing and may request additional documentation to validate entries.

### D. Usage and Enforcement

Import Adjustment Offset amounts claimed at time of entry:

- May be used only by approved importers associated with the approved manufacturer;

- May be applied only to reduce tariff liability incurred under clauses 1, 7, or 12 of Proclamation 10984 or Proclamation 10908 on MHDV or automobile parts;

- May not exceed the manufacturer's total tariff liability on covered MHDVPs and automobile parts; and

- May not be traded, sold, or transferred.

### E. Oversight and Adjustments

Commerce will monitor manufacturer and importer compliance and communicate information regarding noncompliance to CBP, where appropriate. CBP or Commerce may exercise their authority to conduct audits of claims in an application, and any supporting documentation, to ensure compliance with these procedures. Failure to substantiate the claims in the application, or not allowing CBP and/or Commerce to audit the claims and supporting documentation may result in denial of an application, or an adjustment to the amount of an offset previously granted. If it is determined that inaccurate, incomplete, or false information has been submitted, penalties may be imposed.

### III. Paperwork Reduction Act Public Burden Statement

A Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with an information collection subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 unless the information collection has a currently valid OMB Control Number. The approved OMB Control Number for this information collection is 0625–0283. Without this approval, we could not conduct this information collection. Public reporting for this information collection is estimated to be approximately 40 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the information collection. The estimated burden hours are within the approved burden hour limits of this control number. All responses to this information collection are voluntary. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this information collection, including suggestions for reducing this burden to the International Trade Administration

Paperwork Reduction Act Program:  
PRA@trade.gov.

William Kimmitt,

Under Secretary for International Trade,  
United States Department of Commerce.

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BILLING CODE 3510-DR-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

[A–570–979, C–570–980, A–570–010, C–570–011]

#### Notice of Initiation of Changed Circumstances Reviews, and Consideration of Revocation of the Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders, in Part: Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders on Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled Into Modules, From the People's Republic of China; and Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders on Certain Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Products From the People's Republic of China

**AGENCY:** Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

**SUMMARY:** Based on a request from RNG International, Inc. (RNG), the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) is initiating changed circumstances reviews (CCR) to consider the possible revocation, in part, of the antidumping duty (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) orders on crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, whether or not assembled into modules (solar cells), from the People's Republic of China, and AD and CVD orders on crystalline silicon photovoltaic products (solar products) from the People's Republic of China (China), with respect to certain off-grid small portable crystalline silicon photovoltaic (CSPV) panels as described below.

**DATES:** Applicable July 29, 2026.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Alex DiCenso, AD/CVD Operations, Office VII, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–0689.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

On December 7, 2012, Commerce published the AD and CVD orders on solar cells from China in the **Federal**

**Register**.<sup>1</sup> On February 18, 2015, Commerce published the AD and CVD orders on solar products from China in the **Federal Register**.<sup>2</sup>

On April 23, 2026, RNG, a producer and exporter of subject merchandise, requested, through CCRs, revocation of the solar cells and solar products *Orders*, in part, with respect to certain small off-grid portable CSPV panels, pursuant to section 751(b)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), and 19 CFR 351.216(b).<sup>3</sup> On May 28, 2026, RNG filed a letter from the American Alliance for Solar Manufacturing (the Alliance), a U.S. consortium of producers of the domestic like product and a petitioner in the original underlying investigations, in which the Alliance stated that it did not oppose the partial revocation of the solar cells and solar products *Orders* proposed by RNG.<sup>4</sup> T1 Energy Inc., a U.S. producer of domestic like products, also filed a letter stating that it did not oppose the partial revocation of the solar cells and solar products *Orders* proposed by RNG.<sup>5</sup>

On June 8, 2026, Commerce extended the deadline to initiate by 45 days to July 22, 2026, pursuant to 19 CFR 351.302(b).<sup>6</sup>

#### Scope of the Solar Cells Orders

The merchandise covered by the *Solar Cells Orders* is crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, and modules, laminates, and panels, consisting of crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, whether or not partially or fully assembled into other products, including, but not limited to, modules,

laminates, panels and building integrated materials.

These *Orders* cover crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells of thickness equal to or greater than 20 micrometers, having a p/n junction formed by any means, whether or not the cell has undergone other processing, including, but not limited to, cleaning, etching, coating, and/or addition of materials (including, but not limited to, metallization and conductor patterns) to collect and forward the electricity that is generated by the cell.

Merchandise under consideration may be described at the time of importation as parts for final finished products that are assembled after importation, including, but not limited to, modules, laminates, panels, building-integrated modules, building-integrated panels, or other finished goods kits. Such parts that otherwise meet the definition of merchandise under consideration are included in the scope of these *Orders*.

Modules, laminates, and panels produced in a third country from cells produced in China are covered by this *Order*; however, modules, laminates, and panels produced in China from cells produced in a third country are not covered by this *Order*.

Excluded from the scope of these *Orders* are thin film photovoltaic products produced from amorphous silicon (a-Si), cadmium telluride (CdTe), or copper indium gallium selenide (CIGS).

Also excluded from the scope of these *Orders* are crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, not exceeding 10,000 mm<sup>2</sup> in surface area, that are permanently integrated into a consumer good whose function is other than power generation and that consumes the electricity generated by the integrated crystalline silicon photovoltaic cell. Where more than one cell is permanently integrated into a consumer good, the surface area for purposes of this exclusion shall be the total combined surface area of all cells that are integrated into the consumer good.

Additionally, excluded from the scope of these *Orders* are panels with surface area from 3,450 mm<sup>2</sup> to 33,782 mm<sup>2</sup> with one black wire and one red wire (each of type 22 AWG or 24 AWG not more than 206 mm in length when measured from panel extrusion), and not exceeding 2.9 volts, 1.1 amps, and 3.19 watts. For the purposes of this exclusion, no panel shall contain an internal battery or external computer peripheral ports.

Also excluded from the scope of these *Orders* are:

<sup>1</sup> See *Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules, from the People's Republic of China: Amended Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, and Antidumping Duty Order*, 77 FR 73018 (December 7, 2012); see also *Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules, from the People's Republic of China: Countervailing Duty Order*, 77 FR 73017 (December 7, 2012) (collectively, *Solar Cells Orders*).

<sup>2</sup> See *Certain Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Products from the People's Republic of China: Antidumping Duty Order; and Amended Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination and Countervailing Duty Order*, 80 FR 8592 (February 18, 2015) (collectively, *Solar Products Orders*).

<sup>3</sup> See RNG's Letter, "Request for Changed Circumstances Reviews and Request to Combine Initiation and Preliminary Results," dated April 23, 2026 (CCR Request).

<sup>4</sup> See American Alliance of Solar Manufacturing's Letter, "Letter of No Opposition to RNG's Changed Circumstances Review Request," dated May 28, 2026 (Alliance's No-Opposition Letter).

<sup>5</sup> See T1 Energy Inc.'s Letter, "Letter of No Opposition to RNG's Changed Circumstances Review Request," dated June 3, 2026 (T1 Energy's No-Opposition Letter).

<sup>6</sup> See Memorandum, "Extension of Deadline for Initiation of Changed Circumstances Reviews," dated June 8, 2026.

(1) Off grid CSPV panels in rigid form with a glass cover, with the following characteristics:

(A) a total power output of 100 watts or less per panel;

(B) a maximum surface area of 8,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel;

(C) do not include a built-in inverter;

(D) must include a permanently connected wire that terminates in either an 8mm male barrel connector, or a two-port rectangular connector with two pins in square housings of different colors;

(E) must include visible parallel grid collector metallic wire lines every 1–4 millimeters across each solar cell; and

(F) must be in individual retail packaging (for purposes of this provision, retail packaging typically includes graphics, the product name, its description and/or features, and foam for transport); and

(2) Off grid CSPV panels without a glass cover, with the following characteristics:

(A) a total power output of 100 watts or less per panel;

(B) a maximum surface area of 8,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel;

(C) do not include a built-in inverter;

(D) must include visible parallel grid collector metallic wire lines every 1–4 millimeters across each solar cell; and

(E) each panel is

1. permanently integrated into a consumer good;
2. encased in a laminated material without stitching, or
3. has all of the following

characteristics: (i) the panel is encased in sewn fabric with visible stitching, (ii) includes a mesh zippered storage pocket, and (iii) includes a permanently attached wire that terminates in a female USB–A connector.

In addition, the following CSPV panels are excluded from the scope of these *Orders*:

(1) Off-grid CSPV panels in rigid form with a glass cover, with each of the following physical characteristics, whether or not assembled into a fully completed off-grid hydropanel whose function is conversion of water vapor into liquid water:

(A) A total power output of no more than 80 watts per panel;

(B) A surface area of less than 5,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel;

(C) Do not include a built-in inverter;

(D) Do not have a frame around the edges of the panel;

(E) Include a clear glass back panel; and

(F) Must include a permanently connected wire that terminates in a two-port rectangular connector.

Additionally excluded from the scope of these *Orders* are off-grid small

portable crystalline silicon photovoltaic panels, with or without a glass cover, with the following characteristics: (1) a total power output of 200 watts or less per panel; (2) a maximum surface area of 16,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel; (3) no built-in inverter; (4) an integrated handle or a handle attached to the package for ease of carry; (5) one or more integrated kickstands for easy installation or angle adjustment; and (6) a wire of not less than 3 meters either permanently connected or attached to the package that terminates in an 8mm diameter male barrel connector.

Also excluded from the scope of these *Orders* are off-grid crystalline silicon photovoltaic panels in rigid form with a glass cover, with each of the following physical characteristics, whether or not assembled into a fully completed off-grid hydropanel whose function is conversion of water vapor into liquid water:

(A) A total power output of no more than 180 watts per panel at 155 degrees Celsius;

(B) A surface area of less than 16,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel;

(C) Include a keep-out area of approximately 1,200 cm<sup>2</sup> around the edges of the panel that does not contain solar cells;

(D) Do not include a built-in inverter;

(E) Do not have a frame around the edges of the panel;

(F) Include a clear glass back panel;

(G) Must include a permanently connected wire that terminates in a two-port rounded rectangular, sealed connector;

(H) Include a thermistor installed into the permanently connected wire before the two-port connector; and

(I) Include exposed positive and negative terminals at opposite ends of the panel, not enclosed in a junction box.

Also excluded from the scope of these *Orders* are off-grid CSPV panels in rigid form, with or without a glass cover, permanently attached to an aluminum extrusion that is an integral component of an automation device that controls natural light, whether or not assembled into a fully completed automation device that controls natural light, with the following characteristics:

(1) A total power output of 20 watts or less per panel; (2) A maximum surface area of 1,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel; (3) Does not include a built-in inverter for powering third party devices.

Also excluded from the scope of these *Orders* are off-grid CSPV panels for dedicated powering of a single low-voltage device (60Vdc or less) that:

(A) Have a glass cover;

(B) Have an aluminum frame around the edges of each panel;

(C) Have a total power output of 140 watts or less per panel;

(D) Are of an elongated rectangular shape such that the long side is at least 3.5 times the length of the short side;

(E) Have a surface area of less than 8,200 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel;

(F) Connect to device with 12–16 American Wire Gauge wires between 1200 mm and 1310 mm in length; and

(G) Do not include a built-in inverter.

Merchandise covered by these *Orders* is currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff System of the United States (HTSUS) under subheadings 8501.71.0000, 8501.72.1000, 8501.72.2000, 8501.72.3000, 8501.72.9000, 8501.80.1000, 8501.80.2000, 8501.80.3000, 8501.80.9000, 8507.20.8010, 8507.20.8031, 8507.20.8041, 8507.20.8061, 8507.20.8091, 8541.42.0010, and 8541.43.0010. These HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes; the written description of the scope of the *Orders* are dispositive.

#### Scope of the Solar Products Orders

The merchandise covered by the *Solar Products Orders* is modules, laminates and/or panels consisting of crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, whether or not partially or fully assembled into other products, including building integrated materials. For purposes of these *Orders*, subject merchandise includes modules, laminates and/or panels assembled in China consisting of crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells produced in a customs territory other than China.

Subject merchandise includes modules, laminates and/or panels assembled in China consisting of crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells of thickness equal to or greater than 20 micrometers, having a p/n junction formed by any means, whether or not the cell has undergone other processing, including, but not limited to, cleaning, etching, coating, and/or addition of addition of materials (including, but not limited to, metallization and conductor patterns) to collect and forward the electricity that is generated by the cell.

Excluded from the scope of these *Orders* are thin film photovoltaic products produced from amorphous silicon (a-Si), cadmium telluride (CdTe), or copper indium gallium selenide (CIGS).

Also excluded from the scope of these *Orders* are modules, laminates and/or panels assembled in China, consisting of crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, not exceeding 10,000 mm<sup>2</sup> in surface

area, that are permanently integrated into a consumer good whose function is other than power generation and that consumes the electricity generated by the integrated crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells. Where more than one module, laminate and/or panel is permanently integrated into a consumer good, the surface area for purposes of this exclusion shall be the total combined surface area of all modules, laminates and/or panels that are integrated into the consumer good.

Further, also excluded from the scope of these *Orders* are any products covered by the existing antidumping and countervailing duty orders on crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, whether or not assembled into modules, laminates and/or panels, from China.

Additionally, excluded from the scope of these *Orders* are solar panels that are: (1) less than 300,000 mm<sup>2</sup> in surface area; (2) less than 27.1 watts in power; (3) coated across their entire surface with a polyurethane doming resin; and (4) joined to a battery charging and maintaining unit (which is an acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS) box that incorporates a light emitting diode (LED)) by coated wires that include a connector to permit the incorporation of an extension cable. The battery charging and maintaining unit utilizes high-frequency triangular pulse waveforms designed to maintain and extend the life of batteries through the reduction of lead sulfate crystals. The above-described battery charging and maintaining unit is currently available under the registered trademark "SolarPulse."

Also excluded from the scope of these *Orders* are off-grid crystalline silicon photovoltaic panels without a glass cover with the following characteristics: (1) total power output of 500 watts or less per panel; (2) maximum surface area of 8,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel; (3) unit does not include a built-in inverter; (4) unit has visible parallel grid collector metallic wire lines every 2–40 millimeters across each solar panel (depending on model); (5) solar cells are encased in laminated frosted PET material without stitching;<sup>7</sup> (6) the panel is encased in polyester fabric with visible stitching which includes a Velcro-type storage pocket and unit closure, or encased within a Neoprene clamshell (depending on model); and (7) includes LED indicator.

Additionally excluded from the scope of these *Orders* are off-grid small portable crystalline silicon photovoltaic

panels, with or without a glass cover, with the following characteristics: (1) a total power output of 200 watts or less per panel; (2) a maximum surface area of 16,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel; (3) no built-in inverter; (4) an integrated handle or a handle attached to the package for ease of carry; (5) one or more integrated kickstands for easy installation or angle adjustment; and (6) a wire of not less than 3 meters either permanently connected or attached to the package that terminates in an 8 mm diameter male barrel connector.

Also excluded from the scope of these *Orders* are off-grid CSPV panels in rigid form, with or without a glass cover, permanently attached to an aluminum extrusion that is an integral component of an automation device that controls natural light, whether or not assembled into a fully completed automation device that controls natural light, with the following characteristics: (1) a total power output of 20 watts or less per panel; (2) a maximum surface area of 1,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel; (3) does not include a built-in inverter for powering third party devices.

Merchandise covered by these *Orders* is currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under subheadings 8501.61.0000, 8507.20.8030, 8507.20.8040, 8507.20.8060, 8507.20.8090, 8541.40.6015, 8541.40.6020, 8541.40.6030, 8541.40.6035, and 8501.31.8000. These HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes; the written description of the scope of the *Orders* is dispositive.

### Proposed Partial Revocation of the Orders

The products subject to the proposed revocation are off-grid small crystalline silicon photovoltaic panels, with or without a glass cover, with the following characteristics:

(A) A total power output of 200 watts or less per panel;

(B) A maximum surface area of 16,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel;

(C) A wire either permanently connected or attached to the package terminates in waterproof connector with a cylindrical positive electrode and a rectangular negative electrode with the positive and negative electrodes having an interlocking structure;

(D) Do not include a built-in inverter; and

(E) Must be in individual retail packaging (for purposes of this provision, retail packaging typically includes graphics, the product name, its description and/or features).

### Initiation of CCRs and Consideration of Revocation of the Orders, in Part

Pursuant to section 751(b)(1) of the Act, when Commerce receives information concerning, or a request from an interested party<sup>8</sup> for a review of affirmative final determinations by Commerce and the U.S. International Trade Commission that resulted in an AD or CVD order, which shows changed circumstances sufficient to warrant a review of an order, Commerce shall conduct a changed circumstances review of the order.<sup>9</sup> In accordance with 19 CFR 351.216(d), Commerce determines that the information submitted by RNG and the letters of no opposition to partial revocation of each of the *Orders* with respect to the products described by RNG constitute a sufficient basis to conduct CCRs of the *Orders*.<sup>10</sup>

Section 782(h)(2) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.222(g)(1)(i) provide that Commerce may revoke an order (in whole or in part) if it determines that producers accounting for substantially all of the production of the domestic like product have expressed a lack of interest in the order, in whole or in part. In its administrative practice, Commerce has interpreted "substantially all" to mean producers accounting for at least 85 percent of the total U.S. production of the domestic like product covered by the order.<sup>11</sup> A consortium of U.S. producers, the Alliance, and one domestic producer, T1 Energy, stated that they do not object to the partial revocation of the *Orders* proposed by RNG.<sup>12</sup> However, because neither the Alliance nor T1 indicated whether they account for substantially all of the U.S. production of the domestic like product covered by the *Orders*, we are not combining this notice of initiation with an expedited preliminary determination, pursuant to 19 CFR 351.221(c)(3)(ii).<sup>13</sup> Rather, Commerce

<sup>8</sup> RNG stated in its CCR Request that it is an U.S. importer of solar panels. As such, RNG is an interested party pursuant to section 771(9)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.102(b)(29)(ii).

<sup>9</sup> See 19 CFR 351.216(d).

<sup>10</sup> See Alliance's No-Opposition Letter, and T1 Energy's No-Opposition Letter.

<sup>11</sup> See, e.g., *Certain Cased Pencils from the People's Republic of China: Initiation and Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Changed Circumstances Review, and Intent To Revoke Order in Part*, 77 FR 42276 (July 18, 2012), unchanged in *Certain Cased Pencils from the People's Republic of China: Final Results of Antidumping Duty Changed Circumstances Review, and Determination To Revoke Order, in Part*, 77 FR 53176 (August 31, 2012).

<sup>12</sup> See Alliance's No-Opposition Letter, and T1 Energy's No-Opposition Letter.

<sup>13</sup> In the event that Commerce determines an expedited action is warranted, 19 CFR

<sup>7</sup> Although the polyester material has stitching on the perimeter of the unit, the cells are not stitched into the PET material.

will provide interested parties with an opportunity to address the issue of domestic industry support with respect to the partial revocation of the *Orders*, as explained below. After examining comments and other factual information, if any, concerning domestic industry support, we will issue the preliminary results of these CCRs.

#### Request for Public Input

Interested parties are invited to provide comments and factual information concerning the requested partial revocation of these *Orders*, including comments on industry support and the proposed partial revocation language. Comments and factual information may be submitted to Commerce no later than 14 days after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Rebuttal comments and rebuttal factual information may be filed with Commerce no later than seven days after the comments or factual information are filed.<sup>14</sup>

All submissions must be filed electronically using Enforcement Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS).<sup>15</sup> Each submission must be filed on all of the records for each of the four proceedings subject to these CCRs. An electronically filed document must be received successfully in its entirety by ACCESS, by 5 p.m. Eastern Time on the due dates set forth in this notice.

#### Preliminary and Final Results of Changed Circumstances Reviews

Commerce intends to publish in the **Federal Register** a notice of the preliminary results of these CCRs in accordance with 19 CFR 351.221(b)(4) and (c)(3)(i). Commerce will set forth its preliminary factual and legal conclusions in that notice. Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.221(b)(4)(ii), interested parties will have an opportunity to comment on the preliminary results. Unless extended, Commerce will issue the final results of these CCRs in accordance with the time limits set forth in 19 CFR 351.216(e).

#### Notification to Interested Parties

This initiation notice is published in accordance with section 751(b)(1) of the Act, 19 CFR 351.216(b) and 19 CFR 351.222.

351.221(c)(3)(ii) permits Commerce to combine the notices of initiation and preliminary results.

<sup>14</sup> Submissions of rebuttal factual information must comply with 19 CFR 351.301(b)(2).

<sup>15</sup> See, generally, 19 CFR 351.303.

Dated: July 22, 2026.

**Scot Fullerton,**

*Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15240 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

[C–570–136]

#### Certain Chassis and Subassemblies Thereof From the People's Republic of China: Final Results of the Expedited First Sunset Review of the Countervailing Duty Order

**AGENCY:** Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) finds that revocation of the countervailing duty (CVD) order on certain chassis and subassemblies thereof (chassis) from the People's Republic of China (China) would likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of countervailable subsidies at the levels indicated in the “Final Results of Sunset Review” section of this notice.

**DATES:** Applicable July 29, 2026.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mary Kolberg, AD/CVD Operations, Office I, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–1785.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

On May 10, 2021, Commerce published the *Order* on chassis from China.<sup>1</sup> On April 1, 2026, Commerce published the notice of initiation of the first sunset review of the *Order*, pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (the act) and 19 CFR 351.218(c)(2).<sup>2</sup>

On April 16, 2026, Commerce received a timely notice of intent to participate in the sunset reviews from the domestic interested parties,<sup>3</sup> within

the deadline specified in 19 CFR 351.218(d)(1)(i).<sup>4</sup> The domestic interested parties claim that they have interested party status within the meaning of section 771(9)(C) and 771(9)(F) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.102(b)(29)(v) and (viii) as domestic producers of chassis and an association of domestic producers.<sup>5</sup>

On May 1, 2026, Commerce received an adequate substantive response from the domestic interested party, within the 30-day deadline specified in 19 CFR 351.218(d)(3)(i).<sup>6</sup> Commerce did not receive a substantive response from either the Government of China or a respondent interested party to this proceeding. On May 20, 2026, Commerce notified the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) that it did not receive an adequate substantive response from respondent interested parties.<sup>7</sup> As a result, Commerce conducted an expedited (120-day) sunset review of the Order, pursuant to section 751(c)(3)(B) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.218(e)(1)(ii)(B)(2) and (C)(2).

#### Scope of the Order

The product covered by the *Order* is chassis from China. For a full description of the scope of the *Order*, see the Issues and Decision Memorandum.<sup>8</sup>

#### Analysis of the Comments Received

A complete discussion of all issues raised in this sunset review, including the likelihood of continuation or recurrence of subsidization and the countervailable subsidy rates likely to prevail if the Order were to be revoked, is contained in the accompanying Issues and Decision Memorandum.<sup>9</sup> A list of the topics discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum is attached as an appendix to this notice. The Issues and Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS), which is available to

<sup>4</sup> See Domestic Interested Parties' Letter, “Notice of Intent to Participate,” dated April 16, 2026.

<sup>5</sup> *Id.* at 2.

<sup>6</sup> See Domestic Interested Parties' Response Letter, “Substantive Response to Notice of Initiation of Sunset Review,” dated May 1, 2026.

<sup>7</sup> See Commerce's Letter, “Sunset Reviews Initiated on April 1, 2026,” dated May 20, 2026.

<sup>8</sup> See Memorandum, “Issues and Decision Memorandum for the Final Results of the Expedited First Sunset Review of the Countervailing Duty Order on Certain Chassis and Subassemblies Thereof from the People's Republic of China,” dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Issues and Decision Memorandum).

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>. In addition, complete versions of the Issues and Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at <https://access.trade.gov/frnotices>.

### Final Results of Sunset Review

Pursuant to sections 751(c) and 752(b) of the Act, Commerce determines that revocation of the *Order* would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of countervailable subsidies at the following net countervailable subsidy rates:

| Producers/exporters                                                                                               | Net countervailable subsidy rate (percent <i>ad valorem</i> ) |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Qingdao CIMC Special Vehicles Co., Ltd. and Dongguan CIMC Vehicle Co., Ltd. and their cross-owned companies ..... | 44.32                                                         |
| All Others .....                                                                                                  | 44.32                                                         |

### Administrative Protective Order

This notice also serves as the only reminder to parties subject to administrative protective order (APO) of their responsibility concerning the return or destruction of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305. Timely notification of the return or destruction of APO materials, or conversion to judicial protective, orders is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and terms of an APO is a violation which is subject to sanction.

### Notification to Interested Parties

We are issuing and publishing these final results in accordance with sections 751(c), 752(b), and 777(i)(1) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.221(c)(5)(ii).

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Scot Fullerton,**

*Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations.*

### Appendix

List of Topics Discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Scope of the *Order*
- IV. History of the *Order*
- V. Legal Framework
- VI. Discussion of the Issues
  1. Likelihood of Continuation or Recurrence of a Countervailable Subsidy
  2. Net Countervailable Subsidy Rates Likely to Prevail
  3. Nature of the Subsidies
- VII. Final Results of Expedited Sunset Review

### VIII. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2026–15232 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XF898]

### New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is holding a hybrid public meeting of its Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate. **DATES:** This meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 11, and Wednesday, August 12, 2026, beginning at 1 p.m. EDT on August 11 and at 9 a.m. EDT on August 12. Webinar Registration information: <https://nefmc-org.zoom.us/j/9tJldQZuUFCTBV0ko7Q>.

**ADDRESSES:** This meeting will take place at the Fairfield Inn & Suites/Waypoint Event Center, 185 MacArthur Drivet, New Bedford, MA 02740 Phone: (774) 634–2000.

*Council address:* New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cate O’Keefe, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465–0492.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Agenda

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will meet to discuss the Council’s final Risk Policy, as approved in June 2026, and plans for implementation. They will receive updates from the SSC Social Sciences Subcommittee and plans for next steps. The committee will also review information provided by the Atlantic Herring Plan Development Team, including outcomes of the 2026 management track assessment; recommend the overfishing limits and acceptable biological catches for Atlantic herring for fishing years 2027–

2031. Also on the agenda is review of the outcomes of the SSC workshop on dynamic reference points and plans for next steps. Other business will be discussed as necessary.

Although non-emergency issues not contained on the agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council’s intent to take final action to address the emergency. The public also should be aware that the meeting will be recorded. Consistent with 16 U.S.C. 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request.

### Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Cate O’Keefe, Executive Director, at 978–465–0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

(Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*)

Dated: July 27, 2026.

**Rey Israel Marquez,**

*Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15309 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Air Force

[Docket ID: USAF–2026–HQ–0100]

### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Department of the Air Force, Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** 60-Day information collection notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, the Department of the Air Force announces the proposed extension of an approved public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways

to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by September 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

*Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

*Mail:* Department of Defense, Office of the Director of Administration and Management, Oversight and Compliance Directorate, Regulatory Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Mailbox #24, Suite 05F16, Alexandria, VA 22350-1700.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to the AF Information Collections Office, 1800 Air Force Pentagon, Suite 4C146, Washington, DC 20330, ATTN: Ms. Carlinda Lotson Miller, or call 703-697-4593.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number:* Intercontinental Ballistic Missile Hardened Intersite Cable Right-of-Way Landowner Questionnaire; AF Form 3951; OMB Control Number 0701-0141.

*Needs and Uses:* This form collects updated landowner/tenant information as well as data on local property conditions which could adversely affect the Hardened Intersite Cable System (HICS) such as soil erosion, projected/building projects, evacuation plans, etc. This information also aids in notifying landowners/tenants when HICS preventative or corrective maintenance becomes necessary to ensure uninterrupted Intercontinental Ballistic Missile command and control capability. The information collection requirement is necessary to report changes in ownership/lease

information, conditions of missile cable route and associated appurtenances, and projected building/excavation projects. The information collected is used to ensure system integrity and to maintain a close contact public relations program with involved personnel and agencies.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit; individuals or households.

*Number of Respondents:* 2,834.

*Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Annual Responses:* 2,834.

*Average Burden per Response:* 15 minutes.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 709.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Stephanie J. Bost,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15266 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6001-FR-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army

[Docket ID: USA-2026-HQ-0496]

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** 60-Day information collection notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, the Department of the Army announces a proposed public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by September 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

*Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

*Mail:* Department of Defense, Office of the Director of Administration and

Management, Oversight and Compliance Directorate, Regulatory Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Mailbox #24, Suite 05F16, Alexandria, VA 22350-1700.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to U.S. Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences, 6000 6th St., Bldg. 1464, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060, Dr. Krystal Roach, 703-545-2339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number:* Cognitive Computer Adaptive Test (CAT) Pilot; OMB Control Number 0702-CCAT.

*Needs and Uses:* The Army Research Institute (ARI) for the Behavioral and Social Sciences is developing a CAT that will measure cognitive constructs that are critical for successful officer performance. This collection will use a civilian population sample to pilot the cognitive ability items to assess their functioning to determine utilization within the final CAT.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 6,000.

*Number of Respondents:* 6,000.

*Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Annual Responses:* 6,000.

*Average Burden per Response:* 1 hour.

*Frequency:* Once.

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Stephanie J. Bost,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15265 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6001-FR-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID: DOD-2026-OS-1618]

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer, Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** 60-Day information collection notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, the Defense Finance and Accounting Services (DFAS) announces a proposed public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by September 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

*Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

*Mail:* Department of Defense, Office of the Director of Administration and Management, Oversight and Compliance Directorate, Regulatory Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Mailbox #24, Suite 05F16, Alexandria, VA 22350-1700.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please Department of Defense, Comptroller/Chief Financial Officer, Debbie Bateman, 703-695-0499, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Suite 03F09-09, Alexandria, VA 22350-3100.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number:* Custodianship Certification to Support Claims on Behalf of Minor Children of Deceased Members of the Armed Forces; DD Form 2790; OMB Control Number 0730-0010.

*Needs and Uses:* Per DoD Financial Management Regulation, 7000.14-R, Volume 7B, Chapter 46, paragraph 460103A(1), an annuity for a minor child is paid to the legal guardian, or, if there is no legal guardian, to the natural parent who has care, custody, and control of the child as the custodian, or to a representative payee of the child. An annuity may be paid directly to the child when the child is considered to be of majority age under the law in the state of residence. The child then is considered an adult for annuity purposes, and a custodian or legal fiduciary is not required.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 50.

*Number of Respondents:* 300.

*Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Annual Responses:* 300.

*Average Burden per Response:* 10 minutes.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

Dated: July 24, 2026.

Stephanie J. Bost,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2026-15261 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001-FR-P

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID: DOD-2026-OS-1621]

### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer, Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** 60-Day information collection notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, the Defense Finance and Accounting Services (DFAS), announces a proposed public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by September 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

*Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

*Mail:* Department of Defense, Office of the Director of Administration and Management, Oversight and Compliance Directorate, Regulatory Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Mailbox #24, Suite 05F16, Alexandria, VA 22350-1700.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to Department of Defense, Comptroller/Chief Financial Officer, Debbie Bateman, 703-695-0499, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Suite 03F09-09, Alexandria, VA 22350-3100.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number:* Child Annuitant's School Certification; DD Form 2788; OMB Control Number 0730-0001

*Needs and Uses:* Child annuitants, between the ages of 18 and 22 years of age, must provide evidence of intent to continue studying or training at a recognized educational institution. The certificate is required for the school semester or other period in which the school year is divided. Without this certification, funds cannot be released to annuitant/payee.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 3,600.

*Number of Respondents:* 7,200.

*Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Annual Responses:* 7,200.

*Average Burden per Response:* 30 minutes.

*Frequency:* Each semester or other period in which the school year is divided.

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Stephanie J. Bost,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison  
Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15259 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6001-FR-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID: DOD-2026-OS-1620]

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer, Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** 60-Day information collection notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Defense Finance and Accounting Services (DFAS) announces a proposed public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by September 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

*Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

*Mail:* Department of Defense, Office of the Director of Administration and Management, Oversight and Compliance Directorate, Regulatory Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Mailbox #24, Suite 05F16, Alexandria, VA 22350-1700.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any

personal identifiers or contact information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to Department of Defense, Comptroller/Chief Financial Officer, Debbie Bateman, 703-695-0499, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Suite 03F09-09, Alexandria, VA 22350-3100.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number:* Application for Former Spouse Payments from Retired Pay, DD Form 2293; OMB Number 0730-0008.

*Needs and Uses:* The information collection requirement is necessary to provide DFAS with the basic data needed to process court orders for division of military retired pay as property or order alimony and child support payment from that retired pay per title 10 U.S.C. 1408.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 12,500.

*Number of Respondents:* 25,000.

*Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Annual Responses:* 25,000.

*Average Burden per Response:* 30 minutes.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Stephanie J. Bost,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison  
Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15262 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6001-FR-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID: DOD-2026-OS-1619]

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** 60-Day information collection notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, DFAS announces a proposed public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the

agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by September 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

*Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

*Mail:* Department of Defense, Office of the Director of Administration and Management, Oversight and Compliance Directorate, Regulatory Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Mailbox #24, Suite 05F16, Alexandria, VA 22350-1700.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service—Cleveland, 1240 East Ninth Street, ATTN: JFBB—Mr. Charles Moss, Room 1569, Cleveland, OH 44199 or phone at 216-204-4426.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number:* Certificate for Child Annuitant; DD Form 2828; OMB Control Number 0730-0011.

*Needs and Uses:* The information collection requirement is necessary to support an incapacitation occurring prior to age 18. The form provides the authority for the DFAS to establish and pay a Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan (RSFPP) or Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) annuity to the incapacitated individual.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 480.

*Number of Respondents:* 240.

*Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Annual Responses:* 240.

*Average Burden per Response:* 2 hours.

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Stephanie J. Bost,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison  
Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15260 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID: DOD–2026–OS–1622]

### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation (CAPE), Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** 60-Day information collection notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, CAPE announces a proposed public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. *Comments are invited on:* whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by September 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

*Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

*Mail:* Department of Defense, Office of the Director of Administration and Management, Oversight and Compliance Directorate, Regulatory Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Mailbox #24, Suite 05F16, Alexandria, VA 22350–1700.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to OSW CAPE, 1800 Defense Pentagon, Room MG737, Washington, DC 20301–1800, Dave Lyons, CDSG Director, or call (253) 564–1979 Ex. 2 and/or email [osd.mc-alex.cape.mbx.cade-helpdesk@mail.mil](mailto:osd.mc-alex.cape.mbx.cade-helpdesk@mail.mil).

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number:* Cost and Software Data Report (CSDR); Cost Data Summary Report (DD Form 1921), Functional Cost-Hour Report (DD 1921–1), Progress Curve Report (1921–2), and Sustainment Functional Cost-Hour Report (DD Form 1921–5); OMB No. 0704–0671.

*Needs and Uses:* The intent of the Cost Data Summary Report (DD Form 1921), Functional Cost-Hour Report (DD 1921–1), Progress Curve Report (1921–2), and Sustainment Functional Cost-Hour Report (DD Form 1921–5) are to capture direct and indirect actual and estimated cost and quantity data on major Government contracts on an annual or event-driven basis. The collected data is the primary data source utilized when completing cost estimates. Respondents are any weapon system contractor or government entity with contracts, subcontracts, or agreements that are required to provide Cost and Software Data Reports based on all anticipated costs that individually or collectively surpass the corresponding dollar thresholds established in DoDI 5000.73.

*Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profit.

### Contractor Work Breakdown Structure

*Annual Burden Hours:* 30,552.  
*Number of Respondents:* 228.  
*Responses per Respondent:* 4.  
*Annual Responses:* 912.  
*Average Burden per Response:* 33.5 hours.

### Cost Data Summary Report DD–1921

*Annual Burden Hours:* 17,753.1.  
*Number of Respondents:* 228.  
*Responses per Respondent:* 4.4.  
*Annual Responses:* 1,003.  
*Average Burden per Response:* 17.7 hours.

### Functional Cost and Hours Report DD–1921–1

*Annual Burden Hours:* 44,198.  
*Number of Respondents:* 228.  
*Responses per Respondent:* 3.6.  
*Annual Responses:* 820.  
*Average Burden per Response:* 53.9 hours.

### Progress Curve Report DD–1921–2

*Annual Burden Hours:* 56,088.  
*Number of Respondents:* 228.  
*Responses per Respondent:* 1.  
*Annual Responses:* 228.  
*Average Burden per Response:* 246 hours.

### Contractor Business Data Report DD–1921–3

*Annual Burden Hours:* 16,330.  
*Number of Respondents:* 115.  
*Responses per Respondent:* 1.  
*Annual Responses:* 115.  
*Average Burden per Response:* 142 hours.

### Sustainment Functional Cost-Hour Report DD–1921–5

*Annual Burden Hours:* 5,676.  
*Number of Respondents:* 40.  
*Responses per Respondent:* 2.2.  
*Annual Responses:* 88.  
*Average Burden per Response:* 64.5 hours.

### Cost and Software Data Reporting DD–2794

*Annual Burden Hours:* 23,712.  
*Number of Respondents:* 228.  
*Responses per Respondent:* 1.  
*Annual Responses:* 228.  
*Average Burden per Response:* 104 hours.

*Frequency:* Annually.

CAPE is statutorily required by Title 10, United States Code in Section 3227, to “develop policies, procedures, guidance, and a collection method to ensure that quality acquisition cost data are collected to facilitate cost estimation and comparison across acquisition programs.” Section 3227 also contains a major system threshold statutory requirement for providing cost data from each acquisition program that exceeds this amount.

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Stephanie J. Bost,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison  
Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15263 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Navy

[Docket ID: USN–2026–HQ–0332]

### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Department of the Navy, Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** 60-Day information collection notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, the

Department of the Navy announces the proposed extension of an approved public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by September 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

*Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

*Mail:* Department of Defense, Office of the Director of Administration and Management, Oversight and Compliance Directorate, Regulatory Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Mailbox #24, Suite 05F16, Alexandria, VA 22350-1700.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to the OPNAV Forms/Information Collections Office (DNS-14), 2000 Navy Pentagon, Room 4E563, Washington, DC 20350-2000, ATTN: Ms. Ashley Alford, or call 703-614-7585.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title; Associated Form; And OMB Number:* Navy Child and Youth Programs Forms; OPNAV Forms 1700/1-1700/3, 1700/5, 1700/7-1700/9, 1700/11-1700/15, and 1700/17-1700/23; OMB Control Number 0703-0087.

*Needs and Uses:* Navy Child and Youth Programs (CYP) collects information in order to facilitate

accurate and efficient operation of all programs and activities as part of fulfilling CYP's mission to provide services to eligible patrons. Numerous forms are used by patrons to complete the enrollment/registration process to enroll children and youths into CYP programs and activities, establish patron fees, determine the general health status of CYP participants and ensure that all their needs are documented. Information is also collected to allow for the application and certification of family childcare providers, as well as to determine patron and provider eligibility for participation in Navy CYP fee assistance programs.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

**Registration Forms**

*Number of Respondents:* 17,152.

*Responses per Respondent:* 5.25.

*Annual Responses:* 90,059.

*Average Burden per Response:* 43.57 minutes.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 65,395.

**Medical Forms**

*Number of Respondents:* 19,054.

*Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Annual Responses:* 19,054.

*Average Burden per Response:* 44.86 minutes.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 14,246.

**Family Child Care Forms**

*Number of Respondents:* 325.

*Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Annual Responses:* 325.

*Average Burden per Response:* 62.4 minutes.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 338.

**Fee Assistance Forms**

*Number of Respondents:* 11,750.

*Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Annual Responses:* 11,750.

*Average Burden per Response:* 45 minutes.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 8,813.

**Total**

*Number of Respondents:* 48,281.

*Annual Responses:* 121,177.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 88,792.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Stephanie J. Bost,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15264 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6001-FR-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**Department of the Navy**

**[Docket ID: USN-2026-HQ-0333]**

**Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Department of the Navy, Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** 60-Day information collection notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, the Department of the Navy announces the proposed extension of an approved public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by September 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

*Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

*Mail:* Department of Defense, Office of the Director of Administration and Management, Oversight and Compliance Directorate, Regulatory Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Mailbox #24, Suite 05F16, Alexandria, VA 22350-1700.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to the OPNAV Forms/Information Collections Office (DNS-

14), 2000 Navy Pentagon, Room 4E563, Washington, DC 20350–2000, ATTN: Ms. Ashley Alford, or call 703–614–7585.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number:* Distinguished Visitor (DV)/ Friends of the Navy (FON) Embark Request; OPNAV Form 5720/11; OMB Control Number 0703–0060.

*Needs and Uses:* The Department of the Navy collects information from individuals who request to embark on U.S. Navy surface ships or submarines as part of the DV or FON programs. The primary purpose of this information collection is to facilitate embarkation, determine eligibility and qualification (including physical and medical soundness), and ensure safety and security during the embarkation.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 750.

*Number of Respondents:* 3,000.

*Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Annual Responses:* 3,000.

*Average Burden per Response:* 15 minutes.

*Frequency:* As required.

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Stephanie J. Bost,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15257 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Navy

[Docket ID: USN–2026–HQ–0331]

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Department of the Navy, Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** 60-Day information collection notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, the Department of the Navy announces the proposed extension of an approved public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the

burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by September 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

*Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

*Mail:* Department of Defense, Office of the Director of Administration and Management, Oversight and Compliance Directorate, Regulatory Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Mailbox #24, Suite 05F16, Alexandria, VA 22350–1700.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to the Naval Air Systems Command, 47123 Buse Road, Patuxent River, MD 20670, Suzanne Perry, 301–643–1082.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number:* Naval Air Systems Command Candidate Form; OMB Control Number 0703–0088.

*Needs and Uses:* In order to properly evaluate candidates' qualifications for employment, Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) must collect the information necessary to rate applicants for Federal jobs in accordance with Title 5 of the United States Code (U.S.C.) sections 1104, 1302, 3301, 3304, 3320, 3361, 3393, and 3394. Per 5 U.S.C. 1104, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management may delegate authority for competitive examinations to the heads of agencies in the executive branch and other agencies employing persons in the competitive service. This information collection enables Recruiters to collaborate to attract and engage top talent while providing vital command recruiting metrics that provide meaningful insights, leading to more informed decisions and more strategic recruitment initiatives and outcomes.

Additionally, it improves the ability to control access to candidate data and allows NAVAIR the ability to view, clean, analyze, and aggregate data as necessary to perform return on investment (ROI) data analysis of recruiting efforts. The web-based candidate information form provides a digital mechanism to capture candidates' information in real time at recruitment events, via marketing and sourcing campaigns. The web form is hosted on the Yello Pro application and captures basic candidate information, as well as educational and experience details, allowing recruiters to review, assess, and select for interviews and contingent offers. Using the web form, NAVAIR can actively or passively look for candidates that align with hiring requirements providing full transparency and access to hiring manager's enterprise wide.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 792.

*Number of Respondents:* 9,504.

*Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Annual Responses:* 9,504.

*Average Burden per Response:* 5 minutes.

*Frequency:* As required.

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Stephanie J. Bost,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15258 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Nevada

**AGENCY:** Office of Environmental Management, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces an in-person/virtual meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Nevada. The Federal Advisory Committee Act requires that public notice of this meeting be announced in the **Federal Register**.

**DATES:** Wednesday, September 9, 2026; 4–8 p.m. PDT.

**ADDRESSES:** Molasky Corporate Center, 15th Floor Conference Room, 100 North City Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada 89106. This meeting will be held in-person at the Molasky Corporate Center and virtually. To receive virtual access information, please contact the Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB) Administrator at the telephone number

or email listed below at least two days prior to the meeting.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Barbara Ulmer, NSSAB Administrator, NSSAB Office, by phone: 702-523-0894 or email: [nssab@emcbc.doe.gov](mailto:nssab@emcbc.doe.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Purpose of the Board:* At the request of the Assistant Secretary or Field Managers, the Board may provide community-based advice and recommendations concerning any EM program activities, such as clean-up activities and environmental restoration; waste management and disposition; excess facilities; future land use and long-term stewardship; communications; and budget priorities. The Board also provides an avenue to fulfill public participation requirements outlined in the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), Federal Facility Agreements, Consent Orders, Consent Decrees and Settlement Agreements.

*Tentative Agenda:* (agenda topics are subject to change; please contact the NSSAB Administrator for the most current agenda)

- Public Comment Period
- Update from Deputy Designated Federal Officer
- Update from National Nuclear Security Administration/Nevada Field Office
- Updates from NSSAB Liaisons
- Presentations to the Board
- Fiscal Year 2027 Work Plan Development
- Board Business

*Public Participation:* The meeting is open to the public and public comment can be given orally or in writing. Fifteen minutes are allocated during the meeting for public comment and those wishing to make oral comment will be given a minimum of two minutes to speak. Written comments received at least two working days prior to the meeting will be provided to the members and included in the meeting minutes. Written comments received within two working days after the meeting will be included in the minutes. For additional information on public comment and to submit written comment, please contact the NSSAB Administrator. The EM SSAB, Nevada, welcomes the attendance of the public at its meetings and will make every effort to accommodate persons with physical disabilities or special needs. If you require special accommodations due to a disability, please contact the NSSAB Administrator at least seven days in advance of the meeting.

*Meeting Conduct:* The Designated Federal Officer is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Questioning of board members or presenters by the public is not permitted.

*Minutes:* Minutes will be available at the following website: <https://www.nnss.gov/nssab/nssab-meetings/>.

*Signing Authority:* This document of the Department of Energy was signed on July 24, 2026, by David Borak, Committee Management Officer, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC, on July 27, 2026.

**Jennifer Hartzell,**

*Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer,  
U.S. Department of Energy.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15271 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP26-75-000]

#### **Texas Eastern Transmission, LP; Notice of Availability of the Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Line 31 Expansion Project**

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) for the Line 31 Expansion Project, proposed by Texas Eastern Transmission, LP (Texas Eastern.) in the above-referenced docket.<sup>1</sup> Texas Eastern requests authorization to construct, operate, and maintain the Line 31 Expansion Project in Madison and Hinds Counties, Mississippi. The project would provide 125,000 dekatherms per day of additional natural gas transportation

<sup>1</sup> For tracking purposes under the National Environmental Policy Act, the unique identification number for documents relating to this environmental review is EAXX-019-20-000-1773325462.

service to the proposed Traceview Advanced Power Station owned by Entergy Mississippi, LLC.

Any person wishing to comment on the EA may do so. To ensure consideration of your comments on the proposal prior to making a decision on the project, it is important that the Commission receive your comments on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on August 24, 2026. Instructions for filing comments are provided on page 3.

FERC is the lead federal agency for authorizing interstate natural gas transmission facilities under the Natural Gas Act of 1938 (NGA) and the lead federal agency for preparation of the EA. The EA assesses the potential environmental effects of the Line 31 Expansion Project in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)<sup>2</sup> and the Commission's implementing regulations.<sup>3</sup> The principal purposes of the EA are to: identify and assess the potential effects on the natural and human environment; describe and evaluate reasonable alternatives; identify and recommend mitigation measures; and facilitate public involvement in the environmental review process. The EA concludes that approval of the proposed project would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

The National Park Service (NPS) participated as a cooperating agency in the preparation of the EA. Cooperating agencies have jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to resources potentially affected by the proposal and participate in the NEPA analysis. The NPS may adopt and use the EA to consider the issuance of a right-of-way grant for the project on federal lands. Although the cooperating agency provided input to the conclusions and recommendations presented in the EA, the agency will present its own conclusions and recommendations in its Record of Decision for the project.

The EA addresses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the following project facilities in Madison County, Mississippi:

- 10.2 miles of 36-inch-diameter pipeline loop;
- a new pipeline inspection gauge launcher/receiver, a receiver barrel, a

<sup>2</sup> National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (Public Law [Pub. L.] 91-190, 42 U.S.C. 4321-4347, as amended by Pub. L. 94-52, July 3, 1975; Pub. L. 94-83, August 9, 1975; Pub. L. 97-258, 4(b), September 13, 1982; Pub. L. 118-5, June 3, 2023; Pub. L. 119-21, July 4, 2025).

<sup>3</sup> 18 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 380.

mainline valve, and two new 30-inch-diameter crossover valves to connect the Line 31 Pipeline Loop to Texas Eastern's Lines 14 and 18;

- 1.6 miles of 16-inch-diameter delivery lateral pipeline connecting to Lines 14 and 18 and extending southward to a terminus at an interconnect with Entergy Mississippi, LLC's proposed Traceview Advanced Power Station;

- two new sets of pipeline inspection gauge launchers/receivers for the Line 14-P Lateral;

- a new Ridgeland Compressor Station comprised of three compressor units, each having a horsepower of 1,500 hp, and ancillary facilities; and
- a new Ridgeland Meter and Regulator Station.

The Commission mailed a copy of the *Notice of Availability* of the EA to federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; Native American tribes; environmental and public interest groups; potentially affected landowners and other interested individuals and groups; and media outlets and libraries in the project area. The EA is only available in electronic format. It may be viewed and downloaded from the FERC's website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)), on the natural gas environmental documents page (<https://www.ferc.gov/industries-data/natural-gas/environmental-environmental-documents>). In addition, the EA may be accessed by using the eLibrary link on the FERC's website. Click on the eLibrary link (<https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/search>), select "General Search" and enter the docket number in the "Docket Number" field, excluding the last three digits (*i.e.*, CP26-75). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659.

The EA is not a decision document. It presents Commission staff's independent analysis of the environmental issues for the Commission to consider when addressing the merits of all issues in this proceeding. Under section 7(c) of the NGA, the Commission determines whether interstate natural gas transportation facilities are in the public convenience and necessity and, if so, grants a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct and operate them. The Commission bases its decisions on both economic issues, including need, and environmental effects.

Your comments should focus on the EA's disclosure and discussion of

potential environmental effects, reasonable alternatives, and measures to avoid or lessen environmental effects. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. For your convenience, there are three methods you can use to file your comments to the Commission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has staff available to assist you at (866) 208-3676 or [FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov). Please carefully follow these instructions so that your comments are properly recorded.

(1) You can file your comments electronically using the eComment feature on the Commission's website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)) under the link to FERC Online. This is an easy method for submitting brief, text-only comments on a project;

(2) You can also file your comments electronically using the eFiling feature on the Commission's website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)) under the link to FERC Online. With eFiling, you can provide comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file with your submission. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on "eRegister." You must select the type of filing you are making. If you are filing a comment on a particular project, please select "Comment on a Filing"; or

(3) You can file a paper copy of your comments by mailing them to the Commission. Be sure to reference the project docket number (CP26-75-000) on your letter. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

Filing environmental comments will not give you intervenor status, but you do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered. Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing or judicial review of the Commission's decision. At this point in this proceeding, the timeframe for filing timely intervention requests has expired. Any person seeking to become a party to the proceeding must file a motion to intervene out-of-time pursuant to Rule 214(b)(3) and (d) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.214(b)(3) and (d)) and show good cause why the time limitation should be waived. Motions to intervene are more fully described at <https://www.ferc.gov/how-intervene>.

For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, contact the Office of Public Participation at (202) 502-6595 or [OPP@ferc.gov](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov). Additional information about the project is available from the FERC website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)) using the eLibrary link. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of all formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

In addition, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription which allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries, and direct links to the documents. Go to <https://www.ferc.gov/ferc-online/overview> to register for eSubscription.

(Authority: 18 CFR 2.1)

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026-15293 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP25-547-000, CP25-549-000]

#### Gulf South Pipeline Company, LLC, Texas Gas Transmission, LLC; Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Kosciusko Junction Pipeline Project

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared a final environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Kosciusko Junction Project (Project), proposed by Gulf South Pipeline Company, LLC (Gulf South) and Texas Gas Transmission, LLC (Texas Gas) (collectively the Applicants).<sup>1</sup> The Applicants request authorization to construct and operate 110.9 miles of various size pipelines, abandon by sale/acquire about 98 miles of existing pipeline, and install new or modify existing aboveground facilities in Washington, Sunflower, Humphreys, Holmes, Attala, Leake, Newton, Jasper,

<sup>1</sup> For tracking purposes under the National Environmental Policy Act, the unique identification number for documents relating to this environmental review is EISX-019-20-000-1759930287.

and Clarke Counties, Mississippi. Specifically, Texas Gas would install a new gas-fired compressor unit and modify existing check meters within the existing Greenville Compressor Station (CS). Gulf South proposes to construct two new compressor stations (the Holmes and Kosciusko CSs), install two new compressor units at the existing Isola CS, and construct four new meter stations and associated auxiliary and appurtenant facilities.

FERC is the lead federal agency for authorizing interstate natural gas transmission facilities under the Natural Gas Act of 1938 (NGA) and the lead federal agency for preparation of the final EIS. The final EIS assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the Project in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) <sup>2</sup> and the Commission's implementing regulations.<sup>3</sup> The principal purposes of the final EIS are to: identify and assess the potential effects on the natural and human environment; describe and evaluate reasonable alternatives; identify and recommend mitigation measures; and facilitate public involvement in the environmental review process. The EIS concludes that approval of the proposed Project would have some limited adverse environmental effects; however, with implementation of the Applicants' avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures, as well as adherence to Commission staff's mitigation measures recommended in the EIS, these effects would be less than significant.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service participated as cooperating agencies in the preparation of the EIS. Cooperating agencies have jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to resources potentially affected by the proposal and participate in the NEPA analysis. Although the cooperating agencies provided input towards the conclusions and recommendations presented in the final EIS, the agencies will present their own conclusions and recommendations in their respective records of decision (where applicable) for the Project.

The final EIS addresses the potential environmental effects of the

abandonment, construction, modification, and operation of the following facilities in Mississippi.

Texas Gas proposes to do the following:

- abandon by sale to Gulf South the existing Greenville Lateral (GL) and axillary and appurtenant facilities;<sup>4</sup> and the existing Isola CS;
- install a new gas-fired compressor unit within the existing Greenville CS totaling 24,160 horsepower (hp); and
- modify existing check meters within the Greenville CS to establish custody transfer measurement between Texas Gas and Gulf South.

Gulf South proposes to do the following:

- acquire the GL and Isola CS from Texas Gas;
- install two new natural gas-fired compressor units totaling 24,615 hp at the Isola CS;
- construct two new pipelines: the 8.1-mile-long, 36-inch-diameter Columbia Gulf Lateral and 102.9-mile-long, 36-inch-diameter Kosciusko Junction (KJ) Pipeline;
- construct two new compressor stations: the Holmes CS with a natural gas-fired compressor unit totaling 23,984 hp along the existing GL, and the Kosciusko CS with three natural gas-fired compressor units totaling 61,293 hp along the new KJ Pipeline; and
- construct four new meter stations: the Columbia Gulf, Destin Check, SONAT, and Kosciusko Meter Stations;<sup>5</sup> four mainline valves; and associated tie-ins, launcher/receiver facilities, and appurtenances.

The Commission mailed a copy of the *Notice of Availability* of the final EIS to federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; potentially affected landowners and other interested individuals and groups; and newspapers and libraries in the Project area. The final EIS is only available in electronic format. It may be viewed and downloaded from the FERC's website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)), on the natural gas environmental documents page (<https://www.ferc.gov/industries-data/natural-gas/environment/environmental-documents>). In addition, the final EIS may be accessed by using the eLibrary link on the FERC's website. Click on the eLibrary link ([https://](https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/search)

[elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/search](https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/search)) select "General Search" and enter the docket number in the "Docket Number" field, excluding the last three digits (*i.e.* CP25-547 or CP25-549). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659.

The final EIS is not a decision document. It presents Commission staff's independent analysis of the environmental issues for the Commission to consider when addressing the merits of all issues in this proceeding. Under section 7(c) of the NGA, the Commission determines whether interstate natural gas transportation facilities are in the public convenience and necessity and, if so, grants a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct and operate them. Section 7(b) of the NGA specifies that no natural gas company shall abandon any portion of its facilities subject to the Commission's jurisdiction without the Commission first finding that the abandonment will not negatively affect the present or future public convenience and necessity. The Commission bases its decisions on both economic issues, including need, and environmental effects.

For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, contact the Office of Public Participation at (202) 502-6595 or [OPP@ferc.gov](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov). Additional information about the Project is available from the FERC website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)) using the eLibrary link. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of all formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

In addition, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription that allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries, and direct links to the documents. Go to <https://www.ferc.gov/ferc-online/overview> to register for eSubscription.

(Authority: 18 CFR 2.1.)

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026-15287 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

<sup>2</sup> National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (Public Law [Pub. L.] 91-190, 42 U.S.C. 4321-4347, as amended by Pub. L. 94-52, July 3, 1975; Pub. L. 94-83, August 9, 1975; Pub. L. 97-258, 4(b), September 13, 1982; Pub. L. 118-5, June 3, 2023; Pub. L. 119-21, July 4, 2025).

<sup>3</sup> 18 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 380.

<sup>4</sup> The sale would include three 36-inch-diameter natural gas pipelines totaling 97.74 miles and one 0.37-mile 20-inch-diameter pipeline. Gulf South does not propose any modifications to the GL.

<sup>5</sup> The Destin Check Meter Station would also require installation of about 50 feet of 36-inch-diameter interconnecting pipe to connect the KJ Pipeline.

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Docket No. CP26–555–000]

**Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C.; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization and Establishing Intervention and Protest Deadline**

Take notice that on July 16, 2026, Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C. (TGP), 1001 Louisiana Street, Suite 1000, Houston, Texas 77002, filed in the above referenced docket, a prior notice request pursuant to sections 157.205, 157.208, 157.210, and 157.211 of the Commission's regulations under the Natural Gas Act (NGA), and TGP's blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82–413–000, for authorization to construct: (i) approximately 2.35 miles of new 16-inch-diameter pipeline; (ii) the new Delta Blues Compressor Station comprised of three 2,500 horsepower gas-fired, reciprocating compressor units; (iii) two new meter stations; and (iv) related appurtenant equipment, all located in Washington County, Mississippi (Delta Blues Project). The Project is fully subscribed to provide 160,000 dekatherms per day of firm transportation service to Entergy Mississippi's Delta Blues Advanced Power Station. TGP estimates the cost for the Project to be approximately \$58 million, all as more fully set forth in the request which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

In addition to publishing the full text of this document in the **Federal Register**, the Commission provides all interested persons an opportunity to view and/or print the contents of this document via the internet through the Commission's Home Page (<http://www.ferc.gov>). From the Commission's Home Page on the internet, this information is available on eLibrary. The full text of this document is available on eLibrary in PDF and Microsoft Word format for viewing, printing, and/or downloading. To access this document in eLibrary, type the docket number excluding the last three digits of this document in the docket number field.

User assistance is available for eLibrary and the Commission's website during normal business hours from FERC Online Support at (202) 502–6652 (toll free at 1–866–208–3676) or email at [ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov](mailto:ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov), or the Public Reference Room at (202) 502–8371, TTY (202) 502–8659. Email the Public Reference Room at [public.referenceroom@ferc.gov](mailto:public.referenceroom@ferc.gov).

Any questions concerning this request should be directed to Tina Hardy, Director, Regulatory, Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C., 1001 Louisiana Street, Suite 1000, Houston, Texas 77002, or phone at (205) 325–3668, or by email at [tina\\_hardy@kindermorgan.com](mailto:tina_hardy@kindermorgan.com).

**Public Participation**

There are three ways to become involved in the Commission's review of this project: you can file a protest to the project, you can file a motion to intervene in the proceeding, and you can file comments on the project. There is no fee or cost for filing protests, motions to intervene, or comments. The deadline for filing protests, motions to intervene, and comments is 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on September 22, 2026. How to file protests, motions to intervene, and comments is explained below.

For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, contact the Office of Public Participation (OPP) at (202) 502–6595 or [OPP@ferc.gov](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov).

**Protests**

Pursuant to section 157.205 of the Commission's regulations under the NGA,<sup>1</sup> any person<sup>2</sup> or the Commission's staff may file a protest to the request. If no protest is filed within the time allowed or if a protest is filed and then withdrawn within 30 days after the allowed time for filing a protest, the proposed activity shall be deemed to be authorized effective the day after the time allowed for protest. If a protest is filed and not withdrawn within 30 days after the time allowed for filing a protest, the instant request for authorization will be considered by the Commission.

Protests must comply with the requirements specified in section 157.205(e) of the Commission's regulations,<sup>3</sup> and must be submitted by the protest deadline, which is 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on September 22, 2026. Filings that do not meet requirements of 18 CFR 157.205(e)(2)<sup>4</sup> will not be considered protests by the Commission.<sup>5</sup> A protest may also serve as a motion to intervene so long as the

protestor states it also seeks to be an intervenor.

**Interventions**

Any person has the option to file a motion to intervene in this proceeding. Only intervenors have the right to request rehearing of Commission orders issued in this proceeding and to subsequently challenge the Commission's orders in the U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal.

To intervene, you must submit a motion to intervene to the Commission in accordance with Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure<sup>6</sup> and the regulations under the NGA<sup>7</sup> by the intervention deadline for the project, which is 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on September 22, 2026. As described further in Rule 214, your motion to intervene must state, to the extent known, your position regarding the proceeding, as well as your interest in the proceeding. For an individual, this could include your status as a landowner, ratepayer, resident of an impacted community, or recreationist. You do not need to have property directly impacted by the project in order to intervene. For more information about motions to intervene, refer to the FERC website at <https://www.ferc.gov/resources/guides/how-to/intervene.asp>.

All timely, unopposed motions to intervene are automatically granted by operation of Rule 214(c)(1). Motions to intervene that are filed after the intervention deadline are untimely and may be denied. Any late-filed motion to intervene must show good cause for being late and must explain why the time limitation should be waived and provide justification by reference to factors set forth in Rule 214(d) of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. A person obtaining party status will be placed on the service list maintained by the Secretary of the Commission and will receive copies (paper or electronic) of all documents filed by the applicant and by all other parties.

**Comments**

Any person wishing to comment on the project may do so. The Commission considers all comments received about the project in determining the appropriate action to be taken. To ensure that your comments are timely and properly recorded, please submit your comments on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on September 22, 2026. The filing of a comment alone will not serve to make the filer a party to the

<sup>1</sup> 18 CFR 157.205.

<sup>2</sup> Persons include individuals, organizations, businesses, municipalities, and other entities. 18 CFR 385.102(d).

<sup>3</sup> 18 CFR 157.205(e).

<sup>4</sup> 18 CFR 157.205(e)(2).

<sup>5</sup> *Cheniere Creole Trail Pipeline, L.P.*, 195 FERC ¶ 61,208, at P 8 n.16 (2026).

<sup>6</sup> 18 CFR 385.214.

<sup>7</sup> 18 CFR 157.10.

proceeding. To become a party, you must intervene in the proceeding.

### How To File Protests, Interventions, and Comments

There are two ways to submit protests, motions to intervene, and comments. In both instances, please reference the Project docket number CP26–555–000 in your submission.

(1) You may file your protest, motion to intervene, and comments by using the Commission's eFiling feature, which is located on the Commission's website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)) under the link to Documents and Filings. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on "eRegister." You will be asked to select the type of filing you are making; first select "General" and then select "Protest", "Intervention", or "Comment on a Filing"; or <sup>8</sup>

(2) You can file a paper copy of your submission by mailing it to the address below. Your submission must reference the Project docket number CP26–555–000.

To file via USPS: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426.

To file via any other method: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

The Commission encourages electronic filing of submissions (option 1 above) and has eFiling staff available to assist you at (202) 502–8258 or [FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov).

Protests and motions to intervene must be served on the applicant either by mail at: Tina Hardy, Director, Regulatory, Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C., 1001 Louisiana Street, Suite 1000, Houston, Texas 77002, or by email (with a link to the document) at [tina\\_hardy@kindermorgan.com](mailto:tina_hardy@kindermorgan.com). Any subsequent submissions by an intervenor must be served on the applicant and all other parties to the proceeding. Contact information for parties can be downloaded from the service list at the eService link on FERC Online.

### Tracking the Proceeding

Throughout the proceeding, additional information about the project will be available from OPP at (202) 502–6595 or on the FERC website at

[www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov) using the "eLibrary" link as described above. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of all formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

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(Authority: 18 CFR 2.1.)

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–15289 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP26–553–000]

#### Portland Natural Gas Transmission System; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization and Establishing Intervention and Protest Deadline

Take notice that on July 15, 2026, Portland Natural Gas Transmission System (PNGTS), 3040 Post Oak Blvd. Fl. 18, Suite #108, Houston, Texas 77056, filed a prior notice request pursuant to sections 157.205 and 157.210 of the Commission's regulations under the Natural Gas Act (NGA), and PNGTS's blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP96–249–000, for authorization to increase its certificated capacity on PNGTS's wholly-owned north system from Pittsburg, New Hampshire to Westbrook, Maine by 14,160 thousand cubic feet per day (Mcf/d), and to increase the certificated capacity on the system it jointly owns with Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline, L.L.C. from Westbrook, Maine to Dracut, Massachusetts, by 14,514 Mcf/d to accommodate new firm upstream deliveries at the interconnect with TransCanada Pipelines Limited in Pittsburg, New Hampshire. PNGTS executed a new firm service agreement with an unaffiliated shipper for 14,217 Mcf/d. PNGTS asserts that the increase in certificated capacity does not involve any construction nor additional cost, all as more fully set forth in the request

which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

In addition to publishing the full text of this document in the **Federal Register**, the Commission provides all interested persons an opportunity to view and/or print the contents of this document via the internet through the Commission's Home Page (<http://www.ferc.gov>). From the Commission's Home Page on the internet, this information is available on eLibrary. The full text of this document is available on eLibrary in PDF and Microsoft Word format for viewing, printing, and/or downloading. To access this document in eLibrary, type the docket number excluding the last three digits of this document in the docket number field.

User assistance is available for eLibrary and the Commission's website during normal business hours from FERC Online Support at (202) 502–6652 (toll free at 1–866–208–3676) or email at [ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov](mailto:ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov), or the Public Reference Room at (202) 502–8371, TTY (202) 502–8659. Email the Public Reference Room at [public.referenceroom@ferc.gov](mailto:public.referenceroom@ferc.gov).

Any questions concerning this application should be directed to Tom Lockett, Chief Commercial Officer, Portland Natural Gas Transmission System, 3040 Post Oak Blvd., Fl. 18, Suite #108, Houston, Texas 77056, at (281) 703.5965 or [tom.lockett@pngts.com](mailto:tom.lockett@pngts.com).

### Public Participation

There are three ways to become involved in the Commission's review of this project: you can file a protest to the project, you can file a motion to intervene in the proceeding, and you can file comments on the project. There is no fee or cost for filing protests, motions to intervene, or comments. The deadline for filing protests, motions to intervene, and comments is 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on September 22, 2026. How to file protests, motions to intervene, and comments is explained below.

For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, contact the Office of Public Participation (OPP) at (202) 502–6595 or [OPP@ferc.gov](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov).

### Protests

Pursuant to section 157.205 of the Commission's regulations under the NGA,<sup>1</sup> any person <sup>2</sup> or the Commission's

<sup>1</sup> 18 CFR 157.205.

<sup>2</sup> Persons include individuals, organizations, businesses, municipalities, and other entities. 18 CFR 385.102(d).

<sup>8</sup> Additionally, you may file your comments electronically by using the eComment feature, which is located on the Commission's website at [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov) under the link to Documents and Filings. Using eComment is an easy method for interested persons to submit brief, text-only comments on a project.

staff may file a protest to the request. If no protest is filed within the time allowed or if a protest is filed and then withdrawn within 30 days after the allowed time for filing a protest, the proposed activity shall be deemed to be authorized effective the day after the time allowed for protest. If a protest is filed and not withdrawn within 30 days after the time allowed for filing a protest, the instant request for authorization will be considered by the Commission.

Protests must comply with the requirements specified in section 157.205(e) of the Commission's regulations,<sup>3</sup> and must be submitted by the protest deadline, which is 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on September 22, 2026. Filings that do not meet requirements of 18 CFR 157.205(e)(2)<sup>4</sup> will not be considered protests by the Commission.<sup>5</sup> A protest may also serve as a motion to intervene so long as the protestor states it also seeks to be an intervenor.

#### Interventions

Any person has the option to file a motion to intervene in this proceeding. Only intervenors have the right to request rehearing of Commission orders issued in this proceeding and to subsequently challenge the Commission's orders in the U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal.

To intervene, you must submit a motion to intervene to the Commission in accordance with Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure<sup>6</sup> and the regulations under the NGA<sup>7</sup> by the intervention deadline for the project, which is 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on September 22, 2026. As described further in Rule 214, your motion to intervene must state, to the extent known, your position regarding the proceeding, as well as your interest in the proceeding. For an individual, this could include your status as a landowner, ratepayer, resident of an impacted community, or recreationist. You do not need to have property directly impacted by the project in order to intervene. For more information about motions to intervene, refer to the FERC website at <https://www.ferc.gov/resources/guides/how-to/intervene.asp>.

All timely, unopposed motions to intervene are automatically granted by operation of Rule 214(c)(1). Motions to intervene that are filed after the

intervention deadline are untimely and may be denied. Any late-filed motion to intervene must show good cause for being late and must explain why the time limitation should be waived and provide justification by reference to factors set forth in Rule 214(d) of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. A person obtaining party status will be placed on the service list maintained by the Secretary of the Commission and will receive copies (paper or electronic) of all documents filed by the applicant and by all other parties.

#### Comments

Any person wishing to comment on the project may do so. The Commission considers all comments received about the project in determining the appropriate action to be taken. To ensure that your comments are timely and properly recorded, please submit your comments on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on September 22, 2026. The filing of a comment alone will not serve to make the filer a party to the proceeding. To become a party, you must intervene in the proceeding.

#### How To File Protests, Interventions, and Comments

There are two ways to submit protests, motions to intervene, and comments. In both instances, please reference the Project docket number CP26–553–000 in your submission.

(1) You may file your protest, motion to intervene, and comments by using the Commission's eFiling feature, which is located on the Commission's website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)) under the link to Documents and Filings. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on "eRegister." You will be asked to select the type of filing you are making; first select "General" and then select "Protest", "Intervention", or "Comment on a Filing"; or<sup>8</sup>

(2) You can file a paper copy of your submission by mailing it to the address below. Your submission must reference the Project docket number CP26–553–000.

*To file via USPS:* Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426.

*To file via any other method:* Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225

Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

The Commission encourages electronic filing of submissions (option 1 above) and has eFiling staff available to assist you at (202) 502–8258 or [FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov).

Protests and motions to intervene must be served on the applicant either by mail at: Tom Lockett, Chief, Commercial Officer, 3040 Post Oak Blvd., Fl. 18, Suite #108, Houston, Texas 77056, or by email (with a link to the document) at [tom.lockett@pngts.com](mailto:tom.lockett@pngts.com). Any subsequent submissions by an intervenor must be served on the applicant and all other parties to the proceeding. Contact information for parties can be downloaded from the service list at the eService link on FERC Online.

#### Tracking the Proceeding

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In addition, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription which allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries, and direct links to the documents. For more information and to register, go to [www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp](http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp).

(Authority: 18 CFR 2.1.)

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–15292 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP26–80–000]

#### Transwestern Pipeline Company, LLC; Notice of Schedule for the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment for the Green Chile Project

On January 29, 2026, Transwestern Pipeline Company, LLC (Transwestern) filed a prior notice application in Docket No. CP26–80–000, pursuant to

<sup>3</sup> 18 CFR 157.205(e).

<sup>4</sup> 18 CFR 157.205(e)(2).

<sup>5</sup> *Cheniere Creole Trail Pipeline, L.P.*, 195 FERC ¶ 61,208, at P 8 n.16 (2026).

<sup>6</sup> 18 CFR 385.214.

<sup>7</sup> 18 CFR 157.10.

<sup>8</sup> Additionally, you may file your comments electronically by using the eComment feature, which is located on the Commission's website at [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov) under the link to Documents and Filings. Using eComment is an easy method for interested persons to submit brief, text-only comments on a project.

sections 157.205, 157.208, and 157.211 of the Commission's regulations under the Natural Gas Act (NGA), and Transwestern's blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82–534–000, requesting authorization to construct and operate certain natural gas pipeline facilities in Doña Ana County, New Mexico. The proposed project is known as the Green Chile Project (Project) and would be capable of delivering up to 400,000 dekatherms per day of natural gas from a point of receipt located on the existing El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C. pipeline system to a point of delivery with Green Chile Ventures, LLC (GCV). According to Transwestern, the Project is designed to meet GCV's demand for natural gas that would be used for power generation by a new artificial intelligence/data center campus.

On April 13, 2026, Commission staff protested the prior notice request because Transwestern did not provide a copy of a finding by the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) of “no historic properties” or “no historic properties affected.” Staff explained that this documentation is necessary to demonstrate the project's compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), as required under the Commission's regulations at sections 157.206(b)(3)(ii) and 157.208(c)(9) and Appendix II of subpart F.<sup>1</sup> Staff explained that without this documentation, environmental concerns cannot be adequately addressed before the protest period expired on May 13, 2026. Transwestern did not file the documentation by the deadline (or subsequently), and therefore Transwestern's prior notice request will proceed as an application for case-specific authorization under section 7 of the NGA.<sup>2</sup>

This notice identifies Commission staff's intention to prepare an environmental assessment (EA) for the Project, the planned schedule for the completion of the environmental review,<sup>3</sup> and the 90-day federal authorization decision deadline. The EA will be issued for a 30-day comment period.

### Schedule for Environmental Review

Issuance of EA—September 4, 2026

90-day Federal Authorization Decision Deadline<sup>4</sup>—December 3, 2026

If a schedule change becomes necessary, additional notice will be provided so that the relevant agencies are kept informed of the Project's progress.

### Project Description

Transwestern proposes to construct and operate approximately 17.8 miles of 24-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline and associated facilities in Doña Ana County, New Mexico. Transwestern would also construct the Green Chile El Paso Meter & Regulation Station (receipt point) and the Green Chile Meter & Regulation Station (delivery point).

### Background

In response to the Commission's February 10, 2026 *Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization and Establishing Intervention and Protest Deadline*, the Commission received comments from several individuals, Hold the Line Campaign, Public Citizen, Inc., Center for Biological Diversity, Sierra Club, Food & Water Watch, and the Oracle Corporation. The primary issues raised concern siting permissions and easements, air quality, cultural resources, water resources, wildlife, cumulative effects, and the non-jurisdictional artificial intelligence/data center campus. All substantive comments pertaining to the Project will be addressed in the EA. The Bureau of Land Management is a cooperating agency in the preparation of the EA.

### Additional Information

In order to receive notification of the issuance of the EA and to keep track of formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription. This service provides automatic notification of filings made to subscribed dockets, document summaries, and direct links to the documents. Go to <https://www.ferc.gov/ferc-online/overview> to register for eSubscription.

For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, contact the Office of Public Participation at (202) 502–6595 or [OPP@ferc.gov](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov).

Additional information about the Project is available from the FERC

website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)). Using the “eLibrary” link, select “General Search” from the eLibrary menu, enter the selected date range and “Docket Number” excluding the last three digits (*i.e.*, CP26–80), and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to eLibrary, the helpline can be reached at (866) 208–3676, TTY (202) 502–8659, or at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov). The eLibrary link on the FERC website also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rule makings.

(Authority: 18 CFR 2.1)

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15286 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. P–2302–101]

### Brookfield White Pine Hydro, LLC; Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations, 18 CFR part 380, the Office of Energy Projects has reviewed the application for a new license to continue to operate and maintain the Lewiston Falls Hydroelectric Project No. 2302. The existing project is located on the Androscoggin River in the cities of Auburn and Lewiston and the town of Durham, in Androscoggin County, Maine. Commission staff has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project.<sup>1</sup>

The EA contains staff's analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the project and concludes that licensing the project, with appropriate environmental protective measures, would not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

The Commission provides all interested persons with an opportunity to view and/or print the EA via the internet through the Commission's Home Page (<http://www.ferc.gov/>), using the “eLibrary” link. Enter the docket

<sup>1</sup> 18 CFR 157.206(b)(3)(ii), 157.208(c)(9), App. II (2025).

<sup>2</sup> 18 CFR 157.205(f) (2025).

<sup>3</sup> For tracking purposes under the National Environmental Policy Act, the unique identification number for documents relating to this environmental review is EAXX–019–20–000–1781096872.

<sup>4</sup> The Commission's deadline applies to the decisions of other federal agencies, and state agencies acting under federally delegated authority, that are responsible for federal authorizations, permits, and other approvals necessary for proposed projects under the Natural Gas Act. Per 18 CFR 157.22(a), the Commission's deadline for other agency's decisions applies unless a schedule is otherwise established by federal law.

<sup>1</sup> For tracking purposes under the National Environmental Policy Act, the unique identification number for documents relating to this environmental review is EAXX–019–20–000–1753881652.

number, excluding the last three digits in the docket number field, to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov), or at (866) 208-3676 (toll-free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY).

You may also register online at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/ferconline.aspx> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, contact the Office of Public Participation at (202) 502-6595 or [OPP@ferc.gov](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov).

Any comments should be filed on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on August 24, 2026.<sup>2</sup>

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments using the Commission's eFiling system at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/eFiling.aspx>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <https://ferconline.ferc.gov/QuickComment.aspx>. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov), (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, you may submit a paper copy. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852. The first page of any filing should include docket number P-2302-101.

For further information, contact Lauren Townson at (202) 502-8572 or by email at [Lauren.Townson@ferc.gov](mailto:Lauren.Townson@ferc.gov).

(Authority: 18 CFR 2.1)

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026-15291 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

<sup>2</sup> The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure provide that if a filing deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday, holiday, or other day when the Commission is closed for business, the filing deadline does not end until the close of business on the next business day. 18 CFR 385.2007(a)(2) (2025). Because the 30-day filing deadline falls on a Sunday (i.e., August 23, 2026), the filing deadline is extended until 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on August 24, 2026.

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### Combined Notice of Filings #1

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric corporate filings:

*Docket Numbers:* EC26-110-000.

*Applicants:* FirstLight Power Management LLC, FirstLight CT Housatonic LLC, FirstLight MA Hydro LLC, Northfield Mountain LLC, Hull Street Energy, LLC.

*Description:* Supplement to 06/15/2026, Joint Application for Authorization Under Section 203 of the Federal Power Act of FirstLight Power Management LLC, et al.

*Filed Date:* 7/20/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260720-5211.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 7/30/26.

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric rate filings:

*Docket Numbers:* ER26-2401-001.

*Applicants:* Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

*Description:* Tariff Amendment: Deficiency Response- 4821 Incorporated County of Los Alamos PTP Agreement to be effective 4/1/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724-5189.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26-2403-001.

*Applicants:* Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

*Description:* Tariff Amendment: Deficiency Response—4822 Incorporated County of Los Alamos PTP Agreement to be effective 4/1/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724-5184.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26-2456-001.

*Applicants:* ARM Energy Power, LLC.

*Description:* Tariff Amendment: Amendment to 1 to be effective 5/5/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724-5287.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26-3255-000.

*Applicants:* Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: 4705R1 Leeward Renewable Energy Development GIA to be effective 7/1/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724-5111.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26-3256-000.

*Applicants:* PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: Amendment to ISA, Service Agreement No. 6517; Queue No. AC1-167/AE2-322 to be effective 9/23/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724-5113.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26-3257-000.

*Applicants:* Commonwealth Edison Company.

*Description:* Tariff Amendment: Cancellation of Hillwood to be effective 7/25/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724-5115.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26-3258-000.

*Applicants:* Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

*Description:* Tariff Amendment: 1910R28 Southwestern Public Service Company NITSA NOA Cancellation to be effective 6/1/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724-5122.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26-3259-000.

*Applicants:* Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: 2026-07-24 SA 4809 METC-Heartwood Storage GIA (S1068) to be effective 7/16/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724-5137.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26-3260-000.

*Applicants:* Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: 4972 Avangrid Meter Agent Agreement to be effective 8/1/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724-5140.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26-3261-000.

*Applicants:* Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: 4932 Blue Valley Grid GIA; Cancellation of 4268R1 and 4575 to be effective 7/1/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724-5168.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26-3262-000.

*Applicants:* Southern California Edison Company.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: Proposed Revisions to SCE's Formula Rate to Implement Agricultural Bill Credit to be effective 10/1/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724-5198.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26-3263-000.

*Applicants:* Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: 2969R5 Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc. NITSA NOA to be effective 7/1/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724–5208.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26–3264–000.

*Applicants:* AEP Indiana Michigan Transmission Company, Inc.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: IMTCo-Mammoth Central\_South (Bogus\_Tatertown) Interim Maintenance Agreements to be effective 7/6/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724–5209.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26–3265–000.

*Applicants:* American Transmission Company LLC, Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: American Transmission Company LLC submits tariff filing per 35.13(a)(2)(iii): 2026–07–24 SA 4200–4202, 4205 & 4810 ATC–WEPCo 1st & 2nd Rev LLCAs & MTCA to be effective 7/1/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724–5251.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26–3266–000.

*Applicants:* New York Independent System Operator, Inc.

*Description:* Compliance filing: NYISO Compliance: Conform FERC eTariff Records re: Deliverability Methodology to be effective 7/21/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724–5263.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26–3267–000.

*Applicants:* Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: 2026–07–24 Att X—Modification of Order 2023 Transition Period re: AFS to be effective 9/23/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724–5286.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26–3268–000.

*Applicants:* Black Hills Colorado Electric, LLC.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: Filing of Standard LGIA with Black Hills Colorado Electric, LLC to be effective 7/15/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724–5288.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26–3269–000.

*Applicants:* PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: Amendment to Amended GIA SA No. 7442; Project Identifier AE2–316/AF1–302 to be effective 9/23/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724–5293.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26–3270–000.

*Applicants:* Indiana Michigan Power Company.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: Ameren IL–IMPC–AEP 1st Revised TIA SA No. 1527 to be effective 9/23/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724–5297.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26–3271–000.

*Applicants:* Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: 4945 NextEra Energy Resources Interconnection Holdings GIA to be effective 7/13/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724–5308.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26–3272–000.

*Applicants:* PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: Amendment to GIA SA No. 7342; Project Identifier No. AF2–187 to be effective 9/23/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724–5313.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

*Docket Numbers:* ER26–3273–000.

*Applicants:* Avista Corporation.

*Description:* § 205(d) Rate Filing: Avista Corp—Non-Conforming LGIA—Rathdrum Units 1 & 2 to be effective 7/2/2026.

*Filed Date:* 7/24/26.

*Accession Number:* 20260724–5324.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. ET 8/14/26.

The filings are accessible in the Commission's eLibrary system (<https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/search/fercensearch.asp>) by querying the docket number.

Any person desiring to intervene, to protest, or to answer a complaint in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rules 211, 214, or 206 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214, or 385.206) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. Protests may be considered, but intervention is necessary to become a party to the proceeding.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf>. For other information, call (866) 208–3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502–8659.

For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for

rehearing, contact the Office of Public Participation at (202) 502–6595 or [OPP@ferc.gov](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov).

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–15290 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717–01–P**

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

**[EPA–HQ–OPPT–2018–0421; FRL–13532–01–OCSPP]**

### 1,1,2-Trichloroethane Draft Risk Evaluation Under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA); Notice of Availability and Request for Comment

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or Agency) is announcing the availability of and seeking public comment on the draft risk evaluation under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) for 1,1,2-trichloroethane. The purpose of risk evaluations under TSCA is to determine whether a chemical substance presents an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment under the conditions of use (COUs), including unreasonable risk to potentially exposed or susceptible subpopulations identified as relevant to the risk evaluation by EPA, and without consideration of costs or non-risk factors. EPA is seeking comment on the draft risk evaluation for 1,1,2-trichloroethane.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before September 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** To submit comments on the 1,1,2-trichloroethane draft risk evaluation, submit your comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA–HQ–OPPT–2018–0421, online at <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Do not electronically submit any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Members of the public should also be aware that personal information included in any written comments may be posted on the internet at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Additional information on commenting or visiting the docket, along with more information about dockets generally, is available at <https://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

For technical information on 1,1,2-trichloroethane: Matthew Lloyd, Existing Chemical Risk Management Division, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (202) 566-2389; email address: 1.1.2.Trichloroethane.TSCA@epa.gov.

For general information: The TSCA Assistance Information Service Hotline, Goodwill Vision Enterprises, 422 South Clinton Ave., Rochester, NY 14620; telephone number: (800) 471-7127 or (202) 554-1404; email address: TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****I. Executive Summary***A. Does this action apply to me?*

This action is directed to the public in general and may be of particular interest to those involved in the manufacture (defined under TSCA section 3(9) to include import), processing, distribution, use, and disposal of 1,1,2-trichloroethane, related industry trade organizations, non-governmental organizations with an interest in human and environmental health, State and local governments, Tribal Nations, and/or those interested in the assessment of risks involving chemical substances and mixtures regulated under TSCA. As such, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that this action might apply to. If you need help determining applicability, consult the relevant technical contact listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

*B. What is the Agency's authority for taking this action?*

The Agency is conducting this risk evaluation under TSCA section 6, (15 U.S.C. 2605) which requires that EPA conduct risk evaluations on chemical substances and identifies the minimum components EPA must include in the risk evaluations. Each risk evaluation must be conducted consistent with the best available science, be based on the weight of the scientific evidence, and consider reasonably available information, and not consider costs or non-risk factors (15 U.S.C. 2625(h), (i), and (k)). See also the implementing procedural regulations at 40 CFR part 702.

*C. What action is the Agency taking?*

EPA is announcing the availability of and seeking public comment on the draft risk evaluation under TSCA for 1,1,2-trichloroethane. EPA used the best available science to prepare this draft

risk evaluation and preliminarily determined, based on the weight of scientific evidence, that 1,1,2-trichloroethane does pose unreasonable risk to human health driven by certain COUs analyzed in the draft risk evaluation.

*D. What should I consider as I submit my comments to EPA?***1. Submitting CBI**

Do not submit CBI through <https://www.regulations.gov> or email. If you wish to include CBI in your comment, please follow the applicable instructions at <https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets#rules> and clearly mark the information that you claim to be CBI. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR parts 2 and 703, as applicable.

**2. Tips for Preparing Comments**

When preparing and submitting your comments, see the commenting tips at <https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets>.

**II. Background for 1,1,2-Trichloroethane***A. What is 1,1,2-Trichloroethane?*

1,1,2-Trichloroethane is primarily used in plastic and petrochemical manufacturing. 1,1,2-Trichloroethane is also used in industrial adhesives and sealants and as a laboratory chemical. Workers and occupational non-users (ONUs) may be exposed to 1,1,2-trichloroethane through the inhalation route and workers through the dermal route associated with manufacturing, processing, use, or disposal of 1,1,2-trichloroethane. Consumers may be exposed to 1,1,2-trichloroethane through the dermal and inhalation routes during intended product use as an adhesive. Environmental releases to air, water, and land occur from industrial and waste handling facilities (e.g., Publicly Owned Treatment Works, landfills, and incinerators). 1,1,2-Trichloroethane is expected to be persistent in air and water but is not expected to sorb to soil.

*B. The Risk Evaluation of 1,1,2-Trichloroethane*

In December 2019, EPA announced its designation of 1,1,2-trichloroethane (Docket ID: EPA-HQ-OPPT-2018-0421) as a high-priority substance for risk evaluation under TSCA (84 FR 71924 (FRL-10003-15-OCSP)). In April 2020, EPA published and sought public comment on the draft scope of the 1,1,2-trichloroethane risk evaluation (85 FR 19941 (FRL-10007-11-OCSP)), and,

after considering public comments, issued the final scope on September 4, 2020 (85 FR 55281 (FRL-10013-90-OCSP)).

In this draft risk evaluation, EPA assessed human health risk to workers (including ONUs), consumers, and the general population (including fenceline communities and potentially exposed susceptible subpopulations or PESS) exposed to environmental releases of 1,1,2-trichloroethane. Specifically, EPA evaluated acute, intermediate, and chronic non-cancer and cancer risks to workers and ONUs; acute and chronic non-cancer risks to consumers; and acute and chronic non-cancer and cancer risks to the general population (including fenceline communities and PESS). This draft risk evaluation also assessed acute and chronic risks to the environment, specifically to aquatic and terrestrial species.

*C. Request for Comment*

EPA seeks feedback on the assessment of risk presented in the draft risk evaluation for 1,1,2-trichloroethane, a copy of which is available in the docket, and encourages all potentially interested parties, including individuals, governmental and non-governmental organizations, non-profit organizations, academic institutions, research institutions, and private sector entities to comment on the draft risk evaluation. To the extent possible, the Agency asks commenters to please cite any public data related to or that support comments provided, and to the extent permissible, describe any supporting data that are not publicly available.

EPA welcomes specific input on each section of the draft risk evaluation, and is particularly interested in additional information that informs the topics below.

- Importation by whom and in what quantities.
- Whether 1,1,2-trichloroethane is manufactured as a primary product in the United States and in what quantities, as well as information on the chemical manufacturing process and potential for occupational exposure or airborne releases.
- As described in Section 3.1.1.1, EPA identified *Manufacturing as a Byproduct in the Pulp and Paper Industry* as an Occupational Exposure Scenario (OES) for 1,1,2-trichloroethane. EPA seeks more information as to how 1,1,2-trichloroethane produced as a byproduct at pulp and paper manufacturing facilities is further used, disposed of, and/or distributed by the producing facility. Additionally, EPA seeks information on process descriptions, airborne exposure

concentrations of 1,1,2-trichloroethane, and the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and controls relevant to this OES.

- Whether 350 operating days per site-year is an appropriate default for EPA to use for the number of operating days for a manufacturing facility and also comment on the other default values that EPA uses for operating days for the other OES assessed (See Table 3–4).

- Information on worker schedules and exposures, including shift hours, working days per week, and working years, for any of the COUs and OESs assessed by EPA in this draft risk evaluation.

- Containers and method of transport for how 1,1,2-trichloroethane is distributed to COUs that were not reported through Chemical Data Reporting such as adhesives and sealants, use as a laboratory chemical, and for cleaning and degreasing applications such as vapor degreasing and cold cleaning.

- Information on process descriptions for how 1,1,2-trichloroethane is used in adhesives and sealants (Use of Adhesives and Sealants OES), as a laboratory chemical (Commercial Use of a Laboratory Chemical OES), and in cleaning and degreasing applications such as vapor degreasing and cold cleaning (Use of Cleaning and Degreasing Solvents OES).

- Whether there are current uses of 1,1,2-trichloroethane for the OES of Use of Cleaning and Degreasing Solvents.

- Process description and worker activity information for remediation processes involving 1,1,2-trichloroethane including information on whether the remediation OES is representative of the disposal COU.

- Additional worker inhalation monitoring data for any of the COUs and OESs assessed by EPA in the draft risk evaluation, as well as specific information on respiratory protection usage (*e.g.*, what type of respirator and for what tasks, how respirators are selected and assigned, etc) for all COUs.

- Information which may be useful to EPA related to existing dermal protections including specifications from the manufacturers or suppliers that demonstrate an impervious barrier to 1,1,2-trichloroethane during expected durations of use and normal conditions of exposure within the workplace, including any information which accounts for potential chemical permeation, penetration, or breakthrough times.

- EPA provided additional discussion of the available information on dermal PPE usage and existing controls for the

Manufacturing as a Byproduct OES in the risk determination (see Section 6.1.3 of the draft risk evaluation). EPA welcomes additional information on how dermal protection is selected, applied, and utilized for this OES.

- Additional data on environmental releases for any of the COUs and OESs assessed by EPA in the draft risk evaluation.

- As described in Section 4.3.2.1.3 of the draft risk evaluation, EPA relied on conservative assumptions to estimate facility throughput that is utilized in the occupational exposure model for the OES of Repackaging for Laboratory Chemical Use. EPA seeks additional information to inform the use of these conservative assumptions, or to further refine the assumptions utilized in this exposure model.

## VI. Next Steps

After consideration of comments received from the public on the draft risk evaluation and input from the Scientific Advisory Committee on Chemicals (SACC) peer review, EPA will issue a final risk evaluation for 1,1,2-trichloroethane. Under TSCA section 6, EPA must use the final risk evaluation as a basis to determine, based on the weight of scientific evidence, whether the chemical presents an unreasonable risk to human health or the environment under the chemical's COUs. This includes risks to subpopulations who may be at greater risks than the general population, such as children and workers. TSCA prohibits EPA from considering non-risk factors (*e.g.*, costs/benefits) during risk evaluation.

For more information about the TSCA risk evaluation process for existing chemicals, go to <https://www.epa.gov/assessing-and-managing-chemicals-under-tsca>.

*Authority:* 15 U.S.C. 2601 *et seq.*

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Douglas M. Troutman,**

*Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15267 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560–50–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

#### Notice of Award of a Sole Source Cooperative Agreement To Fund the Public Health Foundation

**AGENCY:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), located within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), announces the award of approximately \$1.5 million for Year 1 funding to the Public Health Foundation. The award will support the modernization and enhancement of CDC TRAIN and the TRAIN Learning Network overall; capacity building and training to improve the skills and competence of the public health workforce; performance management, quality improvement, and innovation in governmental public health; and expanded collaborations between health departments and academic institutions. Funding amounts for years 2–5 will be set at continuation.

**DATES:** The period for this award will be September 1, 2026, through August 31, 2031.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Cindi Melanson, National Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Public Health Infrastructure and Workforce, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Telephone: 800–232–4636, email: [train@cdc.gov](mailto:train@cdc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The sole source award will ensure that state, tribal, local, and territorial (STLT) public health and healthcare professionals have the knowledge and skills to serve their communities well. This will be achieved by the following: (1) enhancing and expanding the TRAIN Learning Network, an existing learning management system (LMS) focused on upskilling the public health and healthcare workforce and (2) strengthening public health workforce services through support for advancing performance management and quality improvement, public health workforce competencies, academic health departments, and other cross-sector collaborations.

Public Health Foundation (PHF) is the only entity that can carry out this work, as it owns and manages the TRAIN Learning Network (Learning Management System, LMS). CDC has partnered with the TRAIN Learning

Network (CDC TRAIN) since 2010. There are now more than two million CDC TRAIN learner accounts. PHF also manages the Council on Linkages Between Academic and Public Health Practice, which is the steward of the Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals, the Academic Health Department (AHD) Learning Community, and the Retention and Recruitment Learning Community. Finally, PHF is a field-recognized lead in unique public health tools and training for performance management and quality improvement provided to state, tribal, local, and territorial health departments.

### Summary of the Award

*Recipient:* Public Health Foundation.

*Purpose of the award:* The purpose of this award is to ensure that state, tribal, local, and territorial (STLT) public health and healthcare professionals have the knowledge and skills to best serve their communities. This will be achieved by the following: (1) enhancing and expanding the TRAIN Learning Network, an existing learning management system (LMS) focused on upskilling the public health and healthcare workforce and (2) strengthening public health workforce services through support for advancing performance management and quality improvement, public health workforce competencies, academic health departments, and other cross-sector collaborations.

*Amount of award:* The approximate year 1 funding amount will be \$1.5 million in Federal Fiscal Year 2026 funds, subject to the availability of funds. Funding amounts for years 2–5 will be set at continuation.

*Authority:* This program is authorized under the Public Health Service Act: Section 1703 (a)(2) and (3) (42 U.S.C. 300u–2(a)(2) and (3)); Section 1704 (42 U.S.C. 300u–3); and Section 317(k)(2) (42 U.S.C. 247(b)(k)(2)).

*Period of performance:* September 1, 2026, through August 31, 2031.

### Jamie Legier,

*Director, Office of Grants Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15315 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163–18–P

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

#### Privacy Act of 1974; Matching Program

**AGENCY:** Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

**ACTION:** Notice of a new matching program.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is providing notice of the re-establishment of a matching program between CMS and the Office of Personnel Management, “Verification of Eligibility for Minimum Essential Coverage Under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act through an Office of Personnel Management Health Benefit Plan”. The matching program provides CMS and State Administering Entities with the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) data to use in determining individuals’ eligibility to enroll in a qualified health plan through an exchange established under the ACA; for insurance affordability programs, certifications of exemption, and to make eligibility redeterminations and renewals, including appeal determinations.

**DATES:** Comments on the matching program must be received by August 28, 2026. The matching program will be effective, and matching activity may commence, 30 days after this notice is published in the **Federal Register**. The matching program conducted for an initial term of 18 months, and within 3 months of expiration may be renewed for up to one additional year if the parties make no change to the matching program and certify that the program has been conducted in compliance with the matching agreement.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested parties may submit comments on this notice to the CMS Privacy Act Officer by mail at: Division of Security, Privacy Policy & Governance, Information Security & Privacy Group, Office of Information Technology, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Location: N1–14–56, 7500 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21244–1850 or by email at [Barbara.Demopoulos@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Barbara.Demopoulos@cms.hhs.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** If you have questions about the matching program, you may contact Terrence Kane, Director, Division of Automated Verifications and SEP Policy, Marketplace Eligibility and Enrollment

Group, Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, at (301) 492–4449, by email at [Terrence.kane@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Terrence.kane@cms.hhs.gov), or by mail at 7501 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552a) provides certain protections for individuals applying for and receiving federal benefits. The law governs the use of computer matching by federal agencies when records in a system of records (meaning, federal agency records about individuals retrieved by name or other personal identifier) are matched with records of other federal or non-federal agencies. The Privacy Act requires agencies involved in a matching program to:

1. Enter into a written agreement, which must be prepared in accordance with the Privacy Act, approved by the Data Integrity Board of each source and recipient Federal agency, provided to Congress and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and made available to the public, as required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(o), (u)(3)(A), and (u)(4).

2. Notify the individuals whose information will be used in the matching program that the information they provide is subject to verification through matching, as required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(o)(1)(D).

3. Verify match findings before suspending, terminating, reducing, or making a final denial of an individual’s benefits or payments or taking other adverse action against the individual, as required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(p).

4. Report the matching program to Congress and the OMB, in advance and annually, as required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(o)(2)(A)(i), (r), and (u)(3)(D).

5. Publish advance notice of the matching program in the **Federal Register** as required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(12).

This matching program meets these requirements.

### Barbara Demopoulos,

*Privacy Act Officer, Division of Security, Privacy Policy and Governance, Office of Information Technology, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.*

*Participating Agencies:* Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), and the Office of Personnel Management (OPM).

*Authority for Conducting the Matching Program:* The principal authority for the matching program is 42 U.S.C. 18001, *et seq.*

*Purpose(s):* The matching program will enable CMS to make initial

Eligibility Determinations for eligibility to enroll in a Qualified Health Plan (QHP) through an Exchange established under ACA; eligibility for Insurance Affordability Programs and for certifications of Exemption; and eligibility Redeterminations and Renewal decisions, including appeal determinations, for enrollment in a QHP through an Exchange and Insurance Affordability Programs and for certifications of Exemption.

**Categories of Individuals:** The categories of individuals whose information is involved in the matching program are: (1) active Federal Employees, identified in data CMS receives from OPM, and (2) consumers who apply for or are enrolled in private insurance coverage under a qualified health plan through a federally-facilitated or state-based health insurance exchange (and other relevant individuals, such as applicants' and enrollees' household members), whose records are matched against the data CMS receives from OPM.

**Categories of Records:** OPM will send a monthly, full refreshed Status File that contains a list of and data for active Federal employees. The Status File will include the following specified data elements: Record type; Record number; Unique person ID; Social Security Number; Last name; Middle name; First name; Last name suffix; Sex; Date of birth; and Health Plan Code.

OPM will send to CMS, on an annual basis, a Premium Spread Index File that identifies the lowest premium available to a Federal employee in each of the 32 premium localities.

#### *System(s) of Records:*

**A. System of Records Maintained by CMS:** The CMS SOR that supports this matching program is the "CMS Health Insurance Exchanges System (HIX)", CMS System No. 09-70-0560, last published in full at 78 FR 63211 (October 23, 2013), as amended at 83 FR 6591 (February 14, 2018).

**B. System of Records Maintained by the Office of Personnel Management:** The OPM SOR for this matching program is titled "General Personnel Records" (OPM/GOVT-1), published at 77 FR, 73694 (December 11, 2012).

[FR Doc. 2026-15282 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4120-03-P**

## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

### **Food and Drug Administration**

[Docket No. FDA-2007-D-0369]

#### **Product-Specific Guidances; Revised Draft Guidances for Industry; Availability**

**AGENCY:** Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or Agency) is announcing the availability of additional revised draft product-specific guidances. The draft guidances provide product-specific recommendations on, among other things, the design of bioequivalence (BE) studies to support abbreviated new drug applications (ANDAs). In the **Federal Register** of June 11, 2010, FDA announced the availability of a guidance for industry entitled "Bioequivalence Recommendations for Specific Products" that explained the process that would be used to make product-specific guidances available to the public on FDA's website. The draft guidances identified in this notice were developed using the process described in that guidance.

**DATES:** Submit either electronic or written comments on the draft guidance by September 28, 2026 to ensure that the Agency considers your comment on these draft guidances before it begins work on the final version of these guidances.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments on any guidance at any time as follows:

#### *Electronic Submissions*

Submit electronic comments in the following way:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Comments submitted electronically, including attachments, to <https://www.regulations.gov> will be posted to the docket unchanged. Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for ensuring that your comment does not include any confidential information that you or a third party may not wish to be posted, such as medical information, your or anyone else's Social Security number, or confidential business information, such as a manufacturing process. Please note that if you include your name, contact information, or other information that identifies you in the body of your comments, that information will be posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>.

- If you want to submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made available to the public, submit the comment as a written/paper submission and in the manner detailed (see "Written/Paper Submissions" and "Instructions").

#### *Written/Paper Submissions*

Submit written/paper submissions as follows:

- **Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier (for written/paper submissions):** Dockets Management Staff (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

- For written/paper comments submitted to the Dockets Management Staff, FDA will post your comment, as well as any attachments, except for information submitted, marked and identified, as confidential, if submitted as detailed in "Instructions."

**Instructions:** All submissions received must include the Docket No. FDA-2007-D-0369 for "Product-Specific Guidances; Revised Draft Guidances for Industry." Received comments will be placed in the docket and, except for those submitted as "Confidential Submissions," publicly viewable at <https://www.regulations.gov> or at the Dockets Management Staff between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, 240-402-7500.

- **Confidential Submissions—**To submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made publicly available, submit your comments only as a written/paper submission. You should submit two copies total. One copy will include the information you claim to be confidential with a heading or cover note that states "THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION." The Agency will review this copy, including the claimed confidential information, in its consideration of comments. The second copy, which will have the claimed confidential information redacted/blacked out, will be available for public viewing and posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>. Submit both copies to the Dockets Management Staff. If you do not wish your name and contact information to be made publicly available, you can provide this information on the cover sheet and not in the body of your comments and you must identify this information as "confidential." Any information marked as "confidential" will not be disclosed except in accordance with 21 CFR 10.20 and other applicable disclosure law. For more information about FDA's posting of comments to public dockets, see 80 FR 56469, September 18, 2015, or access the information at: <https://www.regulations.gov>

[www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2015-09-18/pdf/2015-23389.pdf](http://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2015-09-18/pdf/2015-23389.pdf).

**Docket:** For access to the docket to read background documents or the electronic and written/paper comments received, go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and insert the docket number, found in brackets in the heading of this document, into the "Search" box and follow the prompts and/or go to the Dockets Management Staff, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852, 240-402-7500.

You may submit comments on any guidance at any time (see 21 CFR 10.115(g)(5)).

Submit written requests for single copies of the draft guidance to the Division of Drug Information, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10001 New Hampshire Ave., Hillandale Building, 4th Floor, Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002. Send one self-addressed adhesive label to assist that office in processing your requests. See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for electronic access to the draft guidance document.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Joseph Kotsybar, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 75, Rm. 4714, Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002, [PSG-Questions@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:PSG-Questions@fda.hhs.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

In the **Federal Register** of June 11, 2010 (75 FR 33311), FDA announced the availability of a guidance for industry titled "Bioequivalence Recommendations for Specific Products" that explained the process that would be used to make product-specific guidances available to the public on FDA's website at <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/guidance-compliance-regulatory-information/guidances-drugs>.

As described in that guidance, FDA adopted this process as a means to develop and disseminate product-specific guidances and provide a meaningful opportunity for the public to consider and comment on those guidances. Under that process, draft guidances are posted on FDA's website and announced periodically in the **Federal Register**. The public is encouraged to submit comments on those recommendations within 60 days of their announcement in the **Federal Register**. FDA considers any comments received and either publishes final guidances or publishes revised draft guidances for comment. Guidances were last announced in the **Federal Register**

on May 22, 2026 (91 FR 30307). This notice announces revised draft product-specific guidances that are posted on FDA's website.

FDA is also withdrawing the guidance for industry entitled "ANDAs for Certain Highly Purified Synthetic Peptide Drug Products That Refer to Listed Drugs of rDNA Origin" (May 2021) as it no longer reflects FDA's current scientific thinking. As noted in the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research guidance agenda, FDA plans to revise and reissue the guidance this year.

#### II. Drug Products for Which Revised Draft Product-Specific Guidances Are Available

FDA is announcing the availability of revised draft product-specific guidances for industry for drug products containing the following active ingredients:

TABLE 1—REVISED DRAFT PRODUCT-SPECIFIC GUIDANCES FOR DRUG PRODUCTS

| Active ingredient(s)                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------|
| Calcitonin salmon (multiple reference listed drugs). |
| Dasiglucagon hydrochloride.                          |
| Glucagon (multiple reference listed drugs).          |
| Liraglutide (multiple reference listed drugs).       |
| Pegcetacoplan (multiple reference listed drugs).     |
| Semaglutide (multiple reference listed drugs).       |
| Teriparatide (multiple reference listed drugs).      |
| Tirzepatide (multiple reference listed drugs).       |
| Vosoritide.                                          |

For a complete history of previously published **Federal Register** notices related to product-specific guidances, go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and enter Docket No. FDA-2007-D-0369.

These draft guidances are being issued consistent with FDA's good guidance practices regulation (21 CFR 10.115). These draft guidances, when finalized, will represent the current thinking of FDA on, among other things, the product-specific design of BE studies to support ANDAs. They do not establish any rights for any person and are not binding on FDA or the public. You can use an alternative approach if it satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations.

As we develop any final guidance on this topic, FDA will consider comments on costs or cost savings the guidance may generate, relevant for Executive Order 14192.

#### II. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

While these guidances contain no collection of information, they do refer

to previously approved FDA collections of information. The previously approved collections of information are subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3521). The collections of information in 21 CFR part 312 for investigational new drugs have been approved under OMB control number 0910-0014. The collections of information in 21 CFR part 314 for applications for FDA approval to market a new drug and in 21 CFR part 320 for bioavailability and BE requirements have been approved under OMB control number 0910-0001.

#### III. Electronic Access

Persons with access to the internet may obtain the draft guidance at <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/guidance-compliance-regulatory-information/guidances-drugs>, <https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents>, or <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Grace R. Graham,

Deputy Commissioner for Policy, Legislation, and International Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2026-15285 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4164-01-P

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

##### Food and Drug Administration

##### Statement of Organization, Functions, and Delegations of Authority

**AGENCY:** Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) plans to centralize and enhance key functions across the agency. These changes will reduce redundancies, improve efficiency, and advance alignment to better serve the American public.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Eric Stone, Acting Associate Director for Enterprise Solutions, Office of Operations, 10903 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20993.

##### I. Introduction

Part D, Chapter D-B, (Food and Drug Administration), the Statement of Organization, Functions and Delegations of Authority for the Department of Health and Human Services (35 FR 3685, February 25, 1970, 60 FR 56606, November 9, 1995, 64 FR 36361, July 6, 1999, 72 FR 50112, August 30, 2007, 74 FR 41713, August

18, 2009, 76 FR 45270, July 28, 2011, 84 FR 22854, May 20, 2019, and 89 FR 105052, December 26, 2024) is revised to reflect the Food and Drug Administration's plans to centralize and enhance functions across the agency.

DCA. ORGANIZATION. The Food and Drug Administration's Office of the Commissioner and includes the following organizational units:  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER (DCA)  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COUNSEL (DCAA)  
OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT (DCAB)  
OFFICE OF THE COUNSELOR TO THE COMMISSIONER (DCAC)  
OFFICE OF NATIONAL HEALTH SECURITY (DCAH)  
PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE STAFF (DCAH1)  
SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCY STAFF (DCAH2)

DCB. ORGANIZATION. The Center for Biologics, Evaluation, and Research includes the following organizational units:  
CENTER FOR BIOLOGICS, EVALUATION AND RESEARCH (DCB)  
OFFICE OF THE CENTER DIRECTOR (DCBA)  
REGULATORY PROGRAMS, OPERATIONS, AND COMMUNICATIONS STAFF (DCBA2)  
REGULATIONS AND POLICY STAFF (DCBA3)  
REGULATORY DATA, STANDARDS, AND REPORTING STAFF (DCBA4)  
POLICY STAFF (DCBA7)  
SCIENCE AND SAFETY STAFF (DCBA8)  
VETERINARY SERVICES STAFF (DCBA9)  
OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE AND BIOLOGICS QUALITY (DCBC)  
DIVISION OF CASE MANAGEMENT (DCBCA)  
BLOOD AND TISSUE COMPLIANCE BRANCH (DCBCA1)  
ADVERTISING AND PROMOTIONAL LABELING BRANCH (DCBCA2)  
BIOLOGICAL DRUG AND DEVICE COMPLIANCE BRANCH 1 (DCBCA3)  
BIOLOGICAL DRUG AND DEVICE COMPLIANCE BRANCH 2 (DCBCA4)  
DIVISION OF INSPECTIONS AND SURVEILLANCE (DCBCB)  
PROGRAM SURVEILLANCE BRANCH (DCBCB1)  
BIORESEARCH MONITORING BRANCH (DCBCB2)  
DIVISION OF MANUFACTURING AND PRODUCT QUALITY (DCBCC)  
PRODUCT RELEASE BRANCH (DCBCC1)  
MANUFACTURING REVIEW BRANCH 1 (DCBCC2)  
MANUFACTURING REVIEW BRANCH 2 (DCBCC3)  
APPLICATIONS REVIEW BRANCH (DCBCC4)  
MANUFACTURING REVIEW BRANCH 3 (DCBCC5)  
DIVISION OF BIOLOGICAL STANDARDS AND QUALITY CONTROL (DCBCD)  
QUALITY ASSURANCE BRANCH (DCBCD2)  
LABORATORY OF MICROBIOLOGY, IN-VIVO TESTING AND STANDARDS BRANCH (DCBCD3)

LABORATORY OF ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY BRANCH (DCBCD4)  
LABORATORY OF BIOCHEMISTRY, VIROLOGY, AND IMMUNOCHEMISTRY BRANCH (DCBCD5)  
LABORATORY OF BLOOD RELATED PRODUCTS BRANCH (DCBCD6)  
OFFICE OF BIOSTATISTICS AND PHARMACOVIGILANCE (DCBD)  
CBER SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM STAFF (DCBD1)  
DIVISION OF BIOSTATISTICS (DCBDA)  
VACCINE EVALUATION BRANCH (DCBDA1)  
THERAPEUTICS EVALUATION BRANCH 1 (DCBDA2)  
DEVICE AND NON-CLINICAL EVALUATION BRANCH (DCBDA3)  
THERAPEUTICS EVALUATION BRANCH 2 (DCBDA4)  
DIVISION OF PHARMACOVIGILANCE (DCBDB)  
PHARMACOVIGILANCE BRANCH 1 (DCBDB1)  
PHARMACOVIGILANCE BRANCH 2 (DCBDB2)  
PHARMACOVIGILANCE BRANCH 3 (DCBDB3)  
DIVISION OF ANALYTICS AND BENEFIT-RISK ASSESSMENT (DCBDC)  
BENEFIT-RISK ASSESSMENT BRANCH (DCBDC1)  
ANALYTICS AND REAL-WORLD EVIDENCE BRANCH (DCBDC2)  
OFFICE OF BLOOD RESEARCH AND REVIEW (DCBE)  
REGULATORY PROJECT MANAGEMENT STAFF (DCBE2)  
DIVISION OF EMERGING AND TRANSFUSION TRANSMITTED DISEASES (DCBEA)  
LABORATORY OF MOLECULAR VIROLOGY (DCBEA1)  
LABORATORY OF EMERGING PATHOGENS (DCBEA2)  
PRODUCT REVIEW BRANCH (DCBEA4)  
DIVISION OF BLOOD COMPONENTS AND DEVICES (DCBEB)  
DEVICES REVIEW BRANCH (DCBEB2)  
BLOOD AND PLASMA BRANCH (DCBEB6)  
LABORATORY OF CELLULAR HEMATOLOGY (DCBEB7)  
LABORATORY OF BIOCHEMISTRY AND VASCULAR BIOLOGY (DCBEB8)  
OFFICE OF VACCINES RESEARCH AND REVIEW (DCBF)  
DIVISION OF BACTERIAL PARASITIC AND ALLERGENIC PRODUCTS (DCBFA)  
LABORATORY OF IMMUNOBIOCHEMISTRY (DCBFA1)  
LABORATORY OF RESPIRATORY AND SPECIAL PATHOGENS (DCBFA2)  
LABORATORY OF BACTERIAL PLOYSACCHARIDES (DCBFA3)  
LABORATORY OF MUCOSAL PATHOGENS AND CELLULAR IMMUNOLOGY (DCBFA4)  
DIVISION OF VIRAL PRODUCTS (DCBFB)  
LABORATORY OF PEDIATRIC AND RESPIRATORY VIRAL DISEASES (DCBFB1)  
LABORATORY OF HEPATITIS VIRUSES (DCBFB2)  
LABORATORY OF RETROVIRUSES (DCBFB3)

LABORATORY OF DNA VIRUSES (DCBFB4)  
LABORATORY OF VECTOR BORNE DISEASES (DCBFB5)  
LABORATORY OF METHOD DEVELOPMENT (DCBFB6)  
LABORATORY OF IMMUNOREGULATIONS (DCBFB7)  
DIVISION OF REVIEW MANAGEMENT AND REGULATORY REVIEW (DCBFD)  
REGULATORY REVIEW BRANCH 1 (DCBFD1)  
REGULATORY REVIEW BRANCH 2 (DCBFD2)  
REGULATORY REVIEW BRANCH 3 (DCBFD3)  
REVIEW MANAGEMENT SUPPORT BRANCH (DCBFD4)  
DIVISION OF CLINICAL AND TOXICOLOGY REVIEW (DCBFE)  
CLINICAL REVIEW BRANCH 1 (DCBFE1)  
CLINICAL REVIEW BRANCH 2 (DCBFE2)  
CLINICAL REVIEW BRANCH 3 (DCBFE3)  
TOXICOLOGY STAFF (DCBFE4)  
OFFICE OF THERAPEUTIC PRODUCTS (DCBG)  
POLICY AND SPECIAL PROJECTS STAFF (DCBG2)  
OFFICE OF GENE THERAPY CMC (DCBGF)  
DIVISION OF GENE THERAPY I (DCBGFA)  
GENE THERAPY BRANCH 1 (DCBGFA1)  
GENE THERAPY BRANCH 2 (DCBGFA2)  
GENE THERAPY BRANCH 3 (DCBGFA3)  
DIVISION OF GENE THERAPY II (DCBGFb)  
GENE TRANSFER AND IMMUNOGENICITY BRANCH (DCBGFb1)  
GENE THERAPY BRANCH 4 (DCBGFb2)  
GENE THERAPY BRANCH 5 (DCBGFb3)  
OFFICE OF CELLULAR THERAPY AND HUMAN TISSUE CMC (DCBGG)  
DIVISION OF CELL THERAPY I (DCBGGA)  
CELL THERAPY BRANCH 1 (DCBGGA1)  
CELL THERAPY BRANCH 2 (DCBGGA2)  
CELLULAR AND TISSUE THERAPY BRANCH (DCBGGA3)  
DIVISION OF CELL THERAPY II (DCBGGb)  
TISSUE ENGINEERING BRANCH 1 (DCBGGb1)  
TISSUE ENGINEERING BRANCH 2 (DCBGGb2)  
TUMOR VACCINE AND BIOTECHNOLOGY BRANCH (DCBGGb3)  
DIVISION OF HUMAN TISSUES (DCBGGC)  
HUMAN TISSUES AND REPRODUCTION STAFF (DCBGGC1)  
OFFICE OF PLASMA PROTEIN THERAPEUTICS CMC (DCBGH)  
DIVISION OF HEMOSTASIS (DCBGHA)  
HEMOSTASIS BRANCH 1 (DCBGHA1)  
HEMOSTASIS BRANCH 2 (DCBGHA2)  
DIVISION OF PLASMA DERIVATIVES (DCBGHB)  
PLASMA DERIVATIVES BRANCH 1 (DCBGHB1)  
PLASMA DERIVATIVES BRANCH 2 (DCBGHB2)  
OFFICE OF CLINICAL EVALUATION (DCBGI)  
DIVISION OF CLINICAL EVALUATION GENERAL MEDICINE (DCBGIA)

|                                                                                                                |                                                                     |                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| GENERAL MEDICINE BRANCH 1 (DCBGIA1)                                                                            | DIGITAL HEALTH CENTER OF EXCELLENCE (DCCCF)                         | OFFICE OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY III (DCCFE)                             |
| GENERAL MEDICINE BRANCH 2 (DCBGIA2)                                                                            | DIVISION OF DIGITAL HEALTH POLICY (DCCCFA)                          | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY III A (DCCFEA)                        |
| GENERAL MEDICINE BRANCH 3 (DCBGIA3)                                                                            | DIVISION OF DIGITAL HEALTH TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT (DCCCFB)           | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY III B (DCCFEB)                        |
| GENERAL MEDICINE BRANCH 4 (DCBGIA4)                                                                            | DIVISION OF DIGITAL HEALTH OUTREACH (DCCCF)                         | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY III C (DCCFEC)                        |
| DIVISION OF CLINICAL EVALUATION ONCOLOGY (DCBGIB)                                                              | OFFICE OF SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCE (DCCCH)                           | OFFICE OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY IV (DCCFF)                              |
| ONCOLOGY BRANCH 1 (DCBGIB1)                                                                                    | DIVISION OF SHORTAGE ASSESSMENT AND PRODUCT AUTHENTICATION (DCCCHA) | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY IV A (DCCFFA)                         |
| ONCOLOGY BRANCH 2 (DCBGIB2)                                                                                    | DIVISION OF PREVENTION, INNOVATION, AND RESILIENCE (DCCCHB)         | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY IV B (DCCFFB)                         |
| DIVISION OF CLINICAL EVALUATION HEMATOLOGY (DCBGIC)                                                            | OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING LABORATORIES (DCCD)               | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY IV C (DCCFFC)                         |
| BENIGN HEMATOLOGY BRANCH (DCBGIC1)                                                                             | DIVISION OF BIOMEDICAL PHYSICS (DCCDA)                              | OFFICE OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY V (DCCFG)                               |
| MALIGNANT HEMATOLOGY BRANCH (DCBGIC2)                                                                          | DIVISION OF IMAGING, DIAGNOSTICS, AND SOFTWARE RELIABILITY (DCCDB)  | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY V A (DCCFGA)                          |
| OFFICE OF PHARMACOLOGY TOXICOLOGY (DCBGJ)                                                                      | DIVISION OF APPLIED MECHANICS (DCCDC)                               | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY V B (DCCFGB)                          |
| DIVISION OF PHARMACOLOGY TOXICOLOGY I (DCBGJA)                                                                 | DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND LABORATORY SUPPORT (DCCDD)           | OFFICE OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY VI (DCCFH)                              |
| PHARMACOLOGY TOXICOLOGY BRANCH 1 (DCBGJA1)                                                                     | DIVISION OF BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY, AND MATERIALS SCIENCE (DCCDE)       | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY VI A (DCCFHA)                         |
| PHARMACOLOGY TOXICOLOGY BRANCH 3 (DCBGJA2)                                                                     | OFFICE OF PRODUCT EVALUATION AND QUALITY (DCCF)                     | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY VI B (DCCFHB)                         |
| DIVISION OF PHARMACOLOGY TOXICOLOGY II (DCBGJB)                                                                | QUALITY AND ANALYTICS STAFF (DCCF1)                                 | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY VI C (DCCFHC)                         |
| PHARMACOLOGY TOXICOLOGY BRANCH 2 (DCBGJB1)                                                                     | CLINICAL AND SCIENTIFIC POLICY STAFF (DCCF2)                        | OFFICE OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY VII (DCCFI)                             |
| PHARMACOLOGY TOXICOLOGY BRANCH 4 (DCBGJB2)                                                                     | STRATEGIC INITIATIVES STAFF (DCCF3)                                 | DIVISION OF CHEMISTRY AND TOXICOLOGY DEVICES (DCCFIA)               |
| OFFICE OF REVIEW MANAGEMENT AND REGULATORY REVIEW (DCBGK)                                                      | REGULATIONS POLICY AND GUIDANCE STAFF (DCCF4)                       | CHEMISTRY BRANCH (DCCFIA1)                                          |
| DIVISION OF REVIEW MANAGEMENT AND REGULATORY REVIEW I (DCBGKA)                                                 | OFFICE OF REGULATORY PROGRAMS (DCCFA)                               | DIABETES BRANCH (DCCFIA2)                                           |
| REGULATORY REVIEW BRANCH 1 (DCBGKA1)                                                                           | DIVISION OF REGULATORY PROGRAMS I (DCCFAA)                          | TOXICOLOGY BRANCH (DCCFIA3)                                         |
| REVIEW MANAGEMENT SUPPORT BRANCH 1 (DCBGKA2)                                                                   | DIVISION OF REGULATORY PROGRAMS II (DCCFAB)                         | CARDIO-RENAL DIAGNOSTICS BRANCH (DCCFIA4)                           |
| DIVISION OF REVIEW MANAGEMENT AND REGULATORY REVIEW II (DCBGKB)                                                | DIVISION OF REGULATORY PROGRAMS III (DCCFAC)                        | DIVISION OF IMMUNOLOGY AND HEMATOLOGY DEVICES (DCCFIB)              |
| REGULATORY REVIEW BRANCH 2 (DCBGKB1)                                                                           | DIVISION OF REGULATORY PROGRAMS IV (DCCFAD)                         | HEMATOLOGY BRANCH (DCCFIB1)                                         |
| REVIEW MANAGEMENT SUPPORT BRANCH 2 (DCBGKB2)                                                                   | OFFICE OF CLINICAL EVIDENCE AND ANALYSIS (DCCFB)                    | IMMUNOLOGY AND FLOW CYTOMETRY BRANCH (DCCFIB2)                      |
| DCC. ORGANIZATION. The Center for Devices and Radiological Health includes the following organizational units: | DIVISION OF CLINICAL EVIDENCE AND ANALYSIS I (DCCFBA)               | DIVISION OF MICROBIOLOGY DEVICES (DCCFIC)                           |
| CENTER FOR DEVICES AND RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH (DCC)                                                               | DIVISION OF CLINICAL EVIDENCE AND ANALYSIS II (DCCFBB)              | VIRAL RESPIRATORY AND HUMAN PAPILLOMA VIRUS BRANCH (DCCFIC1)        |
| OFFICE OF THE CENTER DIRECTOR (DCCA)                                                                           | DIVISION OF CLINICAL EVIDENCE AND ANALYSIS III (DCCFBC)             | GENERAL VIRAL AND HUMAN HEPATITIS BRANCH (DCCFIC2)                  |
| QUALITY MANAGEMENT STAFF (DCCA1)                                                                               | DIVISION OF CLINICAL EVIDENCE AND ANALYSIS IV (DCCFBD)              | GENERAL BACTERIAL AND ANTIMICROBIAL SUSCEPTIBILITY BRANCH (DCCFIC3) |
| OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP AND TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION (DCCC)                                               | DIVISION OF CLINICAL EVIDENCE AND ANALYSIS V (DCCFBE)               | BACTERIAL RESPIRATORY AND MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES BRANCH (DCCFIC4)  |
| OFFICE OF READINESS AND RESPONSE (DCCCD)                                                                       | OFFICE OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY I (DCCFC)                               | DIVISION OF PROGRAM OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT (DCCFIE)              |
| DIVISION OF ALL HAZARD PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE (DCCDA)                                                       | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY I A (DCCFCA)                          | DIVISION OF MOLECULAR GENETICS AND PATHOLOGY (DCCFIG)               |
| DIVISION OF STANDARDS AND CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT (DCCDB)                                                        | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY I B (DCCFCB)                          | MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY AND CYTOLOGY BRANCH (DCCFIG1)                   |
| DIVISION OF MEDICAL DEVICE CYBERSECURITY (DCCDC)                                                               | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY I C (DCCFCC)                          | MOLECULAR GENETICS BRANCH (DCCFIG2)                                 |
| OFFICE OF INNOVATIVE DEVELOPMENT (DCCCE)                                                                       | OFFICE OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY II (DCCFD)                              | OFFICE OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY VIII (DCCFJ)                            |
| DIVISION OF PATIENT-CENTERED DEVELOPMENT (DCCCEA)                                                              | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY II A (DCCFDA)                         | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY VIII A (DCCFJA)                       |
| DIVISION OF PARTNERSHIPS AND INNOVATION (DCCCEC)                                                               | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY II B (DCCFDB)                         | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY VIII B (DCCFJB)                       |
|                                                                                                                | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY II C (DCCFDC)                         | DIVISION OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY VIII C (DCCFJC)                       |
|                                                                                                                |                                                                     | OFFICE OF POLICY (DCCG)                                             |
|                                                                                                                |                                                                     | OFFICE OF INDUSTRY AND CONSUMER EDUCATION (DCCH)                    |

DCD. ORGANIZATION. The Center for Drug Evaluation and Research includes the following organizational units:

CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH (DCD)

OFFICE OF THE CENTER DIRECTOR (DCDA)

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE STAFF (DCDA1)

COUNTER-TERRORISM AND EMERGENCY COORDINATION STAFF (DCDA3)

DRUG SHORTAGE STAFF (DCDA4)

OFFICE OF REGULATORY REVIEW (DCDB)

DIVISION OF REGULATORY REVIEW I (DCDBA)

DIVISION OF REGULATORY REVIEW II (DCDBB)

DIVISION OF REGULATORY REVIEW III (DCDBD)

DIVISION OF REGULATORY REVIEW IV (DCDBE)

OFFICE OF SURVEILLANCE AND EPIDEMIOLOGY (DCDE)

REGULATORY SCIENCE STAFF (DCDE1)

REGULATORY AFFAIRS STAFF (DCDE2)

PROJECT MANAGEMENT STAFF (DCDE4)

OFFICE OF MEDICATION ERROR PREVENTION AND RISK MANAGEMENT (DCDEA)

DIVISION OF MEDICATION ERROR PREVENTION AND ANALYSIS I (DCDEAA)

DIVISION OF RISK MANAGEMENT (DCDEAB)

DIVISION OF MEDICATION ERROR PREVENTION AND ANALYSIS II (DCDEAC)

DIVISION OF MITIGATION ASSESSMENT AND MEDICATION ERROR SURVEILLANCE (DCDEAD)

OFFICE OF PHARMACOVIGILANCE AND EPIDEMIOLOGY (DCDEB)

DIVISION OF EPIDEMIOLOGY I (DCDEBA)

DIVISION OF EPIDEMIOLOGY II (DCDEBB)

DIVISION OF PHARMACOVIGILANCE I (DCDEBC)

DIVISION OF PHARMACOVIGILANCE II (DCDEBD)

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE (DCDF)

OFFICE OF MANUFACTURING QUALITY (DCDFA)

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE AND ANALYSIS STAFF (DCDFA2)

DIVISION OF DRUG QUALITY I (DCDFAA)

DIVISION OF DRUG QUALITY II (DCDFAB)

DIVISION OF DRUG QUALITY III (DCDFAD)

OFFICE OF UNAPPROVED DRUGS AND LABELING COMPLIANCE (DCDFB)

DIVISION OF UNAPPROVED DRUGS AND LABELING (DCDFBB)

FRAUD DRUGS BRANCH (DCDFBB2)

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS BRANCH (DCDFBB3)

DIVISION OF LABELING, REGISTRATION, AND UNAPPROVED DRUGS (DCDFBC)

OVER THE COUNTER DRUGS BRANCH (DCDFBC1)

DRUG REGISTRATION AND LISTING BRANCH (DCDFBC2)

OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATIONS (DCDFC)

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE STAFF (DCDFC1)

DIVISION OF GOOD CLINICAL PRACTICE COMPLIANCE (DCDFCA)

GOOD CLINICAL PRACTICE ENFORCEMENT BRANCH (DCDFCA1)

GOOD CLINICAL PRACTICE ASSESSMENT BRANCH (DCDFCA2)

DIVISION OF SAFETY COMPLIANCE (DCDFCB)

DIVISION OF ENFORCEMENT AND POSTMARKET SAFETY (DCDFCC)

COMPLIANCE ENFORCEMENT BRANCH (DCDFCC1)

POSTMARKETING SAFETY BRANCH (DCDFCC2)

DIVISION OF CLINICAL COMPLIANCE EVALUATION (DCDFCD)

GOOD CLINICAL PRACTICE ENFORCEMENT BRANCH (DCDFCD1)

GOOD CLINICAL PRACTICE ASSESSMENT BRANCH (DCDFCD2)

OFFICE OF DRUG SECURITY INTEGRITY AND RESPONSE (DCDFD)

DIVISION OF GLOBAL DRUG DISTRIBUTION (DCDFDA)

IMPORTS COMPLIANCE BRANCH (DCDFDA3)

EXPORTS COMPLIANCE BRANCH (DCDFDA4)

DIVISION OF SUPPLY CHAIN INTEGRITY (DCDFDB)

INCIDENTS, RECALLS, AND SHORTAGES BRANCH (DCDFDB3)

SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY BRANCH (DCDFDB4)

OFFICE OF PROGRAM AND REGULATORY OPERATIONS (DCDFE)

PROGRAM AND REGULATORY OPERATIONS STAFF 1 (DCDFE1)

PROGRAM AND REGULATORY OPERATIONS STAFF 2 (DCDFE2)

PROGRAM AND REGULATORY OPERATIONS STAFF 3 (DCDFE4)

OFFICE OF COMPOUNDING QUALITY AND COMPLIANCE (DCDFE)

DIVISION OF COMPOUNDING I (DCDFFA)

COMPOUNDING BRANCH 1 (DCDFFA1)

COMPOUNDING BRANCH 2 (DCDFFA2)

COMPOUNDING BRANCH 3 (DCDFFA3)

DIVISION OF COMPOUNDING II (DCDFFB)

COMPOUNDING BRANCH 4 (DCDFFB2)

COMPOUNDING BRANCH 5 (DCDFFB3)

COMPOUNDING BRANCH 6 (DCDFFB4)

DIVISION OF COMPOUNDING III (DCDFFC)

COMPOUNDING BRANCH 7 (DCDFFC3)

COMPOUNDING BRANCH 8 (DCDFFC4)

OFFICE OF NEW DRUGS (DCDGG)

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS STAFF (DCDG1)

OFFICE OF NEUROSCIENCE (DCDGA)

DIVISION OF NEUROLOGY I (DCDGAB)

DIVISION OF NEUROLOGY II (DCDGAC)

DIVISION OF PSYCHIATRY (DCDGAD)

DIVISION OF ANESTHESIOLOGY, ADDICTION MEDICINE AND PAIN MEDICINE (DCDGAE)

DIVISION OF PHARMACOLOGY TOXICOLOGY FOR NEUROSCIENCE (DCDGAF)

OFFICE OF CARDIOLOGY, HEMATOLOGY, ENDOCRINOLOGY, AND NEPHROLOGY (DCDGB)

DIVISION OF DIABETES, LIPID DISORDERS, AND OBESITY (DCDGBA)

DIVISION OF GENERAL ENDOCRINOLOGY (DCDGBB)

DIVISION OF CARDIOLOGY AND NEPHROLOGY (DCDGBD)

DIVISION OF NON-MALIGNANT HEMATOLOGY (DCDGBE)

DIVISION OF PHARMACOLOGY TOXICOLOGY FOR CARDIOLOGY, HEMATOLOGY ENDOCRINOLOGY, AND NEPHROLOGY (DCDGBF)

OFFICE OF IMMUNOLOGY AND INFLAMMATION (DCDGC)

DIVISION OF GASTROENTEROLOGY (DCDGCA)

DIVISION OF DERMATOLOGY AND DENTISTRY (DCDGCC)

DIVISION OF RHEUMATOLOGY AND TRANSPLANT MEDICINE (DCDGCD)

DIVISION OF PULMONARY, ALLERGY AND CRITICAL CARE (DCDGCE)

DIVISION OF HEPATOLOGY AND NUTRITION (DCDGCf)

DIVISION OF PHARMACOLOGY TOXICOLOGY FOR IMMUNOLOGY AND INFLAMMATION (DCDGCg)

OFFICE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (DCDGD)

DIVISION OF ANTI-INFECTIVES (DCDGD A)

DIVISION OF ANTIVIRALS (DCDGD B)

DIVISION OF PHARMACOLOGY TOXICOLOGY FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES (DCDGD C)

OFFICE OF RARE DISEASES, PEDIATRICS, UROLOGY AND REPRODUCTIVE MEDICINE (DCDGE)

DIVISION OF PEDIATRICS AND MATERNAL HEALTH (DCDGE C)

DIVISION OF PHARMACOLOGY TOXICOLOGY FOR RARE DISEASES, PEDIATRICS, UROLOGY AND REPRODUCTIVE MEDICINE (DCDGE D)

DIVISION OF RARE DISEASES AND MEDICAL GENETICS (DCDGE E)

DIVISION OF UROLOGY, OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY (DCDGE F)

OFFICE OF ONCOLOGIC DISEASES (DCDGF)

DIVISION OF ONCOLOGY I (DCDGF A)

DIVISION OF HEMATOLOGIC MALIGNANCIES I (DCDGF B)

DIVISION OF ONCOLOGY II (DCDGF C)

DIVISION OF HEMATOLOGY ONCOLOGY TOXICOLOGY (DCDGF D)

DIVISION OF ONCOLOGY III (DCDGF F)

DIVISION OF HEMATOLOGIC MALIGNANCIES II (DCDGF G)

OFFICE OF THERAPEUTIC BIOLOGICS AND BIOSIMILARS (DCDGG)

BIOSIMILAR REGULATORY REVIEW STAFF (DCDGG1)

SCIENTIFIC REVIEW STAFF (DCDGG2)

OFFICE OF NONPRESCRIPTION DRUGS (DCDGI)

NONPRESCRIPTION DRUGS PHARMACOLOGY TOXICOLOGY STAFF (DCDGI1)

DIVISION OF NONPRESCRIPTION DRUGS I (DCDGI A)

DIVISION OF NONPRESCRIPTION DRUGS II (DCDGI B)

OFFICE OF SPECIALTY MEDICINE (DCDGJ)  
DIVISION OF OPHTHALMOLOGY (DCDGJA)  
DIVISION OF IMAGING AND RADIATION MEDICINE (DCDGJB)  
OFFICE OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS (DCDGL)  
DIVISION OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASE (DCDGLA)  
DIVISION OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS FOR ONCOLOGIC DISEASE (DCDGLB)  
DIVISION OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS FOR NONPRESCRIPTION DRUGS (DCDGLC)  
DIVISION OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS FOR NEUROSCIENCE (DCDGLD)  
DIVISION OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS CARDIOLOGY HEMATOLOGY ENDOCRINOLOGY AND NEPHROLOGY (DCDGLE)  
DIVISION OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS FOR IMMUNOLOGY AND INFLAMMATION (DCDGLF)  
DIVISION OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS RARE DISEASES PEDIATRICS URIOLOGY AND REPRODUCTIVE MEDICINE (DCDGLG)  
DIVISION OF REGUALTORY OPERATIONS FOR SPECIALTY MEDICINE (DCDGLH)  
OFFICE OF DRUG EVALUATION SCIENCE (DCDGN)  
DIVISION OF CLINICAL OUTCOME ASSESSMENT (DCDGNA)  
DIVISION OF BIOMEDICAL INFORMATICS RESEARCH AND BIOMARKER DEVELOPMENT (DCDGNB)  
OFFICE OF MEDICAL POLICY (DCDH)  
OFFICE OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG PROMOTION (DCDHA)  
DIVISION OF ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION REVIEW II (DCDHAA)  
DIVISION OF ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION REVIEW I (DCDHAB)  
OFFICE OF MEDICAL POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRAMS (DCDHC)  
DIVISION OF MEDICAL POLICY DEVELOPMENT (DCDHCA)  
DIVISION OF MEDICAL POLICY PROGRAMS (DCDHCB)  
OFFICE OF INNOVATION AND CLINICAL TRIAL MODERNIZATION (DCDHD)  
CLINICAL METHODOLOGY STAFF (DCDHD1)  
DIVISION OF REAL-WORLD EVIDENCE ANALYTICS (DCDHDA)  
DIVISION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (DCDHDB)  
OFFICE OF TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCES (DCDJ)  
OFFICE OF BIOSTATISTICS (DCDJA)  
PROJECT MANAGEMENT STAFF (DCDJA2)  
DIVISION OF BIOMETRICS I (DCDJAA)  
DIVISION OF BIOMETRICS II (DCDJAB)  
DIVISION OF BIOMETRICS III (DCDJAC)  
DIVISION OF BIOMETRICS IV (DCDJAD)  
DIVISION OF BIOMETRICS V (DCDJAE)  
DIVISION OF BIOMETRICS VI (DCDJAF)  
DIVISION OF BIOMETRICS VII (DCDJAG)  
DIVISION OF BIOMETRICS VIII (DCDJAH)  
DIVISION OF BIOMETRICS IX (DCDJA1)  
DIVISION OF ANALYTICS AND INFORMATICS (DCDJA)  
OFFICE OF CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY (DCDJB)  
DIVISION OF NEUROPSYCHIATRIC PHARMACOLOGY (DCDJBA)  
DIVISION OF INFLAMMATION AND IMMUNE PHARMACOLOGY (DCDJBB)  
DIVISION OF CARDIOMETABOLIC AND ENDOCRINE PHARMACOLOGY (DCDJBC)  
DIVISION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE PHARMACOLOGY (DCDJBD)  
DIVISION OF CANCER PHARMACOLOGY I (DCDJBE)  
DIVISION OF CANCER PHARMACOLOGY II (DCDJBF)  
DIVISION OF PHARMACOMETRICS (DCDJBG)  
DIVISION OF APPLIED REGULATORY SCIENCE (DCDJBH)  
DIVISION OF TRANSLATIONAL AND PRECISION MEDICINE (DCDJB1)  
OFFICE OF COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE (DCDJC)  
OFFICE OF STUDY INTEGRITY AND SURVEILLANCE (DCDJD)  
DIVISION OF NEW DRUG STUDY INTEGRITY (DCDJDA)  
DIVISION OF GENERIC DRUG STUDY INTEGRITY (DCDJD1)  
OFFICE OF PHARMACEUTICAL QUALITY (DCDL)  
OFFICE OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT III (DCDLA)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT XIII (DCDLAA)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT XIV (DCDLAB)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT XV (DCDLAC)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT XVI (DCDLAD)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT XVII (DCDLAE)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT XVIII (DCDLAF)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT XIX (DCDLAG)  
OFFICE OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT II (DCDLB)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT VII (DCDLBC)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT VIII (DCDLBD)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT IX (DCDLBE)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT X (DCDLBF)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT XI (DCDLBG)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT XII (DCDLBH)  
OFFICE OF REGULATORY PRACTICE FOR PHARMACEUTICAL QUALITY (DCDLG)  
COMPENDIAL OPERATIONS AND STANDARDS STAFF (DCDLC2)  
DIVISION OF QUALITY REGULATORY DEVELOPMENT (DCDLCA)  
DIVISION OF QUALITY PRACTICE AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS (DCDLCB)  
OFFICE OF PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING ASSESSMENT (DCDL)  
DIVISION OF PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING ASSESSMENT I (DCDLDA)  
DIVISION OF PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING ASSESSMENT II (DCDLDB)  
DIVISION OF PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING ASSESSMENT III (DCDLDC)  
DIVISION OF PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING ASSESSMENT IV (DCDLDD)  
DIVISION OF PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING ASSESSMENT V (DCDLDE)  
DIVISION OF PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING ASSESSMENT IV (DCDLDF)  
DIVISION OF BIOTECHNOLOGY MANUFACTURING (DCDLDG)  
OFFICE OF QUALITY SURVEILLANCE (DCDLE)  
DIVISION OF QUALITY DATA SCIENCE (DCDLEA)  
DIVISION OF QUALITY INTELLIGENCE I (DCDLEB)  
DIVISION OF QUALITY INTELLIGENCE II (DCDLEC)  
OFFICE OF PHARMACEUTICAL QUALITY RESEARCH (DCDLF)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY RESEARCH I (DCDLFA)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY RESEARCH II (DCDLFB)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY RESEARCH III (DCDLFC)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY RESEARCH IV (DCDLFD)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY RESEARCH V (DCDLFE)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY RESEARCH VI (DCDLFF)  
OFFICE OF PROGRAM AND REGULATORY OPERATIONS (DCDLG)  
DIVISION OF REGULATORY AND BUSINESS PROCESS MANAGEMENT I (DCDLGA)  
DIVISION OF REGULATORY AND BUSINESS PROCESS MANAGEMENT II (DCDLGB)  
DIVISION OF REGULATORY AND BUSINESS PROCESS MANAGEMENT III (DCDLGC)  
DIVISION OF REGULATORY AND BUSINESS PROCESS MANAGEMENT IV (DCDLGE)  
OFFICE OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT I (DCDLH)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT I (DCDLHA)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT II (DCDLHB)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT III (DCDLHC)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT IV (DCDLHD)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT V (DCDLHE)  
DIVISION OF PRODUCT QUALITY ASSESSMENT VI (DCDLHF)  
OFFICE OF QUALITY ASSURANCE (DCDLJ)  
QUALITY ASSURANCE STAFF (DCDLJ1)  
PROJECT MANAGEMENT STAFF (DCDLJ3)  
OFFICE OF GENERIC DRUGS (DCDM)

|                                                                                                              |                                                                                                    |                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND STANDARDS (DCDMA)                                                                     | REGULATORY SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT STAFF (DCFD1)                                                    | DIVISION OF BUSINESS INFORMATION SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT (DCGCH)                              |
| DIVISION OF THERAPEUTIC PERFORMANCE I (DCDMAA)                                                               | DIVISION OF REGULATORY PROJECT MANAGEMENT (DCFDA)                                                  | BUSINESS INFORMATICS BRANCH (DCGCH1)                                                         |
| DIVISION OF QUANTITATIVE METHODS AND MODELING (DCDMAB)                                                       | DIVISION OF PRODUCT SCIENCE (DCFDC)                                                                | QUALITY ASSURANCE BRANCH (DCGCH2)                                                            |
| DIVISION OF THERAPEUTIC PERFORMANCE II (DCDMAC)                                                              | DIVISION OF INDIVIDUAL HEALTH SCIENCE (DCFDD)                                                      | PROJECT MANAGEMENT BRANCH (DCGCH3)                                                           |
| OFFICE OF BIOEQUIVALENCE (DCDMB)                                                                             | DIVISION OF POPULATION HEALTH SCIENCE (DCFDE)                                                      | DIVISION OF BIOTECHNOLOGY (DCGCI)                                                            |
| DIVISION OF BIOEQUIVALENCE I (DCDMBA)                                                                        | DIVISION OF NON-CLINICAL SCIENCE (DCFDF)                                                           | ANIMAL BIOTECHNOLOGY BRANCH (DCGCI1)                                                         |
| DIVISION OF BIOEQUIVALENCE II (DCDMBB)                                                                       | DIVISION OF RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE INTEGRATION (DCFDFG)                                            | BIOLOGIC PRODUCTS BRANCH (DCGCI2)                                                            |
| DIVISION OF BIOEQUIVALENCE III (DCDMBC)                                                                      | OFFICE OF HEALTH COMMUNICATIONS AND EDUCATION (DCFE)                                               | OFFICE OF MINOR USE AND SPECIES ANIMAL DRUG DEVELOPMENT (DCGF)                               |
| DIVISION OF BIOEQUIVALENCE PROCESS MANAGEMENT (DCDMBE)                                                       | DIVISION OF REGULATORY COMMUNICATION (DCFEB)                                                       | OFFICE OF GENERIC ANIMAL DRUGS (DCGG)                                                        |
| OFFICE OF GENERIC DRUG REGULATORY AFFAIRS (DCDMC)                                                            | DIVISION OF RESEARCH AND EVALUATION (DCFEC)                                                        | DIVISION OF GENERIC ANIMAL DRUGS (DCGGA)                                                     |
| DIVISION OF LEGAL AND REGULATORY SUPPORT (DCDMCA)                                                            | OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT (DCFF)                                                        | GENERIC REVIEW BRANCH 1 (DCGGA1)                                                             |
| DIVISION OF REGULATORY STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT (DCDMCB)                                                         | DIVISION OF ENFORCEMENT AND MANUFACTURING (DCFFA)                                                  | GENERIC REVIEW BRANCH 2 (DCGGA2)                                                             |
| DIVISION OF ORANGE BOOK PUBLICATION AND REGULATORY ASSESSMENT (DCDMCC)                                       | DIVISION OF PROMOTION, ADVERTISING AND LABELING (DCFFB)                                            | GENERIC REVIEW BRANCH 3 (DCGGA3)                                                             |
| OFFICE OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS (DCDMD)                                                                      | DIVISION OF STATE PROGRAMS (DCFFC)                                                                 | GENERIC REVIEW BRANCH 4 (DCGGA4)                                                             |
| DIVISION OF LABELING REVIEW (DCDMA)                                                                          | DIVISION OF BUSINESS OPERATIONS (DCFFD)                                                            | GENERIC REVIEW BRANCH 5 (DCGGA5)                                                             |
| DIVISION OF FILING REVIEW (DCDMDB)                                                                           | DIVISION OF PRODUCT COMPLIANCE (DCFFF)                                                             | DIVISION OF MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGIES (DCGGB)                                               |
| DIVISION OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT (DCDMDC)                                                                      | DCG. ORGANIZATION. The Center for Veterinary Medicine includes the following organizational units: | GENERIC DRUG MANUFACTURING BRANCH 1 (DCGGB1)                                                 |
| OFFICE OF SAFETY AND CLINICAL EVALUATION (DCDME)                                                             | CENTER FOR VETERINARY MEDICINE (DCG)                                                               | GENERIC DRUG MANUFACTURING BRANCH 2 (DCGGB2)                                                 |
| DIVISION OF CLINICAL REVIEW (DCDMEA)                                                                         | OFFICE OF THE CENTER DIRECTOR (DCGA)                                                               | GENERIC DRUG MANUFACTURING BRANCH 3 (DCGGB3)                                                 |
| DIVISION OF PHARMACOLOGY TOXICOLOGY REVIEW (DCDMEB)                                                          | OFFICE OF NEW ANIMAL PRODUCT EVALUATION (DCGC)                                                     | GENERIC DRUG SUBSTANCES AND FACILITIES ASSESSMENT BRANCH (DCGGB4)                            |
| DIVISION OF CLINICAL SAFETY AND SURVEILLANCE (DCDMEC)                                                        | REGULATORY COUNSEL STAFF (DCGC2)                                                                   | OFFICE OF VETERINARY PRODUCT SURVEILLANCE AND COMPLIANCE (DCGH)                              |
| OFFICE OF PROGRAM AND STRATEGIC ANALYSIS (DCDN)                                                              | DIVISION OF FOOD ANIMAL DRUGS (DCGCA)                                                              | DIVISION OF PHARMACOVIGILANCE AND SURVEILLANCE (DCGHA)                                       |
| PROGRAM EVALUATION AND IMPLEMENTATION STAFF (DCDN1)                                                          | FOOD BRANCH 1 (DCGCA1)                                                                             | MARKETED PRODUCT INFORMATION BRANCH (DCGHA1)                                                 |
| ECONOMICS STAFF (DCDN2)                                                                                      | FOOD BRANCH 2 (DCGCA2)                                                                             | FOOD ANIMAL, BIOPHARMACEUTICAL, SMALL ANIMAL ANTIPARASITICS AND ENDECTOCIDES BRANCH (DCGHA2) |
| ANALYTICS AND DATA SERVICES STAFF (DCDN3)                                                                    | DIVISION OF COMPANION ANIMAL DRUGS (DCGCC)                                                         | SMALL ANIMAL ANTIBIOTICS/ANESTHETICS/NSAIDS/ONCOLOGY/OTHERS BRANCH (DCGHA3)                  |
| OFFICE OF DRUG INFORMATION (DCDO)                                                                            | COMPANION ANIMAL BRANCH 1 (DCGCC1)                                                                 | DIVISION OF DRUG COMPLIANCE (DCGHB)                                                          |
| PUBLIC INFORMATION STAFF (DCDO1)                                                                             | COMPANION ANIMAL BRANCH 2 (DCGCC2)                                                                 | DRUG AND DEVICES—VETERINARY MEDICAL SUPPORT BRANCH (DCGHB1)                                  |
| INDUSTRY AND CONSUMER EDUCATION STAFF (DCDO2)                                                                | COMPANION ANIMAL BRANCH 3 (DCGCC3)                                                                 | DRUG CURRENT GOOD MANUFACTURING PRACTICE BRANCH (DCGHB2)                                     |
| DCF. ORGANIZATION. The Center for Tobacco Products includes the following organizational units: <sup>3</sup> | DIVISION OF HUMAN FOOD SAFETY (DCGCD)                                                              | BIORESEARCH MONITORING AND EXPORT BRANCH (DCGHB3)                                            |
| CENTER FOR TOBACCO PRODUCTS (DCF)                                                                            | HUMAN FOOD SAFETY BRANCH 1 (DCGCD1)                                                                | DRUG AND DEVICES COMPLIANCE SUPPORT BRANCH (DCGHB4)                                          |
| OFFICE OF THE CENTER DIRECTOR (DCFA)                                                                         | HUMAN FOOD SAFETY BRANCH 2 (DCGCD2)                                                                | DIVISION OF NATIONAL ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE MONITORING SYSTEM (DCGHC)                      |
| OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT (DCFB)                                                                                  | DIVISION OF MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGIES (DCGCE)                                                     | ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE MONITORING BRANCH (DCGHC1)                                          |
| ACQUISITIONS AND ASSISTANCE STAFF (DCFB1)                                                                    | FEED AND TOPICAL BRANCH (DCGCE1)                                                                   | ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE RESEARCH BRANCH (DCGHC2)                                            |
| INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY STAFF (DCFB2)                                                                     | STERILE DRUGS BRANCH (DCGCE2)                                                                      | OFFICE OF ANIMAL FOODS (DCGI)                                                                |
| MANAGEMENT AND LOGISTICS STAFF (DCFB3)                                                                       | BIO THERAPEUTICS BRANCH (DCGCE3)                                                                   | DIVISION OF ANIMAL FOOD INGREDIENTS (DCGIA)                                                  |
| DIVISION OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (DCFBA)                                                                     | CHEMOTHERAPEUTICS BRANCH (DCGCE4)                                                                  | PROGRAM AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (DCGIA1)                                              |
| DIVISION OF HUMAN CAPITAL (DCFBB)                                                                            | DRUG SUBSTANCE BRANCH (DCGCE5)                                                                     | BIOTECHNOLOGY BRANCH (DCGIA2)                                                                |
| OFFICE OF REGULATIONS (DCFC)                                                                                 | DIVISION OF STATISTICAL AND BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES (DCGCF)                                            | CHEMISTRY, MANUFACTURING, CONTROLS, AND TECHNICAL ADDITIVES BRANCH (DCGIA3)                  |
| OFFICE OF SCIENCE (DCFD)                                                                                     | ENVIRONMENTAL BRANCH (DCGCF1)                                                                      |                                                                                              |
|                                                                                                              | BIOSTATISTICS BRANCH 1 (DCGCF2)                                                                    |                                                                                              |
|                                                                                                              | BIOSTATISTICS BRANCH 2 (DCGCF3)                                                                    |                                                                                              |
|                                                                                                              | CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY BRANCH (DCGCF4)                                                              |                                                                                              |

<sup>3</sup> In light of the preliminary injunction in *New York v. Kennedy*, 1:25cv196 (D.R.I.), the Center for Tobacco Products is not part of the proposed Reorganization.

NUTRIENTS CLAIMS BRANCH (DCGIA4)  
 DIVISION OF FOOD COMPLIANCE (DCGIB)  
 FIELD OPERATIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH (DCGIB1)  
 REGULATORY POLICY AND PROGRAM BRANCH (DCGIB2)  
 SCIENCE POLICY BRANCH (DCGIB3)  
 COMPLIANCE ACTION BRANCH (DCGIB4)  
 DIVISION OF VETERINARY LABORATORY INVESTIGATION AND RESPONSE NETWORK (DCGIC)  
 COMPLAINTS, EMERGENCIES, AND RESPONSE BRANCH (DCGIC1)  
 LABORATORY NETWORK BRANCH (DCGIC2)  
 DCH. ORGANIZATION. The Oncology Center of Excellence.  
 ONCOLOGY CENTER OF EXCELLENCE (DCH)  
 DCN. ORGANIZATION. The Office of Operations includes the following organizational units:  
 OFFICE OF OPERATIONS (DCN)  
 OFFICE OF DISCLOSURE AND INFORMATION GOVERNANCE (DCNA)  
 PROGRAM COORDINATION STAFF (DCNA1)  
 OFFICE OF DATA GOVERNANCE AND PRIVACY (DCNAH)  
 DIVISION OF GOVERNANCE (DCNAHA)  
 DATA GOVERNANCE BRANCH (DCNAHA1)  
 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE GOVERNANCE BRANCH (DCNAHA2)  
 DIVISION OF PRIVACY AND CONTROLLED UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION (DCNAHB)  
 PRIVACY BRANCH (DCNAHB1)  
 CONTROLLED UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION BRANCH (DCNAHB2)  
 OFFICE OF FREEDOM INFORMATION (DCNAI)  
 DIVISION OF ENTERPRISE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT COMPLIANCE AND INTAKE (DCNAIA)  
 INTAKE BRANCH (DCNAIA1)  
 GENERAL FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT BRANCH (DCNAIA2)  
 COMPLIANCE RECORDS BRANCH (DCNAIA3)  
 DIVISION OF DRUG PRODUCT FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (DCNAIB)  
 DRUG PRODUCT FREEDOM OF INFORMATION BRANCH 1 (DCNAIB1)  
 DRUG PRODUCT FREEDOM OF INFORMATION BRANCH 2 (DCNAIB2)  
 DIVISION OF BIOLOGICS PRODUCT FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (DCNAIC)  
 BIOLOGICS PRODUCT FREEDOM OF INFORMATION BRANCH 1 (DCNAIC1)  
 BIOLOGICS PRODUCT FREEDOM OF INFORMATION BRANCH 2 (DCNAIC2)  
 DIVISION OF DEVICE PRODUCT FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (DCNAID)  
 DEVICE PRODUCT FREEDOM OF INFORMATION BRANCH 1 (DCNAID1)  
 DEVICE PRODUCT FREEDOM OF INFORMATION BRANCH 2 (DCNAID2)  
 DIVISION OF FOOD PRODUCT FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (DCNAIE)  
 FOOD PRODUCT FREEDOM OF INFORMATION BRANCH 1 (DCNAIE1)  
 FOOD PRODUCT FREEDOM OF INFORMATION BRANCH 2 (DCNAIE2)  
 OFFICE OF DISCLOSURE AND TRANSPARENCY (DCNAJ)  
 TOBACCO PRODUCT DISCLOSURE STAFF (DCNAJ1)  
 DIVISION OF TRANSPARENCY AND PARTNERSHIP (DCNAJA)  
 PROACTIVE DISCLOSURE BRANCH (DCNAJA1)  
 PARTNERSHIP AND SPECIAL DISCLOSURE BRANCH (DCNAJA2)  
 DIVISION OF DRUG PRODUCT DISCLOSURE (DCNAJB)  
 DRUG PRODUCT DISCLOSURE BRANCH 1 (DCNAJB1)  
 DRUG PRODUCT DISCLOSURE BRANCH 2 (DCNAJB2)  
 DIVISION OF BIOLOGICS PRODUCT DISCLOSURE (DCNAJC)  
 BIOLOGICS PRODUCT DISCLOSURE BRANCH 1 (DCNAJC1)  
 BIOLOGICS PRODUCT DISCLOSURE BRANCH 2 (DCNAJC2)  
 DIVISION OF DEVICE PRODUCT DISCLOSURE (DCNAJD)  
 DEVICE PRODUCT DISCLOSURE BRANCH 1 (DCNAJD1)  
 DEVICE PRODUCT DISCLOSURE BRANCH 2 (DCNAJD2)  
 DIVISION OF FOOD PRODUCT DISCLOSURE (DCNAJE)  
 FOOD PRODUCT DISCLOSURE BRANCH 1 (DCNAJE1)  
 FOOD PRODUCT DISCLOSURE BRANCH 2 (DCNAJE2)  
 FOOD PRODUCT DISCLOSURE BRANCH 3 (DCNAJE3)  
 OFFICE OF RECORDS AND eDISCOVERY (DCNAK)  
 PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STAFF (DCNAK1)  
 DIVISION OF RECORDS (DCNAKA)  
 RECORDS BRANCH 1 (DCNAKA1)  
 RECORDS BRANCH 2 (DCNAKA2)  
 RECORDS BRANCH 3 (DCNAKA3)  
 RECORDS BRANCH 4 (DCNAKA4)  
 DIVISION OF EDISCOVERY (DCNAKB)  
 EDISCOVERY BRANCH 1 (DCNAKB1)  
 EDISCOVERY BRANCH 2 (DCNAKB2)  
 DIVISION OF DOCKETS (DCNAKC)  
 DOCKETS BRANCH 1 (DCNAKC1)  
 DOCKETS BRANCH 2 (DCNAKC2)  
 OFFICE OF ETHICS AND INTEGRITY (DCNB)  
 ETHICS STAFF 1 (DCNB1)  
 ETHICS STAFF 2 (DCNB2)  
 ETHICS STAFF 3 (DCNB3)  
 OFFICE OF FINANCE, BUDGET AND ACQUISITIONS (DCNE)  
 OFFICE OF BUDGET (DCNEA)  
 DIVISION OF BUDGET FORMULATION (DCNEAA)  
 DIVISION BUDGET EXECUTION AND CONTROL (DCNEAB)  
 DIVISION OF FISCAL SERVICES AND OPERATIONS (DCNEAD)  
 OFFICE OF ACQUISITIONS AND GRANTS SERVICES (DCNEB)  
 DIVISION OF ACQUISITION OPERATIONS (DCNEBA)  
 PROCUREMENT OPERATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCNEBA1)  
 PROCUREMENT OPERATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCNEBA2)  
 SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT BRANCH (DCNEBA3)  
 DIVISION OF ACQUISITION PROGRAMS (DCNEBB)  
 LABORATORY PROCUREMENT BRANCH (DCNEBB2)  
 FACILITIES PROCUREMENT BRANCH (DCNEBB3)  
 INSPECTIONS AND COMPLIANCE PROCUREMENT BRANCH (DCNEBB4)  
 TOBACCO PROGRAM PROCUREMENT BRANCH (DCNEBB5)  
 DIVISION OF FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (DCNEBC)  
 ASSISTANCE STRATEGY AND INNOVATION BRANCH (DCNEBC1)  
 AWARD MANAGEMENT BRANCH (DCNEBC5)  
 DIVISION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ACQUISITIONS (DCNEBD)  
 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY BRANCH 1 (DCNEBD1)  
 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY BRANCH 2 (DCNEBD2)  
 DIVISION OF ACQUISITION POLICY, SYSTEMS, AND OVERSIGHT (DCNEBE)  
 ACQUISITIONS POLICY AND OVERSIGHT BRANCH (DCNEBE2)  
 SYSTEMS AND DATA QUALITY BRANCH (DCNEBE3)  
 ACQUISITION WORKFORCE AND PROGRAM SUPPORT BRANCH (DCNEBE4)  
 DIVISION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND PARTNERSHIPS (DCNEBF)  
 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY BRANCH (DCNEBF1)  
 PARTNERSHIPS AND AGREEMENTS BRANCH (DCNEBF2)  
 OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (DCNEC)  
 INTERNAL CONTROLS AND COMPLIANCE STAFF (DCNEC4)  
 DIVISION OF ACCOUNTING (DCNECA)  
 FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ANALYSIS BRANCH (DCNECA1)  
 PAYMENTS BRANCH (DCNECA2)  
 PROPERTY AND CASH MANAGEMENT BRANCH (DCNECA3)  
 REIMBURSABLES, RECEIPTS, AND RECEIVABLES BRANCH (DCNECA4)  
 DIVISION OF FOREIGN TRAVEL (DCNECF)  
 AUTHORIZATION BRANCH 1 (DCNECF1)  
 AUTHORIZATION BRANCH 2 (DCNECF2)  
 AUTHORIZATION BRANCH 3 (DCNECF3)  
 VOUCHER BRANCH 1 (DCNECF4)  
 VOUCHER BRANCH 2 (DCNECF5)  
 DIVISION OF DOMESTIC TRAVEL (DCNECG)  
 AUTHORIZATION BRANCH 1 (DCNECG1)  
 AUTHORIZATION BRANCH 2 (DCNECG2)  
 VOUCHER BRANCH 1 (DCNECG3)  
 VOUCHER BRANCH 2 (DCNECG4)  
 DIVISION TRAVEL ADMINISTRATION (DCNECH)  
 OPERATION BRANCH (DCNECH1)  
 TRAVEL CARD BRANCH (DCNECH2)  
 TRAVEL CONFERENCE BRANCH (DCNECH3)  
 OFFICE OF USER FEES (DCNEE)  
 USER FEE COORDINATION STAFF (DCNEE1)  
 DIVISION OF USER FEE OPERATIONS (DCNEEA)  
 USER FEE PLANNING AND REPORTING BRANCH (DCNEEA1)

|                                                                          |                                                                           |                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| RESOURCE CAPACITY PLANNING<br>BRANCH (DCNEEA2)                           | WHITE OAK OPERATIONS BRANCH<br>(DCNGC1)                                   | RECRUITMENT AND BENEFITS STAFF<br>(DCNLA2)                         |
| FEE WAIVERS AND REDUCTIONS<br>BRANCH (DCNEEA3)                           | FIELD OPERATIONS EAST BRANCH<br>(DCNGC2)                                  | TITLE 21 STAFF (DCNLA3)                                            |
| BUSINESS ANALYSIS BRANCH<br>(DCNEEA4)                                    | FIELD OPERATIONS SOUTHEAST<br>BRANCH (DCNGC3)                             | CLASSIFICATION STAFF (DCNLA4)                                      |
| DIVISION OF USER FEE REVENUE<br>MANAGEMENT (DCNEEB)                      | FIELD OPERATIONS NORTHEAST<br>BRANCH (DCNGC4)                             | DIVISION OF TALENT SOLUTIONS I<br>(DCNLAA)                         |
| REVENUE BRANCH 1 (DCNEEB1)                                               | FIELD OPERATIONS WEST BRANCH<br>(DCNGC5)                                  | TALENT SOLUTIONS BRANCH 1<br>(DCNLAA1)                             |
| REVENUE BRANCH 2 (DCNEEB2)                                               | FIELD OPERATIONS SOUTHWEST<br>BRANCH (DCNGC6)                             | TALENT SOLUTIONS BRANCH 2<br>(DCNLAA2)                             |
| REVENUE BRANCH 3 (DCNEEB3)                                               | FIELD OPERATIONS MID-WEST BRANCH<br>(DCNGC7)                              | TALENT SOLUTIONS BRANCH 3<br>(DCNLAA3)                             |
| REVENUE BRANCH 4 (DCNEEB4)                                               | FIELD OWNED FACILITIES BRANCH 1<br>(DCNGC8)                               | DIVISION OF TALENT SOLUTIONS II<br>(DCNLAB)                        |
| OFFICE OF PROGRAM INTEGRATION<br>(DCNEF)                                 | FIELD OWNED FACILITIES BRANCH 2<br>(DCNGC9)                               | TALENT SOLUTIONS BRANCH 1<br>(DCNLAB1)                             |
| DATA INTEGRATION AND REPORTING<br>STAFF (DCNEF1)                         | OFFICE OF SECURITY AND EMERGENCY<br>OPERATIONS (DCNH)                     | TALENT SOLUTIONS BRANCH 2<br>(DCNLAB2)                             |
| DIVISION OF COORDINATION I<br>(DCNEFA)                                   | DIVISION OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND<br>PASSPORT OPERATIONS (DCNHC)          | TALENT SOLUTIONS BRANCH 3<br>(DCNLAB3)                             |
| COORDINATION BRANCH 1 (DCNEFA1)                                          | NATIONAL SECURITY BRANCH<br>(DCNHC1)                                      | DIVISION OF TALENT SOLUTIONS III<br>(DCNLAC)                       |
| COORDINATION BRANCH 2 (DCNEFA2)                                          | PASSPORT OPERATIONS BRANCH<br>(DCNHC2)                                    | TALENT SOLUTIONS BRANCH 1<br>(DCNLAC1)                             |
| COORDINATION BRANCH 3 (DCNEFA3)                                          | DIVISION OF PERSONNEL SECURITY<br>AND CREDENTIALING (DCNHD)               | TALENT SOLUTIONS BRANCH 2<br>(DCNLAC2)                             |
| COORDINATION BRANCH 4 (DCNEFA4)                                          | PERSONNEL VETTING BRANCH<br>(DCNHD1)                                      | TALENT SOLUTIONS BRANCH 3<br>(DCNLAC3)                             |
| COORDINATION BRANCH 5 (DCNEFA5)                                          | IDENTITY AND CREDENTIALING<br>BRANCH (DCNHD2)                             | DIVISION OF WORKFORCE RELATIONS<br>(DCNLAD)                        |
| DIVISION OF COORDINATION II<br>(DCNEFB)                                  | DIVISION OF PHYSICAL SECURITY AND<br>INTEGRATION (DCNHE)                  | WORKFORCE RELATIONS BRANCH 1<br>(DCNLAD1)                          |
| COORDINATION BRANCH 1 (DCNEFB1)                                          | PHYSICAL SECURITY BRANCH<br>(DCNHE1)                                      | WORKFORCE RELATIONS BRANCH 2<br>(DCNLAD2)                          |
| COORDINATION BRANCH 2 (DCNEFB2)                                          | SECURITY INTEGRATION BRANCH<br>(DCNHE2)                                   | WORKFORCE RELATIONS BRANCH 3<br>(DCNLAD3)                          |
| COORDINATION BRANCH 3 (DCNEFB3)                                          | DIVISION OF FIELD SECURITY (DCNHF)                                        | WORKFORCE RELATIONS BRANCH 4<br>(DCNLAD4)                          |
| DIVISION OF COORDINATION III<br>(DCNEFC)                                 | FIELD SECURITY BRANCH 1 (DCNHF1)                                          | DIVISION OF DATA QUALITY AND<br>PROCESSING (DCNLAE)                |
| COORDINATION BRANCH 1 (DCNEFC1)                                          | FIELD SECURITY BRANCH 2 (DCNHF2)                                          | DATA QUALITY AND PROCESSING<br>BRANCH 1 (DCNLAE1)                  |
| COORDINATION BRANCH 2 (DCNEFC2)                                          | DIVISION OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE<br>(DCNHG)                                 | DATA QUALITY AND PROCESSING<br>BRANCH 2 (DCNLAE2)                  |
| COORDINATION BRANCH 3 (DCNEFC3)                                          | FIELD EMERGENCY RESPONSE<br>COORDINATOR BRANCH (DCNHG1)                   | DATA QUALITY AND PROCESSING<br>BRANCH 3 (DCNLAE3)                  |
| COORDINATION BRANCH 4 (DCNEFC4)                                          | SENIOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE<br>TECHNICAL BRANCH (DCNHG2)                    | DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SYSTEMS<br>AND SUPPORT (DCNLAF)              |
| DIVISION OF COORDINATION IV<br>(DCNEFD)                                  | INCIDENT COORDINATION BRANCH<br>(DCNHG3)                                  | TIMEKEEPING AND PAYROLL SERVICES<br>BRANCH (DCNLAF1)               |
| COORDINATION BRANCH 1 (DCNEFD1)                                          | DIVISION OF EMERGENCY<br>PREPAREDNESS AND SUPPORT<br>(DCNHH)              | WORKFORCE INFORMATION SYSTEMS<br>AND RECORDS BRANCH (DCNLAF2)      |
| COORDINATION BRANCH 2 (DCNEFD2)                                          | EMERGENCY PLANNING, EXERCISES,<br>AND EVALUATION BRANCH<br>(DCNHH1)       | WORKFORCE INFORMATION<br>TECHNOLOGY BRANCH (DCNLAF3)               |
| COORDINATION BRANCH 3 (DCNEFD3)                                          | PROGRAM OPERATIONS AND<br>COORDINATION BRANCH (DCNHH2)                    | OFFICE OF TRAINING, EDUCATION,<br>AND DEVELOPMENT (DCNLB)          |
| DIVISION OF COORDINATION V<br>(DCNEFE)                                   | EMERGENCY AWARENESS AND<br>READINESS BRANCH (DCNHH3)                      | DIVISION OF INSPECTIONS AND<br>INVESTIGATIONS TRAINING<br>(DCNLBA) |
| COORDINATION BRANCH 1 (DCNEFE1)                                          | OFFICE OF FDA COMMISSIONED CORPS<br>(DCNK)                                | INSPECTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS<br>TRAINING BRANCH 1 (DCNLBA1)      |
| COORDINATION BRANCH 2 (DCNEFE2)                                          | COMMISSIONED CORPS<br>COORDINATION STAFF (DCNK1)                          | INSPECTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS<br>TRAINING BRANCH 2 (DCNLBA2)      |
| COORDINATION BRANCH 3 (DCNEFE3)                                          | OFFICE OF TALENT AND WORKFORCE<br>SOLUTIONS (DCNL)                        | INSPECTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS<br>TRAINING BRANCH 3 (DCNLBA3)      |
| OFFICE OF FACILITIES AND MISSION<br>SUPPORT (DCNG)                       | WORKFORCE GOVERNANCE AND<br>COMPLIANCE STAFF (DCNL1)                      | DIVISION OF MISSION CAREER<br>DEVELOPMENT (DCNLBB)                 |
| SERVICE LIAISON STAFF (DCNG2)                                            | WORKFORCE PLANNING AND TALENT<br>STRATEGY STAFF (DCNL2)                   | MISSION CAREER DEVELOPMENT<br>BRANCH 1 (DCNLBB1)                   |
| DIVISION OF MISSION SUPPORT<br>(DCNGA)                                   | ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS<br>AND WORKFORCE INNOVATION<br>STAFF (DCNL3) | MISSION CAREER DEVELOPMENT<br>BRANCH 2 (DCNLBB2)                   |
| HEADQUARTERS CONFERENCE<br>SERVICES BRANCH (DCNGA4)                      | OFFICE OF TALENT OPERATIONS AND<br>SERVICES (DCNLA)                       | DIVISION OF LEARNING TECHNOLOGY<br>AND OPTIMIZATION (DCNLBC)       |
| HEADQUARTERS MOVE AND LABOR<br>SERVICES BRANCH (DCNGA5)                  | SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMS AND<br>EXECUTIVE RESOURCES STAFF<br>(DCNLA1)          | LEARNING TECHNOLOGY AND<br>OPTIMIZATION BRANCH 1 (DCNLBC1)         |
| HEADQUARTERS TRANSPORTATION<br>AND PARKING MANAGEMENT<br>BRANCH (DCNGA6) |                                                                           | LEARNING TECHNOLOGY AND<br>OPTIMIZATION BRANCH 2 (DCNLBC2)         |
| LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT BRANCH<br>(DCNGA7)                                  |                                                                           |                                                                    |
| PERSONAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT<br>BRANCH (DCNGA8)                          |                                                                           |                                                                    |
| FLEET MANAGEMENT BRANCH<br>(DCNGA9)                                      |                                                                           |                                                                    |
| DIVISION OF REAL PROPERTY<br>MANAGEMENT (DCNGB)                          |                                                                           |                                                                    |
| SPACE MANAGEMENT BRANCH<br>(DCNGB3)                                      |                                                                           |                                                                    |
| REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT BRANCH<br>(DCNGB4)                                |                                                                           |                                                                    |
| SPACE REQUIREMENTS BRANCH<br>(DCNGB5)                                    |                                                                           |                                                                    |
| HEADQUARTERS DESIGN AND<br>CONSTRUCTION BRANCH (DCNGB6)                  |                                                                           |                                                                    |
| FIELD DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION<br>BRANCH (DCNGB7)                         |                                                                           |                                                                    |
| DIVISION OF FACILITY OPERATIONS<br>(DCNGC)                               |                                                                           |                                                                    |

|                                                                                 |                                                                                                   |                                                                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| LEARNING TECHNOLOGY AND OPTIMIZATION BRANCH 3 (DCNLBC3)                         | includes the following organizational units:                                                      | OFFICE OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT (DCPM)                            |
| DIVISION OF REVIEWER AND SCIENTIFIC TRAINING (DCNLBD)                           | OFFICE OF POLICY, LEGISLATION, AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS (DCO)                                    | OFFICE OF REGULATORY AND SPECIALITY LABORATORIES (DCPN)                                 |
| REVIEWER AND SCIENTIFIC TRAINING BRANCH 1 (DCNLBD1)                             | INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS STAFF (DCO2)                                                            | ANALYTICAL AND REGULATORY LABORATORIES STAFF (DCPN1)                                    |
| REVIEWER AND SCIENTIFIC TRAINING BRANCH 2 (DCNLBD2)                             | OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATIONS (DCOA)                                                     | REGULATORY OPERATIONS SAFETY STAFF (DCPN2)                                              |
| REVIEWER AND SCIENTIFIC TRAINING BRANCH 3 (DCNLBD3)                             | OFFICE OF ECONOMICS AND ANALYSIS (DCOB)                                                           | DETROIT MEDICAL PRODUCTS LABORATORY (DCPNA)                                             |
| DIVISION OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES AND CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT (DCNLBE)               | ECONOMICS STAFF (DCOB1)                                                                           | IRVINE MEDICAL PRODUCTS LABORATORY (DCPNB)                                              |
| EDUCATIONAL SERVICES AND CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT BRANCH 1 (DCNLBE1)                 | ANALYSIS STAFF (DCOB2)                                                                            | NATIONAL FORENSIC CHEMISTRY CENTER (DCPNC)                                              |
| EDUCATIONAL SERVICES AND CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT BRANCH 2 (DCNLBE2)                 | OFFICE OF GLOBAL POLICY AND STRATEGY (DCOC)                                                       | INORGANIC BRANCH (DCPNC1)                                                               |
| OFFICE OF TALENT COORDINATION (DCNLC)                                           | OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS, EVALUATIONS, AND LOGISTICS (DCOCA)                                      | ORGANIC BRANCH (DCPNC2)                                                                 |
| COORDINATION ANALYSIS STAFF (DCNLC1)                                            | OFFICE OF GLOBAL OPERATIONS (DCOCB)                                                               | SATELLITE LABORATORY BRANCH (DCPNC3)                                                    |
| DIVISION OF TALENT COORDINATION I (DCNLCA)                                      | OFFICE OF TRADE AND GLOBAL PARTNERS (DCOCC)                                                       | NEW YORK MEDICAL PRODUCTS LABORATORY (DCPND)                                            |
| TALENT COORDINATION BRANCH 1 (DCNLCA1)                                          | OFFICE OF LEGISLATION (DCOE)                                                                      | SAN JUAN MEDICAL PRODUCTS LABORATORY (DCPNE)                                            |
| TALENT COORDINATION BRANCH 2 (DCNLCA2)                                          | OFFICE OF REGULATORY POLICY COORDINATION (DCOF)                                                   | TOBACCO PRODUCTS LABORATORY (DCPNF)                                                     |
| DIVISION OF TALENT COORDINATION II (DCNLCB)                                     | POLICY ENGAGEMENT AND COORDINATION STAFF (DCOF1)                                                  | WINCHESTER ENGINEERING AND ANALYTICAL CENTER (DCPNG)                                    |
| TALENT COORDINATION BRANCH 1 (DCNLCB1)                                          | REGULATIONS, POLICY AND MANAGEMENT STAFF (DCOF2)                                                  | ANALYTICAL BRANCH (DCPNG1)                                                              |
| TALENT COORDINATION BRANCH 2 (DCNLCB2)                                          | DCP. ORGANIZATION. The Office of the Chief Scientist includes the following organizational units: | ENGINEERING BRANCH (DCPNG2)                                                             |
| DIVISION OF TALENT COORDINATION III (DCNLCC)                                    | OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SCIENTIST (DCP)                                                               | DCR. ORGANIZATION. The Human Foods Program includes the following organizational units: |
| TALENT COORDINATION BRANCH 1 (DCNLCC1)                                          | SCIENCE INFORMATICS AND OPERATIONS STAFF (DCP4)                                                   | HUMAN FOODS PROGRAM (DCR)                                                               |
| TALENT COORDINATION BRANCH 2 (DCNLCC2)                                          | OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY (DCPD)                                                             | OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR FOODS (DCRA)                                      |
| DIVISION OF TALENT COORDINATION IV (DCNLCD)                                     | NATIONAL CENTER FOR TOXICOLOGICAL RESEARCH (DCPFC)                                                | OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE PROGRAMS (DCRB)                                                     |
| TALENT COORDINATION BRANCH 1 (DCNLCD1)                                          | OFFICE OF THE CENTER DIRECTOR (DCPFA)                                                             | HUMAN FOODS COORDINATION STAFF (DCRB3)                                                  |
| TALENT COORDINATION BRANCH 2 (DCNLCD2)                                          | OFFICE OF RESEARCH (DCPFC)                                                                        | HUMAN FOODS PUBLIC INFORMATION STAFF (DCRB4)                                            |
| OFFICE OF ORGANIZATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND INTEGRATION (DCNO)                     | DIVISION OF BIOCHEMICAL TOXICOLOGY (DCPFCA)                                                       | OFFICE OF REGULATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS (DCRD)                                 |
| DIVISION OF PLANNING AND RISK MANAGEMENT (DCNOA)                                | DIVISION OF GENETIC AND MOLECULAR TOXICOLOGY (DCPFCB)                                             | DIVISION OF HUMAN FOODS REGULATORY AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS (DCRDD)                   |
| PLANNING AND RISK MANAGEMENT BRANCH 1 (DCNOA1)                                  | DIVISION OF MICROBIOLOGY (DCPFCC)                                                                 | PUBLIC HEALTH AND TRADE BRANCH (DCRDD1)                                                 |
| PLANNING AND RISK MANAGEMENT BRANCH 2 (DCNOA2)                                  | DIVISION OF SYSTEMS BIOLOGY (DCPFCD)                                                              | REGULATORY COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIPS BRANCH (DCRDD2)                                 |
| PLANNING AND RISK MANAGEMENT BRANCH 3 (DCNOA3)                                  | DIVISION OF NEUROTOXICOLOGY (DCPFCE)                                                              | HUMAN FOODS REGULATORY PROGRAMS BRANCH (DCRDD3)                                         |
| DIVISION OF INTEGRATION I (DCNOB)                                               | DIVISION OF BIOINFORMATICS AND BIOSTATISTICS (DCPFCF)                                             | DIVISION OF HUMAN FOODS REGULATIONS (DCRDE)                                             |
| INTEGRATION BRANCH 1 (DCNOB1)                                                   | OFFICE OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH (DCPG)                                                   | HUMAN FOODS REGULATION BRANCH 1 (DCRDE1)                                                |
| INTEGRATION BRANCH 2 (DCNOB2)                                                   | OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY STAFF (DCPG1)                                                                 | HUMAN FOODS REGULATION BRANCH 2 (DCRDE2)                                                |
| INTEGRATION BRANCH 3 (DCNOB3)                                                   | OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES STAFF (DCPG2)                                                        | OFFICE OF SURVEILLANCE STRATEGY AND RISK PRIORITIZATION (DCRG)                          |
| DIVISION OF INTEGRATION II (DCNOC)                                              | OFFICE OF REGULATORY AND EMERGING SCIENCE (DCPH)                                                  | DIVISION OF SURVEILLANCE AND DATA INTEGRATION (DCRGA)                                   |
| INTEGRATION BRANCH 1 (DCNOC1)                                                   | REGULATORY SCIENCE STAFF (DCPH1)                                                                  | SURVEILLANCE DESIGN BRANCH (DCRGA1)                                                     |
| INTEGRATION BRANCH 2 (DCNOC2)                                                   | PREPAREDNESS RESEARCH STAFF (DCPH2)                                                               | SIGNAL DETECTION AND BIOINFORMATICS BRANCH (DCRGA2)                                     |
| INTEGRATION BRANCH 3 (DCNOC3)                                                   | OFFICE OF COSMETICS AND COLORS (DCPI)                                                             | SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS OPERATIONS BRANCH (DCRGA3)                                         |
| DIVISION OF PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION (DCNOD)                                  | DIVISION OF COLOR CERTIFICATION AND TECHNOLOGY (DCPIA)                                            | DATA INTEGRATION BRANCH (DCRGA4)                                                        |
| PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION BRANCH 1 (DCNOD1)                                    | COLOR CERTIFICATION BRANCH (DCPIA1)                                                               | DIVISION OF RISK ASSESSMENT AND PRIORITIZATION (DCRGB)                                  |
| PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION BRANCH 2 (DCNOD2)                                    | COLOR TECHNOLOGY BRANCH (DCPIA2)                                                                  | HAZARD CHARACTERIZATION AND ASSESSMENT BRANCH (DCRGB1)                                  |
| PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION BRANCH 3 (DCNOD3)                                    | DIVISION OF COSMETICS (DCPIB)                                                                     | EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT BRANCH (DCRGB2)                                                     |
| DCO. ORGANIZATION. The Office of Policy, Legislation, and International Affairs | COSMETICS REGULATORY ACTIVITIES BRANCH (DCPIB1)                                                   | RISK ASSESSMENT AND RANKING BRANCH (DCRGB3)                                             |
|                                                                                 | COSMETICS REGULATORY SCIENCE BRANCH (DCPIB2)                                                      |                                                                                         |

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| DIVISION OF EVALUATION AND POPULATION HEALTH SCIENCES (DCRGC)                          | DIVISION OF DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP COORDINATION AND INTEGRATION (DCRJAA)           | OFFICE OF DIETARY SUPPLEMENT PROGRAMS (DCRKC)               |
| BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES BRANCH (DCRGC1)                                         | DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP COORDINATION AND INTEGRATION BRANCH 1 (DCRJAA1)             | DIVISION OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS (DCRKCA)                  |
| EPIDEMIOLOGY AND MEDICAL SCIENCES BRANCH (DCRGC2)                                      | DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP COORDINATION AND INTEGRATION BRANCH 2 (DCRJAA2)             | REGULATORY OPERATIONS BRANCH (DCRKCA1)                      |
| SIGNAL COORDINATION AND TRIAGE BRANCH (DCRGC3)                                         | DIVISION OF DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP INVESTMENTS (DCRJAB)                            | PROGRAM ENGAGEMENT BRANCH (DCRKCA2)                         |
| OFFICE OF COORDINATED OUTBREAK RESPONSE, EVALUATION, AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (DCRH) | HUMAN AND ANIMAL BRANCH (DCRJAB1)                                                | DIVISION OF RESEARCH AND EVALUATION (DCRKCB)                |
| DIVISION OF OUTBREAK DATA MANAGEMENT AND SIGNALS (DCRHA)                               | LABORATORY AND INNOVATION BRANCH (DCRJAB2)                                       | IDENTITY AND STATUS BRANCH (DCRKCB1)                        |
| DIVISION OF RESPONSE (DCRHB)                                                           | PRODUCE BRANCH (DCRJAB3)                                                         | SAFETY EVALUATION BRANCH (DCRKCB2)                          |
| DIVISION OF PREPAREDNESS AND EMERGENCY PROGRAMS (DCRHC)                                | OFFICE OF RETAIL FOOD PROTECTION (DCRJBB)                                        | NUTRITION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE (DCRL)                       |
| OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT (DCRI)                                            | DIVISION OF RETAIL FOOD PROTECTION POLICY, RESEARCH AND RISK ASSESSMENT (DCRJBA) | OFFICE OF NUTRITION AND FOOD LABELING (DCRLA)               |
| COMPLIANCE INITIATIVES STAFF (DCRI2)                                                   | RETAIL FOOD PROTECTION BRANCH 1 (DCRJBA1)                                        | DIVISION OF FOOD LABELING AND STANDARDS (DCRLAA)            |
| OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE OPERATIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION (DCRIA)                             | RETAIL FOOD PROTECTION BRANCH 2 (DCRJBA2)                                        | LABELING REGULATIONS IMPLEMENTATION BRANCH (DCRLAA1)        |
| DIVISION OF COMPLIANCE OPERATIONS (DCRIAA)                                             | DIVISION OF RETAIL FOOD PROTECTION IMPLEMENTATION (DCRJBB)                       | PRODUCT EVALUATION AND LABELING BRANCH 1 (DCRLAA2)          |
| COMPLIANCE OPERATIONS PLANNING BRANCH (DCRIAA1)                                        | RETAIL FOOD PROTECTION IMPLEMENTATION BRANCH 1 (DCRJBB1)                         | PRODUCT EVALUATION AND LABELING BRANCH 2 (DCRLAA3)          |
| COMPLIANCE OPERATIONS ANALYSIS BRANCH (DCRIAA2)                                        | RETAIL FOOD PROTECTION IMPLEMENTATION BRANCH 2 (DCRJBB2)                         | DIVISION OF NUTRITION LABELING, SCIENCE AND CLAIMS (DCRLAB) |
| DIVISION OF COMPLIANCE IMPLEMENTATION (DCRIAB)                                         | RETAIL FOOD PROTECTION IMPLEMENTATION BRANCH 3 (DCRJBB3)                         | NUTRITION ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION BRANCH (DCRLAB1)        |
| COMPLIANCE POLICY AND PROCEDURES BRANCH (DCRIAB1)                                      | OFFICE OF FOOD CHEMICAL SAFETY, DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS, AND INNOVATION (DCRK)       | NUTRITION SCIENCE REVIEW BRANCH (DCRLAB2)                   |
| COMPLIANCE PROGRAMS AND ASSIGNMENTS BRANCH (DCRIAB2)                                   | INNOVATIVE FOODS STAFF (DCRK2)                                                   | OFFICE OF CRITICAL FOODS (DCRLB)                            |
| OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT (DCRIB)                                                          | OFFICE OF PRE—MARKET AND ADDITIVE SAFETY (DCRKA)                                 | DIVISION OF INFANT FORMULA PRE—MARKET REVIEW (DCRLBA)       |
| DIVISION OF CRITICAL FOODS AND DIETARY SUPPLEMENT ENFORCEMENT (DCRIBA)                 | DIVISION OF FOOD INGREDIENTS (DCRKAA)                                            | INFANT FORMULA NUTRITION REVIEW BRANCH (DCRLBA1)            |
| DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS ENFORCEMENT BRANCH (DCRIBA1)                                       | TOXICOLOGY REVIEW BRANCH (DCRKAA1)                                               | INFANT FORMULA REGULATORY REVIEW BRANCH (DCRLBA2)           |
| CRITICAL FOODS AND LABELING ENFORCEMENT BRANCH (DCRIBA2)                               | CHEMISTRY EVALUATION BRANCH (DCRKAA2)                                            | DIVISION OF POST—MARKET CRITICAL FOODS SAEFTY (DCRLBB)      |
| DIVISION OF CONVENTIONAL FOODS ENFORCEMENT (DCRIBB)                                    | REGULATORY MANAGEMENT BRANCH (DCRKAA3)                                           | CRITICAL FOODS SAFETY ASSESSMENT BRANCH 1 (DCRLBB1)         |
| CONVENTIONAL FOODS ENFORCEMENT BRANCH 1 (DCRIBB1)                                      | DIVISION OF FOOD CONTACT SUBSTANCES (DCRKAB)                                     | CRITICAL FOODS SAFETY ASSESSMENT BRANCH 2 (DCRLBB2)         |
| CONVENTIONAL FOODS ENFORCEMENT BRANCH 2 (DCRIBB2)                                      | TOXICOLOGY REVIEW BRANCH (DCRKAB1)                                               | OFFICE OF LABORATORY OPERATIONS AND APPLIED SCIENCE (DCRM)  |
| CONVENTIONAL FOODS ENFORCEMENT BRANCH 3 (DCRIBB3)                                      | CHEMISTRY EVALUATION BRANCH (DCRKAB2)                                            | OFFICE OF REGULATORY TESTING AND SURVEILLANCE (DCRMA)       |
| DIVISION OF PRODUCE AND IMPORTS ENFORCEMENT (DCRIBC)                                   | REGULATORY MANAGEMENT BRANCH (DCRKAB3)                                           | DIVISION OF SCIENCE PROGRAM COORDINATION (DCRMAA)           |
| IMPORTS ENFORCEMENT BRANCH (DCRIBC1)                                                   | OFFICE OF POST—MARKET ASSESSMENT (DCRKB)                                         | MICROBIOLOGY BRANCH (DCRMAA1)                               |
| PRODUCE ENFORCEMENT BRANCH (DCRIBC2)                                                   | DIVISION OF CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS (DCRKBA)                                       | CHEMISTRY BRANCH (DCRMAA2)                                  |
| OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE INTERVENTION AND CONSULTATION (DCRIC)                             | PESTICIDES, ALLERGENS, AND TOXINS BRANCH (DCRKBA1)                               | ARKANSAS HUMAN AND ANIMAL FOOD LABORATORY (DCRMAB)          |
| DIVISION OF RECALLS AND EMERGING ISSUES (DCRICA)                                       | PROCESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINANTS BRANCH (DCRKBA2)                          | ARKANSAS CHEMISTRY BRANCH (DCRMAB1)                         |
| RECALLS BRANCH (DCRICA1)                                                               | DIVISION OF ADDITIVES AND INGREDIENTS (DCRKBB)                                   | ARKANSAS MICROBIOLOGY BRANCH (DCRMAB2)                      |
| EMERGING ISSUES BRANCH (DCRICA2)                                                       | DATA AND ANALYTICS BRANCH (DCRKBB1)                                              | ATLANTA HUMAN AND ANIMAL FOOD LABORATORY (DCRMAC)           |
| DIVISION OF COMPLIANCE CONSULTATION (DCRICB)                                           | SCIENCE AND REGULATORY REVIEW BRANCH 1 (DCRKBB2)                                 | ATLANTA CHEMSITRY BRANCH (DCRMAC1)                          |
| COMPLIANCE CONSULTATION BRANCH 1 (DCRICB1)                                             | SCIENCE AND REGULATORY REVIEW BRANCH 2 (DCRKBB3)                                 | ATLANTA MICROBIOLOGY BRANCH (DCRMAC2)                       |
| COMPLIANCE CONSULTATION BRANCH 2 (DCRICB2)                                             | SCIENCE AND REGULATORY REVIEW BRANCH 3 (DCRKBB4)                                 | ATLANTA NUTRIENT ANALYSIS BRANCH (DCRMAC3)                  |
| OFFICE OF INTEGRATED FOOD SAFETY SYSTEM PARTNERSHIPS (DCRJ)                            |                                                                                  | DENVER HUMAN AND ANIMAL FOOD LABORATORY (DCRMAD)            |
| PARTNERSHIP SERVICES STAFF (DCRJ1)                                                     |                                                                                  | DENVER CHEMISTRY BRANCH (DCRMAD1)                           |
| OFFICE OF DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIPS (DCRJA)                                                |                                                                                  | DENVER MICROBIOLOGY BRANCH (DCRMAD2)                        |
|                                                                                        |                                                                                  | IRVINE HUMAN AND ANIMAL FOOD LABORATORY (DCRMAE)            |

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| IRVINE CHEMISTRY BRANCH (DCRMAE1)                           | SYSTEMS TOXICOLOGY BRANCH (DCRMCC2)                                                                          | DIVISION OF ANIMAL FOOD INSPECTORATE II (DCSCB)                    |
| IRVINE MICROBIOLOGY BRANCH (DCRMAE2)                        | OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC COORDINATION AND COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCES (DCRMD)                                         | ANIMAL FOOD INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSCB1)                       |
| KANSAS CITY HUMAN AND ANIMAL FOOD LABORATORY (DCRMAF)       | SENIOR SCIENCE ADVISOR STAFF (DCRMD1)                                                                        | ANIMAL FOOD INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSCB2)                       |
| KANSAS CITY CHEMISTRY BRANCH 1 (DCRMAF1)                    | RESEARCH COORDINATION STAFF (DCRMD2)                                                                         | ANIMAL FOOD INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 3 (DCSCB3)                       |
| KANSAS CITY CHEMISTRY BRANCH 2 (DCRMAF2)                    | GENOMETRAKR AND COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE STAFF (DCRMD3)                                                         | OFFICE OF BIOLOGICS INSPECTORATE (DCSD)                            |
| NEW YORK HUMAN AND ANIMAL FOOD LABORATORY (DCRMAG)          | OFFICE OF QUALITY ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT (DCRN)                                                           | BIOLOGICS GLOBAL OPERATIONS STAFF (DCSD1)                          |
| NEW YORK CHEMISTRY BRANCH (DCRMAG1)                         | QUALITY ASSESSMENT STAFF (DCRN1)                                                                             | DIVISION OF BIOLOGICS INSPECTORATE I (DCSDB)                       |
| NEW YORK MICROBIOLOGY BRANCH (DCRMAG2)                      | QUALITY MANAGEMENT STAFF (DCRN2)                                                                             | BIOLOGICS INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSDB1)                         |
| SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN AND ANIMAL FOOD LABORATORY (DCRMAH)     | OFFICE OF MICROBIOLOGICAL FOOD SAFETY (DCRO)                                                                 | BIOLOGICS INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSDB2)                         |
| SAN FRANCISCO CHEMISTRY BRANCH (DCRMAH1)                    | OFFICE OF DAIRY AND SEAFOOD SAFETY (DCROA)                                                                   | BIOLOGICS INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 3 (DCSDB3)                         |
| SAN FRANCISCO MICROBIOLOGY BRANCH (DCRMAH2)                 | DIVISION OF DAIRY SAFETY (DCROAA)                                                                            | BIOLOGICS INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 4 (DCSDB4)                         |
| SEATTLE HUMAN AND ANIMAL FOOD LABORATORY (DCRMAI)           | DAIRY SAFETY POLICY BRANCH (DCROAA1)                                                                         | DIVISION OF BIOLOGICS INSPECTORATE II (DCSDC)                      |
| SEATTLE CHEMISTRY BRANCH (DCRMAI1)                          | EGG, MEAT AND LABORATORY POLICY BRANCH (DCROAA2)                                                             | BIOLOGICS INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSDC1)                         |
| SEATTLE MICROBIOLOGY BRANCH (DCRMAI2)                       | DAIRY OPERATIONS EAST BRANCH (DCROAA3)                                                                       | BIOLOGICS INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSDC2)                         |
| OFFICE OF APPLIED MICROBIOLOGY AND TECHNOLOGY (DCRMB)       | DAIRY OPERATIONS WEST BRANCH (DCROAA4)                                                                       | BIOLOGICS INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 3 (DCSDC3)                         |
| DIVISION OF FOOD AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY (DCRMBA)          | DIVISION OF SEAFOOD SAFETY (DCROAB)                                                                          | DIVISION OF BIOLOGICS INSPECTORATE III (DCSDD)                     |
| ENVIRONMENTAL MICROBIOLOGY BRANCH (DCRMB1)                  | SHELLFISH AND AQUACULTURE POLICY BRANCH (DCROAB1)                                                            | BIOLOGICS INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSDD1)                         |
| VIROLOGY AND PARASITOLOGY BRANCH (DCRMB2)                   | SEAFOOD PROCESSING AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY BRANCH (DCROAB2)                                                    | BIOLOGICS INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSDD2)                         |
| MICROBIAL METHODS DEVELOPMENT BRANCH (DCRMB3)               | SHELLFISH OPERATIONS BRANCH I (DCROAB3)                                                                      | BIOLOGICS INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 3 (DCSDD3)                         |
| DIVISION OF FOOD SAFETY GENOMICS (DCRMBB)                   | SHELLFISH OPERATIONS BRANCH II (DCROAB4)                                                                     | DIVISION OF BIOTECHNOLOGY INSPECTORATE (DCSDE)                     |
| GENOMICS DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATIONS BRANCH (DCRMBB1)      | OFFICE OF PRODUCE SAFETY (DCROB)                                                                             | BIOTECHNOLOGY INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSDE1)                     |
| METAGENOMIC DIVERSITY AND ECOLOGY BRANCH (DCRMBB2)          | DIVISION OF FRESH PRODUCE SAFETY (DCROBA)                                                                    | BIOTECHNOLOGY INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSDE2)                     |
| MOLECULAR GENETIC METHODS BRANCH (DCRMBB3)                  | FRESH PRODUCE POLICY BRANCH (DCROBA1)                                                                        | OFFICE OF BIORESEARCH MONITORING INSPECTORATE (DCSE)               |
| DIVISION OF FOOD PROCESSING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DCRMBC) | PRODUCE SAFETY ENGAGEMENT BRANCH (DCROBA2)                                                                   | DIVISION OF BIORESEARCH MONITORING GLOBAL OPERATIONS (DCSEA)       |
| CHEMISTRY AND PROCESS ENGINEERING BRANCH (DCRMBC1)          | DIVISION OF PROCESSED FOOD AND BEVERAGES SAFETY (DCROBB)                                                     | BIORESEARCH MONITORING FOREIGN INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSEA1)    |
| MICROBIOLOGY AND FOOD TECHNOLOGY BRANCH (DCRMBC2)           | PROCESSED FOOD AND BEVERAGES POLICY BRANCH (DCROBB1)                                                         | BIORESEARCH MONITORING FOREIGN INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSEA2)    |
| DIVISION OF SEAFOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGIES (DCRMBD)       | PROCESSED PRODUCE POLICY BRANCH (DCROBB2)                                                                    | BIORESEARCH MONITORING INSPECTORATE EXPERT SUPPORT BRANCH (DCSEA3) |
| CHEMICAL HAZARDS SCIENCE BRANCH (DCRMBD1)                   | DCS. ORGANIZATION. The Office of Inspections and Investigations includes the following organizational units: | DIVISION OF BIORESEARCH MONITORING INSPECTORATE I (DCSEB)          |
| MICROBIOLOGICAL HAZARDS SCIENCE BRANCH (DCRMBD2)            | OFFICE OF INSPECTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS (DCS)                                                               | BIORESEARCH MONITORING INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSEB1)            |
| OFFICE OF CHEMISTRY AND TOXICOLOGY (DCRMC)                  | OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER FOR INSPECTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS (DCSA)                               | BIORESEARCH MONITORING INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSEB2)            |
| DIVISION OF ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY (DCRMCA)                   | DIVISION OF TOBACCO INSPECTORATE (DCSAB)                                                                     | BIORESEARCH MONITORING INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 3 (DCSEB3)            |
| METHOD DEVELOPMENT BRANCH (DCRMCA1)                         | TOBACCO INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSAB1)                                                                     | BIORESEARCH MONITORING INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 4 (DCSEB4)            |
| SPECTROSCOPY AND MASS SPECTROMETRY BRANCH (DCRMCA2)         | TOBACCO INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSAB2)                                                                     | DIVISION OF BIORESEARCH MONITORING INSPECTORATE II (DCSEC)         |
| DIVISION OF BIOANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY (DCRMCB)                | OFFICE OF ANIMAL FOOD INSPECTORATE (DCSC)                                                                    | BIORESEARCH MONITORING INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSEC1)            |
| BIOANALYTICAL METHODS BRANCH (DCRMCB1)                      | DIVISION OF ANIMAL FOOD INSPECTORATE I (DCSCA)                                                               | BIORESEARCH MONITORING INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSEC2)            |
| CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS BRANCH (DCRMCB2)                      | ANIMAL FOOD INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSCA1)                                                                 |                                                                    |
| DIVISION OF TOXICOLOGY (DCRMCC)                             | ANIMAL FOOD INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSCA2)                                                                 |                                                                    |
| PREDICTIVE TOXICOLOGY BRANCH (DCRMCC1)                      | ANIMAL FOOD INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 3 (DCSCA3)                                                                 |                                                                    |

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| BIORESEARCH MONITORING<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 3 (DCSEC3)                | DIVISION OF WORKPLANNING AND<br>ANALYTICS (DCSHF)                    | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSJG1)      |
| DIVISION OF BIORESEARCH<br>MONITORING INSPECTORATE III<br>(DCSED)         | WORKPLANNING AND ANALYTICS<br>BRANCH 1 (DCSHF1)                      | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSJG2)      |
| BIORESEARCH MONITORING<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSED1)                | WORKPLANNING AND ANALYTICS<br>BRANCH 2 (DCSHF2)                      | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 3 (DCSJG3)      |
| BIORESEARCH MONITORING<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSED2)                | WORKPLANNING AND ANALYTICS<br>BRANCH 3 (DCSHF3)                      | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 4 (DCSJG4)      |
| BIORESEARCH MONITORING<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 3 (DCSED3)                | WORKPLANNING AND ANALYTICS<br>BRANCH 4 (DCSHF4)                      | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 5 (DCSJG5)      |
| DIVISION OF BIORESEARCH<br>MONITORING INSPECTORATE IV<br>(DCSEF)          | OFFICE OF HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INSPECTORATE (DCSJ)               | DIVISION OF HUMAN AND ANIMAL<br>DRUG INSPECTORATE VI (DCSJH)   |
| BIORESEARCH MONITORING<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSEF1)                | DIVISION OF HUMAN AND ANIMAL<br>DRUG FOREIGN INSPECTORATE<br>(DCSJA) | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSJH1)      |
| BIORESEARCH MONITORING<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSEF2)                | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG FOREIGN<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSJA1)    | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSJH2)      |
| BIORESEARCH MONITORING<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 3 (DCSEF3)                | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG FOREIGN<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSJA2)    | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 3 (DCSJH3)      |
| OFFICE OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS<br>(DCSG)                               | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG FOREIGN<br>OPERATIONS BRANCH (DCSJA3)          | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 4 (DCSJH4)      |
| HEALTH FRAUD STAFF (DCSG1)                                                | DIVISION OF HUMAN AND ANIMAL<br>DRUG GLOBAL OPERATIONS (DCSJB)       | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 5 (DCSJH5)      |
| METRO WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE<br>(DCSGA)                                  | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG PROGRAM<br>OPERATIONS BRANCH (DCSJB1)          | OFFICE OF HUMAN FOOD<br>INSPECTORATE (DCSK)                    |
| PHILADELPHIA RESIDENT UNIT<br>(DCSGA1)                                    | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG MUTUAL<br>RECOGNITION BRANCH (DCSJB2)          | OFFICE OF HUMAN FOOD<br>INSPECTORATE CENTRAL (DCSKA)           |
| CHICAGO FIELD OFFICE (DCSGB)                                              | DIVISION OF HUMAN AND ANIMAL<br>DRUG INSPECTORATE I (DCSJC)          | DIVISION OF HUMAN FOOD<br>INSPECTORATE CENTRAL I (DCSKAA)      |
| NEW YORK FIELD OFFICE (DCSGC)                                             | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSJC1)            | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 1 (DCSKAA1)                |
| BOSTON, MA RESIDENT UNIT (DCSGC1)                                         | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSJC2)            | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 2 (DCSKAA2)                |
| LOS ANGELES FIELD OFFICE (DCSGD)                                          | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 3 (DCSJC3)            | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 3 (DCSKAA3)                |
| SAN FRANCISCO, CA RESIDENT UNIT<br>(DCSGD1)                               | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 4 (DCSJC4)            | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 4 (DCSKAA4)                |
| MIAMI FIELD OFFICE (DCSGE)                                                | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 5 (DCSJC5)            | DIVISION OF HUMAN FOOD<br>INSPECTORATE CENTRAL II (DCSKAB)     |
| SAN JUAN, PR RESIDENT UNIT (DCSGE1)                                       | DIVISION OF HUMAN AND ANIMAL<br>DRUG INSPECTORATE II (DCSJD)         | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 1 (DCSKAB1)                |
| ATLANTA, GA RESIDENT UNIT<br>(DCSGE2)                                     | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSJD1)            | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 2 (DCSKAB2)                |
| NEW ORLEANS, LA RESIDENT UNIT<br>(DCSGE3)                                 | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSJD2)            | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 3 (DCSKAB3)                |
| KANSAS CITY FIELD OFFICE (DCSGF)                                          | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 3 (DCSJD3)            | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 4 (DCSKAB4)                |
| DALLAS, TX RESIDENT UNIT (DCSGF1)                                         | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 4 (DCSJD4)            | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 5 (DCSKAB5)                |
| OFFICE OF INSPECTIONAL<br>PERFORMANCE OPTIMIZATION<br>(DCSH)              | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 5 (DCSJD5)            | DIVISION OF HUMAN FOOD<br>INSPECTORATE CENTRAL III<br>(DCSKAC) |
| DIVISION OF QUALITY AND<br>CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT<br>(DCSHC)              | DIVISION OF HUMAN AND ANIMAL<br>DRUG INSPECTORATE III (DCSJE)        | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 1 (DCSKAC1)                |
| FIELD INSPECTORATE QUALITY<br>BRANCH 1 (DCSHC1)                           | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSJE1)            | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 2 (DCSKAC2)                |
| FIELD INSPECTORATE QUALITY<br>BRANCH 2 (DCSHC2)                           | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSJE2)            | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 3 (DCSKAC3)                |
| FIELD INSPECTORATE QUALITY<br>BRANCH 3 (DCSHC3)                           | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 3 (DCSJE3)            | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 4 (DCSKAC4)                |
| FIELD INSPECTORATE QUALITY<br>BRANCH 4 (DCSHC4)                           | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 4 (DCSJE4)            | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 5 (DCSKAC5)                |
| INSPECTORATE AND QUALITY AND<br>CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT<br>BRANCH (DCSHC5) | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 5 (DCSJE5)            | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 6 (DCSKAC6)                |
| DIVISION OF INSPECTORATE RECALL<br>OPERATIONS (DCSHD)                     | DIVISION OF HUMAN AND ANIMAL<br>DRUG INSPECTORATE IV (DCSJF)         | DIVISION OF HUMAN FOOD<br>INSPECTORATE CENTRAL IV<br>(DCSKAD)  |
| INSPECTORATE RECALL OPERATIONS<br>BRANCH 1 (DCSHD1)                       | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSJF1)            | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 1 (DCSKAD1)                |
| INSPECTORATE RECALL OPERATIONS<br>BRANCH 2 (DCSHD2)                       | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSJF2)            | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 2 (DCSKAD2)                |
| INSPECTORATE RECALL OPERATIONS<br>BRANCH 3 (DCSHD3)                       | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 3 (DCSJF3)            | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 3 (DCSKAD3)                |
| INSPECTORATE RECALL OPERATIONS<br>BRANCH 4 (DCSHD4)                       | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 4 (DCSJF4)            | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 4 (DCSKAD4)                |
| DIVISION OF INSPECTORATE POLICY<br>(DCSHE)                                | HUMAN AND ANIMAL DRUG<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 5 (DCSJF5)            | DIVISION OF HUMAN FOOD<br>INSPECTORATE CENTRAL V (DCSKAE)      |
| FOOD INSPECTORATE POLICY BRANCH<br>(DCSHE1)                               | DIVISION OF HUMAN AND ANIMAL<br>DRUG INSPECTORATE V (DCSJG)          |                                                                |
| MEDICAL PRODUCTS AND TOBACCO<br>INSPECTORATE POLICY BRANCH<br>(DCSHE2)    |                                                                      |                                                                |
| INSPECTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS<br>POLICY BRANCH (DCSHE3)                  |                                                                      |                                                                |

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|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 1 (DCSKAE1)          | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 2 (DCSKCB2)                              | IMPORT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE<br>BRANCH (DCSLC2)                                   |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 2 (DCSKAE2)          | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 3 (DCSKCB3)                              | DIVISION OF SOUTHWEST IMPORTS<br>(DCSLD)                                         |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 3 (DCSKAE3)          | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 4 (DCSKCB4)                              | SOUTHWEST IMPORT INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH (DCSLD1)                               |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 4 (DCSKAE4)          | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 5 (DCSKCB5)                              | SOUTHWEST IMPORT COMPLIANCE<br>BRANCH (DCSLD2)                                   |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 5 (DCSKAE5)          | DIVISION OF HUMAN FOOD<br>INSPECTORATE WEST III (DCSKCC)                     | DIVISION OF SOUTHEAST IMPORTS<br>(DCSLE)                                         |
| OFFICE OF HUMAN FOOD<br>INSPECTORATE EAST (DCSKB)        | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 1 (DCSKCC1)                              | SOUTHEAST IMPORT INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 1 (DCSLE1)                             |
| DIVISION OF HUMAN FOOD<br>INSPECTORATE EAST I (DCSKBA)   | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 2 (DCSKCC2)                              | SOUTHEAST IMPORT INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 2 (DCSLE2)                             |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 1 (DCSKBA1)          | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 3 (DCSKCC3)                              | SOUTHEAST IMPORT COMPLIANCE<br>BRANCH (DCSLE3)                                   |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 2 (DCSKBA2)          | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 4 (DCSKCC4)                              | DIVISION OF NORTHEAST IMPORTS<br>(DCSLF)                                         |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 3 (DCSKBA3)          | DIVISION OF HUMAN FOOD<br>INSPECTORATE WEST IV (DCSKCD)                      | NORTHEAST IMPORT INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH (DCSLF1)                               |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 4 (DCSKBA4)          | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 1 (DCSKCD1)                              | NORTHEAST IMPORT COMPLIANCE<br>BRANCH (DCSLF2)                                   |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 5 (DCSKBA5)          | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 2 (DCSKCD2)                              | DIVISION OF NORTHERN BORDER<br>IMPORTS (DCSLG)                                   |
| DIVISION OF HUMAN FOOD<br>INSPECTORATE EAST II (DCSKBB)  | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 3 (DCSKCD3)                              | NORTHERN BORDER IMPORT<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSLG1)                       |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 1 (DCSKBB1)          | HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 4 (DCSKCD4)                              | NORTHERN BORDER IMPORT<br>INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSLG2)                       |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 2 (DCSKBB2)          | OFFICE OF GLOBAL AND SPECIALTY<br>HUMAN FOOD INSPECTORATE<br>(DCSKD)         | NORTHERN BORDER IMPORT<br>COMPLIANCE BRANCH (DCSLG3)                             |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 3 (DCSKBB3)          | HUMAN FOOD NATIONAL EXPERT<br>STAFF (DCSKD1)                                 | DIVISION OF WEST COAST IMPORTS<br>(DCSLH)                                        |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 4 (DCSKBB4)          | DIVISION OF CRITICAL AND SPECIALTY<br>FOOD (DCSKDA)                          | WEST COAST IMPORT INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH (DCSLH1)                              |
| DIVISION OF HUMAN FOOD<br>INSPECTORATE EAST III (DCSKBC) | CRITICAL FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH (DCSKDA1)                             | WEST COAST IMPORT COMPLIANCE<br>BRANCH (DCSLH2)                                  |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 1 (DCSKBC1)          | FOOD DEFENSE BRANCH (DCSKDA2)                                                | DIVISION OF PLANNING AND PUBLIC<br>RESPONSE (DCSLI)                              |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 2 (DCSKBC2)          | HUMAN FOOD PROGRAM EXPERT<br>BRANCH (DCSKDA3)                                | OFFICE OF MEDICAL DEVICE AND<br>RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH<br>INSPECTORATE (DCSM)       |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 3 (DCSKBC3)          | EMERGING FOOD AND SPECIALTY<br>PRODUCTS BRANCH (DCSKDA4)                     | DIVISION OF MAMMOGRAPHY AND<br>RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH<br>INSPECTORATE (DCSMA)       |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 4 (DCSKBC4)          | DIVISION OF FOREIGN FOOD<br>INVESTIGATIONS AND GLOBAL<br>OPERATIONS (DCSKDB) | MAMMOGRAPHY OPERATIONS<br>BRANCH 1 (DCSMA1)                                      |
| DIVISION OF HUMAN FOOD<br>INSPECTORATE EAST IV (DCSKBD)  | FOREIGN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 1 (DCSKDB1)                            | MAMMOGRAPHY OPERATIONS<br>BRANCH 2 (DCSMA2)                                      |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 1 (DCSKBD1)          | FOREIGN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 2 (DCSKDB2)                            | DIVISION OF MEDICAL DEVICE AND<br>RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH<br>INSPECTORATE I (DCSMB)  |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 2 (DCSKBD2)          | FOREIGN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 3 (DCSKDB3)                            | MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL<br>HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1<br>(DCSMB1)    |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 3 (DCSKBD3)          | FOREIGN FOOD OPERATIONS BRANCH<br>(DCSKDB4)                                  | MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL<br>HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2<br>(DCSMB2)    |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 4 (DCSKBD4)          | FOREIGN FOOD COORDINATION<br>BRANCH (DCSKDB5)                                | MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL<br>HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 3<br>(DCSMB3)    |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 5 (DCSKBD5)          | DIVISION OF PRODUCE SAFETY<br>(DCSKDC)                                       | MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL<br>HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 4<br>(DCSMB4)    |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 6 (DCSKBD6)          | PRODUCE SAFETY BRANCH 1<br>(DCSKDC1)                                         | DIVISION OF MEDICAL DEVICE AND<br>RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH<br>INSPECTORATE II (DCSMC) |
| OFFICE OF HUMAN FOOD<br>INSPECTORATE WEST (DCSKC)        | PRODUCE SAFETY BRANCH 2<br>(DCSKDC2)                                         | MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL<br>HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1<br>(DCSMC1)    |
| DIVISION OF HUMAN FOOD<br>INSPECTORATE WEST I (DCSKCA)   | PRODUCE SAFETY BRANCH 3<br>(DCSKDC3)                                         | MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL<br>HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2<br>(DCSMC2)    |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 1 (DCSKCA1)          | OFFICE OF IMPORT OPERATIONS (DCSL)                                           | MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL<br>HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 3<br>(DCSMC3)    |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 2 (DCSKCA2)          | DIVISION OF TARGETING AND<br>ANALYSIS (DCSLA)                                |                                                                                  |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 3 (DCSKCA3)          | DIVISION OF IMPORT OPERATIONS<br>(DCSLB)                                     |                                                                                  |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 4 (DCSKCA4)          | IMPORT OPERATIONS BRANCH<br>(DCSLB1)                                         |                                                                                  |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 5 (DCSKCA5)          | IMPORT COMPLIANCE BRANCH<br>(DCSLB2)                                         |                                                                                  |
| DIVISION OF HUMAN FOOD<br>INSPECTORATE WEST II (DCSKCB)  | DIVISION OF ANALYSIS AND PROGRAM<br>EVALUATION (DCSLC)                       |                                                                                  |
| HUMAN FOOD INVESTIGATIONS<br>BRANCH 1 (DCSKCB1)          | PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT BRANCH<br>(DCSLC1)                                       |                                                                                  |

MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 4 (DCSMC4)

MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 5 (DCSMC5)

DIVISION OF MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH INSPECTORATE III (DCSMD)

MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSMD1)

MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSMD2)

MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 3 (DCSMD3)

MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 4 (DCSMD4)

MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 5 (DCSMD5)

DIVISION OF MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH GLOBAL OPERATIONS (DCSME)

MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH FOREIGN OPERATIONS BRANCH (DCSME1)

MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH OPERATIONS BRANCH (DCSME2)

MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH RISK MITIGATION AND RESPONSE BRANCH (DCSME3)

DIVISION OF MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH INSPECTORATE IV (DCSMF)

MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCSMF1)

MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCSMF2)

MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 3 (DCSMF3)

MEDICAL DEVICE AND RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH 4 (DCSMF4)

DCT. ORGANIZATION. The Office of Health Advancement includes the following organizational units:

OFFICE OF HEALTH ADVANCEMENT (DCT)

OFFICE OF CLINICAL POLICY (DCTA)

OFFICE OF COMBINATION PRODUCTS (DCTB)

OFFICE OF ORPHAN PRODUCTS DEVELOPMENT (DCTC)

OFFICE OF PEDIATRIC THERAPEUTICS (DCTD)

OFFICE OF MINORITY HEALTH (DCTE)

OFFICE OF WOMEN'S HEALTH (DCTF)

DCU. ORGANIZATION. The Office of Mission Information Technology Services includes the following organizational units:

OFFICE OF MISSION INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES (DCU)

OFFICE OF INFORMATION SECURITY (DCUA)

DIVISION OF CYBERSECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE OPERATIONS (DCUAA)

DIVISION OF RISK MANAGEMENT AND COMPLIANCE (DCUAB)

DIVISION OF COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND INSIDER THREAT (DCUAC)

DIVISION OF CYBERSECURITY CAPABILITIES AND INTEGRATION (DCUAD)

DIVISION OF CYBERSECURITY PROGRAM (DCUAE)

OFFICE OF DATA PLATFORM ENGINEERING (DCUB)

DIVISION OF GATEWAY ENGINEERING (DCUBA)

DIVISION OF DATA PLATFORM ENGINEERING (DCUBB)

DIVISION OF PUBLISHING TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM ENGINEERING (DCUBC)

OFFICE OF BUSINESS APPLICATION SOLUTION (DCUC)

DIVISION OF REGULATORY SCIENCE APPLICATION SOLUTION (DCUCA)

DIVISION OF SAFETY AND QUALITY APPLICATION SOLUTION (DCUCB)

DIVISION OF INSPECTION AND COMPLIANCE APPLICATION SOLUTION (DCUCC)

OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OPERATIONS (DCUD)

DIVISION OF BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP AND SUPPORT (DCUDA)

DIVISION OF INFRASTRUCTURE OPERATIONS (DCUDB)

DIVISION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ARCHITECTURE AND INNOVATION (DCUDC)

DIVISION OF CENTER INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LIAISON SERVICES (DCUDD)

DIVISION OF APPLICATION SUPPORT AND TRAINING (DCUDE)

OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PORTFOLIO AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT (DCUE)

CONTRACT AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT STAFF (DCUE1)

VENDOR MANAGEMENT STAFF (DCUE2)

DCV. ORGANIZATION. The Office of Public Affairs includes the following organizational units:

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS (DCV)

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COORDINATION STAFF (DCV1)

PRESS RELATIONS STAFF (DCV2)

OFFICE OF DIGITAL EXPERIENCE AND STRATEGY (DCVA)

DIVISION OF CONTENT MANAGEMENT AND STRATEGY (DCVAA)

CONTENT MANAGEMENT AND STRATEGY BRANCH 1 (DCVAA1)

CONTENT MANAGEMENT AND STRATEGY BRANCH 2 (DCVAA2)

DIVISION OF DIGITAL EXPERIENCE AND INNOVATION (DCVAB)

DIGITAL EXPERIENCE AND INNOVATION BRANCH 1 (DCVAB1)

DIGITAL EXPERIENCE AND INNOVATION BRANCH 2 (DCVAB2)

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC AND CREATIVE COMMUNICATIONS (DCVB)

DIVISION OF MULTIMEDIA COMMUNICATIONS (DCVBA)

AUDIO VISUAL PRODUCTION BRANCH (DCVBA1)

GRAPHIC DESIGN BRANCH (DCVBA2)

DIVISION OF EDITORIAL AND CONTENT ENGAGEMENT (DCVBB)

SOCIAL MEDIA BRANCH (DCVBB1)

AGENCY INITIATIVES AND EDITORIAL BRANCH (DCVBB2)

INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT BRANCH (DCVBB3)

OFFICE OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT (DCVC)

DIVISION OF COMMISSIONER AND CENTER ENGAGEMENT (DCVCA)

COMMISSIONER ENGAGEMENT BRANCH (DCVCA1)

CENTER AND PROGRAM ENGAGEMENT BRANCH (DCVCA2)

DIVISION OF OUTREACH AND EDUCATION (DCVCB)

PATIENT AND CONSUMER OUTREACH BRANCH (DCVCB1)

PUBLIC EDUCATION BRANCH (DCVCB2)

OFFICE OF CENTER AND PROGRAM COMMUNICATIONS (DCVD)

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS I (DCVDA)

COMMUNICATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCVDA1)

COMMUNICATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCVDA2)

COMMUNICATIONS BRANCH 3 (DCVDA3)

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS II (DCVDB)

COMMUNICATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCVDB1)

COMMUNICATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCVDB2)

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS III (DCVDC)

COMMUNICATIONS BRANCH 1 (DCVDC1)

COMMUNICATIONS BRANCH 2 (DCVDC2)

COMMUNICATIONS BRANCH 3 (DCVDC3)

## II. Delegations of Authority

Pending further delegation, directives, or orders by the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, all delegations and redelegations of authority made to officials and employees of affected organizational components will continue in them or their successors pending further redelegations, provided they are consistent with this reorganization.

## III. Electronic Access

This reorganization will be reflected in FDA's Staff Manual Guide (SMG). Persons interested in seeing the complete Staff Manual Guide can find it on FDA's website at: <https://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/ReportsManualsForms/StaffManualGuides/default.htm>.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3101.

**Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.,**  
Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services.

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**BILLING CODE 4164-01-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES****National Institutes of Health****Notice of Diabetes Mellitus Interagency Coordinating Committee Meeting**

**AGENCY:** National Institutes of Health, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Diabetes Mellitus Interagency Coordinating Committee (DMICC) will hold a meeting on September 18th, 2026. The topic for this meeting will be “Type 1 Diabetes and Cardiorenal Outcomes: Informing a Practice Changing Trial”.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on September 18th, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. EDT.

**ADDRESSES:** This meeting will be hybrid. The meeting will be held at The Hyatt Regency, 7400 Wisconsin Ave, Bethesda, MD and virtually on the Zoom online video conferencing platform. For details, and to register, please go to the event’s page: <https://www.niddk.nih.gov/news/meetings-workshops/2026/dmicc-t1d-cardiorenal-outcomes-informing-practice-changing-trial>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information concerning this meeting, including a draft agenda, which will be posted when available, see the DMICC event website <https://www.niddk.nih.gov/news/meetings-workshops/2026/dmicc-t1d-cardiorenal-outcomes-informing-practice-changing-trial> or contact Dr. William Cefalu, Executive Secretary of the Diabetes Mellitus Interagency Coordinating Committee, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, 6707 Democracy Boulevard, Democracy 2, Room 6037, Bethesda, MD 20892, telephone: 301-435-1011; email: [dmicc@mail.nih.gov](mailto:dmicc@mail.nih.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with 42 U.S.C.285c-3, the DMICC, chaired by the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) and comprising members of the Department of Health and Human Services and other federal agencies that support diabetes-related activities, facilitates cooperation, communication, and collaboration on diabetes among government entities. DMICC meetings, held several times a year, provide an opportunity for Committee members to learn about and discuss current and future diabetes programs in DMICC member organizations and to identify opportunities for collaboration. The

September 18, 2026 DMICC meeting will focus on “Type 1 Diabetes and Cardiorenal Outcomes: Informing a Practice Changing Trial”.

Any member of the public interested in presenting oral comments to the Committee should notify the contact person listed on this notice at least 5 days in advance of the meeting. Interested individuals and representatives or organizations should submit a letter of intent, a brief description of the organization represented, and a written copy of their oral presentation in advance of the meeting. Only one representative of an organization will be allowed to present; oral comments and presentations will be limited to a maximum of 5 minutes. Printed and electronic copies are requested for the record. In addition, any interested person may file written comments with the Committee by forwarding their statement to the contact person listed on this notice. The statement should include the name, address, telephone number and when applicable, the business or professional affiliation of the interested person. Because of time constraints for the meeting, oral comments will be allowed on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Members of the public who would like to receive email notification about future DMICC meetings can email [dmicc@mail.nih.gov](mailto:dmicc@mail.nih.gov).

Dated: July 27, 2026.

**Corinne M. Silva,**

*Deputy Director, Division of Diabetes, Endocrinology, and Metabolic Diseases, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, National Institutes of Health.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15296 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4167-05-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY****U.S. Customs and Border Protection****Air Declaration Zone Test: Extension**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Customs and Border Protection; DHS.

**ACTION:** General notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces that U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is extending the Air Declaration Zone Test for an additional two years. Current CBP regulations require each traveler to provide a CBP officer with an oral or written declaration of all articles brought into the United States. The Air Declaration Zone Test streamlines the processing of travelers who enter the United States at air ports of entry by

allowing a demonstrative initial declaration to separate travelers who do not have items to declare from those who have items to declare and, in some cases, replace the provision of oral or written declarations.

**DATES:** CBP is extending the Air Declaration Zone Test at participating air terminals through October 16, 2028, unless renewed. CBP will announce any modifications by notice in the **Federal Register**.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments concerning program, policy, and technical issues may be submitted at any time during the test period via email to [traveler-entry-programs@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:traveler-entry-programs@cbp.dhs.gov). Please use “Comment on Air Declaration Zone Test” in the subject line of the email.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Corey Daboin, Admissibility & Passenger Programs, Office of Field Operations, U.S. Customs & Border Protection, at 202-325-1009, or [traveler-entry-programs@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:traveler-entry-programs@cbp.dhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****I. Background**

Under existing U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regulations, each traveler<sup>1</sup> entering the United States must provide an oral or written declaration of all articles brought into the United States, to a CBP officer (CBPO). See part 148, subpart B of title 19 of the Code of Federal Regulations (19 CFR part 148, subpart B). There are currently three types of Federal Inspection Services air port of entry (POE) air terminal facilities: standard, modified egress, and baggage first.

At standard air terminal facilities, a traveler is processed by a CBPO at primary inspection to determine whether the traveler may enter the United States. Once cleared for entry, the traveler then proceeds to the baggage area to collect any luggage and subsequently proceeds through the egress area to the facility exit where a CBPO takes an oral declaration from the traveler or collects a written declaration through CBP Form 6059-B, if the traveler completes one. See 19 CFR 148.12, 148.13. The CBPO then determines whether the declaration requires the payment of a duty or if further examination is necessary. If either is required, the CBPO refers the traveler to secondary inspection. Otherwise, the traveler may then exit

<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this test, a “traveler” is any individual who is subject to the declaration requirements found in 19 CFR part 148 subpart B. Crewmembers, subject to the declaration requirements found in 19 CFR part 148 subpart G, are not included within this definition of traveler.

the air terminal facility, unless a roving CBPO engages with the traveler.

At modified egress air terminal facilities, a traveler is processed by a CBPO at primary inspection to determine whether the traveler may enter the United States. Concurrently, the CBPO takes an oral declaration from the traveler or collects a written declaration through CBP Form 6059-B, if the traveler completes one. The CBPO then determines whether the declaration requires the payment of a duty or if further examination is necessary. If either is required, the CBPO refers the traveler to secondary inspection. Once cleared for entry, the traveler proceeds to the baggage area to collect any luggage. The traveler may then exit the air terminal facility without being stopped, unless a roving CBPO engages with the traveler.

At baggage first air terminal facilities, the traveler collects any luggage prior to being processed at primary inspection, where a CBPO then determines whether the traveler may enter the United States. If the traveler is cleared for entry, the CBPO also takes an oral declaration from the traveler or collects a written declaration through CBP Form 6059-B, if the traveler completes one. The CBPO then determines whether the declaration requires the payment of a duty or if further examination is necessary. If either is required, the CBPO refers the traveler to secondary inspection. Otherwise, the traveler may then exit the air terminal facility, unless a roving CBPO engages with the traveler.

At all three types of air terminal facilities described above, CBPOs also perform roving enforcement operations within the baggage area and egress area. A CBPO on roving enforcement may affirm traveler compliance with the inspection process and make referrals to secondary inspection as necessary. Travelers referred to secondary inspection may be directed to complete CBP Form 6059-B, if not already completed.

The Air Declaration Zone Test, described below, provides arriving travelers with an alternative method to meet the declaration requirement by allowing a demonstrative initial declaration at select air terminals at certain air POEs. This test, originally announced on July 19, 2024 (the initial test),<sup>2</sup> allows travelers entering the United States through participating air terminals to provide a demonstrative initial declaration by entering one of two declaration zone queues, either *No Items to Declare* or *Items to Declare*. At

air terminals that do not have declaration zones, all travelers must enter the same queue and provide an oral or written declaration, regardless of whether the traveler has items to declare. Declaration zones facilitate the processing of travelers by separating those who need to go directly to a CBPO for additional processing, *i.e.*, travelers with items to declare, from those who do not, *i.e.*, travelers with no items to declare. The initial test was conducted at one air POE, Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas. The initial test began approximately August 19, 2024, and was set to expire after approximately two years.

## II. Air Declaration Zone Test: Extension

This notice extends the initial test<sup>3</sup> beyond its original expiration date for an additional period of two years. All provisions of the initial test, with the exception of the amended expiration date and the number of locations available for test implementation, will remain applicable through the extended period. CBP invites public comment on any aspect of the Air Declaration Zone Test, which may be submitted via email to [traveler-entry-programs@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:traveler-entry-programs@cbp.dhs.gov).

For convenience, CBP has republished pertinent information from the initial test notice in the following subsections, including the duration and purpose of the test, a description of the test, eligibility and participation requirements, CBP's legal authority to conduct this test, a description of the affected Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) requirements, and the evaluation criteria for this test.

### A. Duration and Purpose of the Extended Test

The purpose of the Air Declaration Zone Test is to determine the feasibility of allowing an initial demonstrative declaration as an acceptable declaration method. Given the limited participation under the initial test, this extension of the Air Declaration Zone Test is necessary to provide CBP with information on how declaration zones could affect inspection procedures at different types of air terminal facilities.

The Air Declaration Zone Test was originally scheduled to run for a period of approximately two years. For the reasons described previously, CBP is extending the Air Declaration Zone Test through October 16, 2028. Consistent with the initial test, expansion dates may vary at each participating location. While the test is ongoing, CBP will evaluate the results and determine whether the test should be extended or

otherwise modified. CBP reserves the right to discontinue this test at any time at CBP's sole discretion. CBP will announce any modifications to the test by notice in the **Federal Register**.

### B. Description and Procedures of the Test

Within an air terminal facility participating in the Air Declaration Zone Test, two distinct customs declaration zone queues are established at the entrance, or in the area where, travelers are processed following their egress from an aircraft (the egress area): one for *No Items to Declare* and another for *Items to Declare*. The location of the queues, either at the entrance to the egress area or prior to processing in primary inspection, will depend on the type of air terminal facility (standard, modified egress, or baggage first). Signage is posted to clearly label the queues. The physical act of selecting the *No Items to Declare* queue or the *Items to Declare* queue in and of itself constitutes an initial demonstrative declaration. CBPOs conduct roving enforcement operations within the baggage collection and egress areas to ensure traveler compliance.

This test solely alters the method of declaration by allowing an initial demonstrative declaration and does not modify travelers' existing obligation to accurately declare items in accordance with CBP regulations. *See* 19 CFR 148.18, 148.19. The test does not change any other aspect of the processing of arriving travelers. Travelers will continue to have the option of making an oral or written declaration.

#### i. No Items To Declare Queue

Travelers who determine they have nothing to declare enter the *No Items to Declare* queue. Depending on the location of the queue in the air terminal facility and the type of air terminal facility, travelers either proceed to primary inspection or proceed through the egress area to the facility exit. CBPOs conduct roving operations in the *No Items to Declare* zone to affirm traveler compliance, receive oral declarations, and make referrals to secondary inspection as necessary. Travelers who are not directed toward or questioned by CBPOs may proceed to the facility exit.

#### ii. Items To Declare Queue

Travelers with items to declare enter the *Items to Declare* queue and present themselves to a CBPO to make an oral declaration. The CBPO then considers whether duty is owed by the traveler or if additional inspection is warranted.

<sup>2</sup> See 89 FR 58747 (Jul. 19, 2024), authorized pursuant to 19 CFR 101.9(a).

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

The CBPO will make a determination and direct the traveler accordingly.

iii. Referral to Secondary Inspection

If a traveler is referred to secondary inspection at any point, CBPOs will follow standard procedures, including collecting an oral and/or written declaration during the referral and inspection. CBPOs will also follow current agency policy on declaration amendment opportunities. See 19 CFR 148.16.

*C. Eligibility and Participation Requirements*

The Air Declaration Zone Test will continue to take place at air POE, Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, and may also be expanded to other participating locations, at CBP's discretion. All such expansions will be announced on the CBP website, <https://www.cbp.gov>. All participating locations must assist CBP in the establishment and maintenance of the declaration zones and the display of signage designating and directing travelers to the declaration zones.

*D. Authorization for This Test*

CBP is authorized to impose requirements different from those specified in CBP regulations for purposes of conducting a test program or procedure designed to evaluate the effectiveness of new technology or operational procedures regarding the processing of passengers, vessels, or merchandise. See 19 CFR 101.9(a). Test programs must be limited in scope, time, and application. Waiver or modification of requirements under existing regulations is permitted so long as the waiver or modification does not affect the collection of the revenue, public health, safety, or law enforcement. *Id.*

This test is authorized under 19 CFR 101.9(a) because it evaluates the effectiveness of a demonstrative initial declaration as an alternative to existing declaration requirements. This test is limited in scope, time, and application because this notice authorizes the alternative procedure for a set time period and will only be applicable to certain air POEs. CBP does not anticipate that this test will affect the collection of the revenue, public health, safety, or law enforcement.

*E. Modification of Certain Regulatory Requirements*

CBP regulations require each traveler to provide an oral or written declaration of all articles brought into the United States, to a CBPO. See 19 CFR 148.12 and 148.13. The Declaration Zone Test provides travelers at participating air

terminals with a modified method of satisfying the oral or written declaration requirements by allowing a demonstrative initial declaration, as described in Section II.B.

If a traveler enters the *No Items to Declare* queue and is not questioned by CBPOs prior to exiting the egress area of the facility, the requirement to provide an oral or written declaration under 19 CFR 148.12 or 148.13 will be deemed satisfied for the purposes of this test. For all other travelers, the initial demonstrative declaration supplements the requirement to provide an oral and/or written declaration under 19 CFR 148.12 and 148.13.

Regardless of which declaration zone queue a traveler selects, all other requirements of 19 CFR part 148, subpart B, regarding declarations, including those provided by 19 CFR 148.18, regarding failure to declare, and 19 CFR 148.19, regarding false or fraudulent statements, still apply.

*F. Evaluation of the Air Declaration Zone Test*

CBP will use the results of this extended test to assess the operational feasibility of allowing an initial demonstrative declaration to be an acceptable declaration method. CBP will evaluate this test based on a number of criteria, including:

- Evaluation of airline customer satisfaction surveys gathering feedback on the debarkation process; and
- Comparison of year-over-year enforcement statistics for each test period to ensure no impact to duty collection or to the frequency of enforcement activities.

*G. Paperwork Reduction Act*

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*, requires that CBP consider the effect of paperwork and other information collection burdens imposed on the public, and under the provisions of 44 U.S.C. 3507(c) and (d), obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget for each collection of information it conducts, sponsors, or requires through regulations. There is no new collection of information required in this document; thus, the provisions of the PRA are inapplicable to this test.

**Diane J. Sabatino,**

*Executive Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations, U.S. Customs and Border Protection.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15310 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 9111-14-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Geological Survey**

**[Docket No. USGS-FACA-2026; GX26EE000101100]**

**Public Meeting of the National Geospatial Advisory Committee**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) of 1972, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is publishing this notice to announce that a Federal Advisory Committee meeting of the National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC) will take place and is open to members of the public.

**DATES:** The following meeting will be held in person and virtually:

- Wednesday, August 12, 2026 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; and Thursday, August 13, 2026 from 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time.

The following meeting will be held virtually:

- Wednesday, December 9, 2026 from 1:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.; and Thursday, December 10, 2026 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

**ADDRESSES:** The August 2026 meeting will be held in-person and virtually. The August 2026 meeting will be held in the South Penthouse Conference Room of the Stewart Lee Udall Department of the Interior Building, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC. The December 2026 meeting will be held virtually. Members of the public may attend the August meeting in person or can participate virtually. Registration instructions for both the online and in-person meetings will be posted at [www.fgdc.gov/ngac](http://www.fgdc.gov/ngac).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Megan Compton, Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC), USGS, by mail at 5957 Lakeside Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46278; by email at [mrcompton@usgs.gov](mailto:mrcompton@usgs.gov); or by telephone at 703-581-3332.

Individuals in the United States who are deaf, blind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This meeting is being held under the provisions of the FACA of 1972 (5

U.S.C. Ch. 10), the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended), and 41 CFR part 102–3.

**Purpose of the Meeting:** The NGAC provides advice and recommendations to the FGDC related to management of federal and national geospatial programs, the development of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI), and the implementation of the Geospatial Data Act (GDA) of 2018 and the Office of Management and Budget Circular A–16. The NGAC reviews and comments on geospatial policy and management issues and provides a forum to convey views representative of non-federal stakeholders in the geospatial community. The NGAC is one of the primary ways that the FGDC collaborates with its broad network of partners. Additional information about the NGAC is available at: [www.fgdc.gov/ngac](http://www.fgdc.gov/ngac).

### Agenda Topics

- FGDC Update
- 2026 Subcommittee priorities and timelines
- Implementation of the 2025–2035 NSDI Strategic Plan
- Artificial Intelligence
- USGS 3D Elevation Program (3DEP)
- GDA implementation
- National Spatial Reference System modernization
- Landsat Advisory Group
- Civil Applications Committee
- Public Comment

**Meeting Accessibility/Special Accommodations:** Please make requests in advance for sign language interpreter services, assistive listening devices, or other reasonable accommodations. We ask that you contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice at least seven (7) business days prior to the meeting to give the Department of the Interior sufficient time to process your request. All reasonable accommodation requests are managed on a case-by-case basis. Seating for in-person attendees may be limited due to room capacity. Virtual attendance instructions will be provided to registered attendees prior to the meeting.

**Public Disclosure of Comments:** There will be an opportunity for public comment during each day of the meeting. Depending on the number of people who wish to speak and the time available, the time for individual comments may be limited. Written comments may also be sent to the NGAC for consideration. To allow for full consideration of information by NGAC members, written comments must be provided to Megan Compton (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) at least

three (3) business days prior to the meeting. Any written comments received will be provided to NGAC members before the meeting.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personally identifiable information (PII) in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your PII—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your PII from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**Authority:** 5 U.S.C. Ch. 10.

### Darcee Killpack,

*Acting Executive Director, Federal Geographic Data Committee.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15302 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4388–11–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

**[A2407–004–06555; #O2504–014–004–125222]**

### Notice of Intent To Prepare a Resource Management Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Mosey Solar Project, Clark and Nye Counties, Nevada

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Nevada State Director intends to prepare a Resource Management Plan (RMP) Amendment with an associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Mosey Solar Project, located in the Southern Nevada District, Las Vegas and Pahrump Field Offices and by this notice is announcing the beginning of the scoping period to solicit public comments, identify issues, and provide the planning criteria for public review.

**DATES:** The BLM requests the public submit comments concerning the scope of the analysis, potential alternatives, and identification of relevant information and studies by August 28, 2026. To afford the BLM the opportunity to consider issues raised by commenters in the Draft RMP Amendment and EIS, please ensure your comments are received prior to the close of the 30-day scoping period.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments on issues and planning criteria related

to the RMP Amendment by any of the following methods:

- **Website:** <https://eplanning.blm.gov/Project-Home/?id=421fb851-8a87-f111-ab0f-001dd802f839>.
- **Email:** [BLM\\_NV\\_SND\\_EnergyProjects@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_NV_SND_EnergyProjects@blm.gov).
- **Mail:** Southern Nevada District Office; Attn: Mosey Solar Project; 4701 North Torrey Pines Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89130.

Documents pertinent to this proposal may be examined online at <https://eplanning.blm.gov/Project-Home/?id=421fb851-8a87-f111-ab0f-001dd802f839> and at the BLM Southern Nevada District Office.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jessica Headen, Project Manager, Energy & Infrastructure, at [BLM\\_NV\\_SND\\_EnergyProjects@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_NV_SND_EnergyProjects@blm.gov), themailing address above, or by phone 702–515–5000. Contact Jessica Headen to have your name added to our mailing list. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, blind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services for contacting Jessica Headen. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This document provides notice that the BLM intends to prepare an RMP Amendment with an associated EIS for the Mosey Solar Project, announces the beginning of the scoping process, and seeks public input on issues and planning criteria. The BLM is evaluating permitting solar energy facilities—including photovoltaic panels and other solar array infrastructure—within two designated utility corridors, which would require amending the existing Las Vegas RMP to realign two undeveloped utility corridors in order to allow for the placement of photovoltaic panels and other project infrastructure. The planning area is located in Clark and Nye Counties, Nevada within the BLM Southern Nevada District, southeast of the Town of Pahrump and approximately 30 miles west of Las Vegas. The proposed project encompasses approximately 3,565 acres of public lands.

A designated Energy Policy Act of 2005 Section 368 energy corridor, Segment #224–225, North Pahrump/U.S. 95 to Las Vegas/Ivanpah Valley (referred to as the Section 368 energy corridor), along the Clark County/Nye County border intersects the southern portion of the Project site. A BLM

Southern Nevada District utility corridor, established by the 1998 Las Vegas RMP (referred to as the RMP-designated utility corridor), intersects the center of the Project site. An amendment to the 1998 Las Vegas RMP is being considered to modify the alignment of these two existing, undeveloped utility corridors so they avoid the Project site. The RMP Amendment, if approved, will realign the existing Section 368 energy corridor to be outside of the Project site boundary and remove the Amargosa—Roach section of the RMP-designated utility corridor, which is approximately 96 miles in length.

On January 17, 2025, the Mosey Solar Project was determined to be a covered project under Title 41 of Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST-41) and was added to the federal permitting dashboard: <https://www.permits.performance.gov/permitting-project/fast-41-covered-projects/mosey-solar-project>.

#### **Purpose and Need**

The purpose and need for BLM's action is to respond to the application submitted by Renew Development HoldCo requesting a right-of-way (ROW) authorization to construct, operate, maintain, and decommission the Mosey Solar Project in accordance with its responsibilities under Title V of the FLPMA, 43 CFR part 2800, U.S. Department of the Interior NEPA regulations, and other applicable Federal and State laws and policies.

In accordance with FLPMA, public lands are to be managed for multiple uses that take into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and non-renewable resources. The BLM is authorized to grant rights-of-way on public lands for systems of generation, transmission, and distribution of electrical energy (FLPMA Section 501(a)(4)). The preliminary purpose and need also includes an amendment to the Las Vegas RMP to realign designated utility corridors that currently traverse the proposed project area.

#### **Preliminary Alternatives**

The Proposed Action is to consider the right-of-way application submitted by Renew Development HoldCo, LLC to construct, operate, and eventually decommission the proposed solar project and associated facilities with the potential to generate 500 megawatts of alternating current energy on 3,565 acres of BLM administered lands.

In December 2021, Renew Development HoldCo, LLC submitted a right-of-way application to the BLM

Southern Nevada District Office for the Mosey Solar Project requesting authorization to construct, operate, maintain, and decommission a 500-megawatt photovoltaic solar electric generating facility, battery storage facilities, associated generation tie-line, and access road facilities. The electricity generated would be conveyed to the Trout Canyon Substation located east of the project site via a generation (gen-tie) transmission line. If approved, project construction is estimated to take approximately 24 months.

The Proposed Action also includes an amendment to the Las Vegas RMP to realign designated utility corridors that currently traverse the proposed project area. West-Wide Energy Corridor Segment #224–225, established under authority of Section 368 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, traverses the central portion of the project area from east to west. In addition, a BLM Southern Nevada District designated utility corridor, established by the RMP, also traverses the central portion of the project area. Per 43 CFR 1610.5–3, the project must be in conformance with the RMP; therefore, a plan amendment to modify both utility corridors by realigning them outside of the Mosey Solar Project area would be required.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action include the No Action Alternative. Under the No Action Alternative, the BLM would not issue a ROW grant, the Project would not be constructed, and existing land uses on the Project site would continue. The BLM would continue to manage the land consistent with the Las Vegas RMP. Additional action alternatives have not been identified to date but would be developed by taking into consideration comments and input submitted during the application evaluation determination process and scoping. The BLM welcomes comments on all preliminary alternatives as well as suggestions for additional alternatives.

#### **Planning Criteria**

The planning criteria guide the planning effort and lay the groundwork for effects analysis by identifying the preliminary issues and their analytical frameworks. Preliminary issues for the planning area have been identified by BLM personnel and from early engagement conducted for this planning effort with Federal, State, and local agencies; Tribes; and other stakeholders. The BLM has identified preliminary planning criteria for this planning effort's analysis, which are available for public review and comment at the ePlanning website (see **ADDRESSES**).

#### **Summary of Expected Impacts**

The analysis in the EIS will be focused on the proposed solar project and associated facilities, including battery storage and transmission line construction. The BLM will evaluate the proposed Project application in accordance with the Utility-Scale Solar Energy Development Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (2024 Solar PEIS). The Project is considered a “partially exempt” Project under the 2024 Solar PEIS.

Preliminary impacts on BLM-managed lands from the proposed project and RMP amendment include loss and disturbance of desert tortoise habitat, impacts to native vegetation, impacts to recreational access and experience, impacts to cultural resources and Native American concerns, impacts to basin groundwater resources, socioeconomic effects on local communities, air quality impacts, impacts to BLM special status species plants; impacts to wildlife and migratory birds including habitat loss and potential direct mortalities during construction and operation, impacts to paleontological resources, and visual effects.

Known resources to be addressed in the analysis include, but are not limited to: vegetation and soils, threatened Mojave desert tortoise, BLM sensitive species, air quality, wildlife, migratory birds, cultural and historic resources, water resources, paleontological resources, access to public lands, recreation, socioeconomic, tribal concerns, mesquite habitat, and visual resources. Habitat for the federally listed desert tortoise is in this Project site.

#### **Anticipated Permits and Authorizations**

Along with a BLM ROW grant as required under 43 CFR 2801.9, Renew Development HoldCo, LLC anticipates needing the following authorizations and permits for the proposed Project: Biological Opinion and Incidental Take Statement from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Wildlife Special Purpose permit from Nevada Department of Wildlife; Nevada Division of Environmental Protection Stormwater and Groundwater Discharge permits, Temporary in Waterways Work permit; Wastewater Discharge Permits; Nevada Public Utilities Commission Permit to Construct; Nevada Division of Water Resources water rights modification permits; Nevada State Fire Marshal Hazardous Materials Storage permit; and Clark County and Nye County permits, as necessary. Further details on these permitting requirements may be found in the Plan of

Development for the Mosey Solar Project.

#### **Schedule for the Decision-Making Process**

The BLM will provide additional opportunities for public participation consistent with NEPA and land use planning processes, including a 90-day comment period on the Draft RMP Amendment and EIS, and a 30-day public protest period concurrent with a 60-day Governor's consistency review on the Final EIS and Proposed RMP Amendment. The Draft RMP Amendment and EIS is anticipated to be available for public review early 2027 and the Proposed RMP Amendment is anticipated to be available for public protest in late 2027 or early 2028 with an RMP Amendment (if approved) and Record of Decision in summer 2028.

#### **Public Scoping Process**

This notice of intent initiates the scoping period and public review of the planning criteria, which guide the development and analysis of the RMP Amendment and Draft EIS. The purpose of the public scoping process is to determine relevant issues that will influence the scope of the environmental analysis, including alternatives and mitigation measures, and to guide the process for developing the EIS. Federal, State, and local agencies, along with other stakeholders that may be interested or affected by the BLM's decision on this project, are invited to participate in the scoping process.

The BLM encourages comments concerning the proposed Mosey Solar Project and RMP Amendment, possible measures to minimize and/or avoid adverse environmental impacts, and any other information relevant to the Proposed Action. The BLM also requests assistance with identifying potential alternatives to the Proposed Action. As alternatives should resolve an issue with the Proposed Action, please indicate the purpose of the suggested alternative. In addition, the BLM requests the identification of potential issues that should be analyzed. Issues should be a result of the Proposed Action or Alternatives; therefore, please identify the activity along with the potential issues.

#### **Responsible Official and Nature of Decision To Be Made**

The BLM Nevada State Director is the deciding official for this planning effort. The Authorized Officer and decision maker for the project is the BLM Pahrump Field Office Manager. The nature of the decision to be made will

be the State Director's selection of land use planning decisions pursuant to this RMP Amendment for managing BLM-administered lands under the principles of multiple use and sustained yield in a manner that best addresses the purpose and need. The BLM will decide whether to grant, grant with conditions, or deny the ROW application. The BLM will also decide whether to approve a proposed amendment to the 1998 Las Vegas RMP modifying existing undeveloped utility corridors that intersect the project site, if the BLM decides to grant the ROW. Pursuant to 43 CFR 2805.10, if the BLM issues a ROW grant(s), the BLM decision maker may include terms, conditions, and stipulations determined to be in the public interest, which may include modifying the proposed use or changing the location or route of the proposed facilities. The BLM's resource management goals, objectives, opportunities, and/or conflicts will be considered in the decision process for the proposed ROW application and RMP Amendment.

#### **Interdisciplinary Team**

The BLM will use an interdisciplinary approach to develop the EIS and RMP Amendment in order to consider the variety of resource issues and concerns identified. Specialists with expertise in the following disciplines will be involved in this planning effort: air quality, archaeology, botany, fire and fuels, geology/mineral resources, hazardous materials, hydrology, invasive/non-native species, lands and realty, public health and safety, recreation/transportation, socioeconomic, noise, soils, paleontology, national trails, visual resources, and wildlife.

#### **Lead and Cooperating Agencies**

The BLM Pahrump Field Office is the lead Federal agency for this RMP Amendment and EIS and the related National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 process. Federal, State, and local agencies, and Tribes interested in the scoping process may request or be requested by the BLM, if eligible, to participate in the development of the EIS as a Cooperating Agency. The BLM Pahrump Field Office will be providing invitations to potential Federal, State, and local agencies and Tribes with jurisdiction of special expertise to participate as cooperating agencies on the project.

The BLM, through the FAST-41 review process, invited agencies to participate in the project on February 7, 2025. The following agencies are considered cooperating or participating

agencies for the project: US Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental Protection Agency, US Army Corp of Engineers, Department of Agriculture, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Transportation, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Advisory Council on Historic Properties, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Surface Mining and Reclamation, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Homeland Security-US Coast Guard, Department of Defense, and Bureau of Ocean Energy Management.

#### **Additional Information**

The BLM will utilize and coordinate the NEPA and land use planning processes for this planning effort to help support compliance with applicable procedural requirements under the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1536) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) as provided in 36 CFR 800.2(d)(3), including public involvement requirements of Section 106. The information about historic and cultural resources and threatened and endangered species within the area potentially affected by the proposed RMP Amendment will assist the BLM in identifying and evaluating impacts on such resources.

In November of 2022, the BLM invited Indian Tribal Nations to government-to-government consultation in accordance with Executive Order 13175, BLM Manual Section 1780 and other Departmental policies. The following tribes have been notified and invited to consult: the Big Pine Paiute Tribe of Owens Valley, Bishop Paiute Tribe, Chemehuevi Indian Tribe, Colorado River Indian Tribes, Fort Independence Indian Community, Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, Hopi Tribe, Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Tribe, Moapa Band of Paiutes, Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, Timbisha Shoshone Tribe, Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians, and Utu Utu Gwaitu Paiute Tribe. The BLM has requested that the tribes identify any issues or concerns regarding the proposed project, including places of religious and cultural significance that might be affected. The BLM will provide additional opportunities for government-to-government consultation during the NEPA process. Tribal concerns will be given due consideration.

Federal, State, and local agencies, along with Indian Tribal Nations and other stakeholders that may be

interested in or affected by the Project, are invited to participate in the scoping process and, if eligible, may request or be requested by the BLM to participate in the development of the environmental analysis as a cooperating agency.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

(Authority: 43 CFR 46, 43 CFR 1610.2, 43 CFR 2800)

**Justin Abernathy,**  
*Acting Nevada State Director.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15270 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4331–21–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[A2407–014–004–065516; #02509–014–004–125222; LLOR957000]

### Filing of Plats of Survey: Oregon/ Washington

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of official filing.

**SUMMARY:** The plats of survey of the following described lands are scheduled to be officially filed in the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Oregon State Office, Portland, Oregon, 30 calendar days from the date of this publication. The surveys announced in this notice, which were executed at the request of the BLM, are necessary for the management of these lands.

**DATES:** Protests must be received by the BLM Oregon State Office prior to the scheduled date of official filing, August 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** A copy of the plats may be obtained from the Public Room at the Bureau of Land Management, Oregon State Office, 1220 SW 3rd Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204, upon required payment. The plats may be viewed at this location at no cost.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Robert Femling, Chief Cadastral Surveyor, Branch of Geographic Sciences, Bureau of Land Management, 1220 SW 3rd Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204; telephone: (503) 808–6633, email: [rfemling@blm.gov](mailto:rfemling@blm.gov). Individuals in

the United States who are deaf, blind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The plats of survey of the following described lands are scheduled to be officially filed in the Bureau of Land Management, Oregon State Office, Portland, Oregon:

#### Willamette Meridian, Oregon

T. 30 S., R. 9 W., section 3, accepted April 16, 2026

T. 23 S., R. 4 W., section 29, accepted April 16, 2026

T. 17 S., R. 2 E., sections 5 and 12, accepted May 22, 2026

T. 17 S., R. 1 W., section 5, accepted May 22, 2026

#### Willamette Meridian, Washington

T. 38 N., R. 33 E., section 6, accepted May 22, 2026

T. 33 N., R. 38 E., section 7, accepted June 17, 2026

T. 8 N., R. 47 E., section 5, accepted June 17, 2026

A person or party who wishes to protest one or more plats of survey identified above must file a written notice of protest with the State Director for Oregon/Washington, Bureau of Land Management, at the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

The notice of protest must identify the specific plat(s) of survey that the person or party wishes to protest. The notice of protest must be received in the BLM Oregon State Office no later than the scheduled date of the proposed official filing plat(s) of survey being protested, see the **DATES** section earlier; if received after regular business hours, a notice of protest will be considered filed the next business day. Any notice of protest filed after the scheduled date of official filing will be untimely and will not be considered.

A written statement of reasons in support of the protest, if not filed with the notice of protest, must be filed with the BLM State Director for Oregon/Washington within 30 days after the notice of protest is received.

If a notice of protest against a plat of survey is received prior to the scheduled date of official filing, the official filing of the plat of survey identified in the notice of protest will be stayed pending consideration of the protest. A plat of survey will not be officially filed until the next business day after all timely protests have been dismissed or otherwise resolved.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in a notice of protest, you should be aware that the documents you submit, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available in their entirety at any time. While you can ask us to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

(Authority: 43 U.S.C., Chapter 3)

**Robert Femling,**  
*Chief Cadastral Surveyor of Oregon/ Washington.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15306 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4331–24–P**

## INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation Nos. 701–TA–799 and 731–TA–1795 (Preliminary)]

### Glyphosate From China; Termination of Investigations

**AGENCY:** United States International Trade Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission hereby gives notice of the termination of preliminary phase antidumping and countervailing duty investigation Nos. 701–TA–799 and 731–TA–1795.

**DATES:** July 17, 2026.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Charles Cummings (202–708–1666), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202–205–1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202–205–2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (<https://www.usitc.gov>). The public record for these investigations may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at <https://edis.usitc.gov>.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Background:** These investigations were instituted, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 733(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1671b(a) and 1673b(a)), in response to petitions filed on June 30, 2026, by Monsanto Company and its wholly owned subsidiary Ruveon LLC

(St. Louis, Missouri).<sup>1</sup> On July 17, 2026, petitioners withdrew these petitions at both the ITC and the Department of Commerce.<sup>2</sup> Therefore these investigations are hereby terminated.

*Authority:* These investigations are being terminated under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930 and pursuant to section 207.40(a) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 207.40(a)). This notice is published pursuant to section 201.10 of the Commission's rules (19 CFR 201.10).

By order of the Commission.  
Issued: July 24, 2026.  
**Sharon Bellamy,**  
*Supervisory Hearings and Information Officer.*  
[FR Doc. 2026–15235 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 7020–02–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**  
**[OMB Number 1117–0056]**

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed eCollection, eComments Requested; Proposed New Collection Request; Title—Suspicious Orders of Controlled Substances**

**AGENCY:** Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice.  
**ACTION:** 60-Day notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Department of Justice (DOJ), will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for 60 days until September 28, 2026.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
If you have additional comments especially on the estimated public

burden or associated response time, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions or additional information, please contact Heather Achbach, Regulatory Drafting and Policy Support Section, Drug Enforcement Administration; Mailing Address: 8701 Morrisette Drive, Springfield, Virginia 22152; Telephone: (571) 776–3822; Email: [DEA.PRA@dea.gov](mailto:DEA.PRA@dea.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information are encouraged. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Bureau of Justice Statistics, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Evaluate whether and if so, how the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected can be enhanced; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

*Abstract:* Section 307 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 827) requires controlled substance manufacturers and distributors to make periodic reports to DEA regarding the sale, delivery, and other disposal of certain controlled substances. These

reports help ensure a closed system of distribution for controlled substances, and are used to comply with international treaty obligations.

**Overview of This Information Collection**

1. *Type of Information Collection:* Proposed new collection request.
2. *The Title of the Form/Collection:* Suspicious Orders of Controlled Substances.
3. *The agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department sponsoring the collection:* There will be no form number. The applicable component within the Department of Justice is the Drug Enforcement Administration, Diversion Control Division.
4. *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.  
*Abstract:* This collection is a centralized database for the reporting of all suspicious orders of controlled substances. Public comment was also solicited in the “Suspicious Orders of Controlled Substances” notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM), published in the **Federal Register** at 85 FR 69282, on November 2, 2020. The NPRM had a 60-day comment period. No comments on PRA were received.
5. *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* The DEA estimates that 178 registrants will participate in this information collection. The time per response is 0.16669 minutes to complete the report.
6. *An estimate of the total annual burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* DEA estimates that this collection takes 12,324 annual burden hours.
7. *An estimate of the total annual cost burden associated with the collection, if applicable:* \$0.

| TOTAL BURDEN HOURS                   |                       |           |                        |                           |                             |               |                                    |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|
| Activity                             | Number of respondents | Frequency | Total annual responses | Time per response (hours) | Total annual burden (hours) | * Hourly rate | Monetized value of respondent time |
| Reporting of Suspicious Orders ..... | 178                   | 4,154.096 | 739,429                | 0.01666691                | 12,324                      | 60.82         | 749,546                            |
| Total .....                          | 178                   | N/A       | 739,429                | 0.01666691                | 12,324                      | \$60.82       | \$ 749,546                         |

Dated: July 27, 2026.

**Darwin Arceo,**

*Department Clearance Officer for PRA, U.S.  
Department of Justice.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15317 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4410–09–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[OMB Number 1117–0043]

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed eCollection eComments Requested; Title—Medical History and Examination

**AGENCY:** Drug Enforcement  
Administration, Department of Justice.

**ACTION:** 30-Day notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice (DOJ), will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for 30 days until August 28, 2026.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** If you have comments especially on the estimated public burden or associated response time, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions or additional information, please contact: Kannessia Jordan, Section Chief, Office of Compliance, Policy Administration Section, 700 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202, telephone: 571–776–2262, email: [Kannessia.S.Jordan@DEA.gov](mailto:Kannessia.S.Jordan@DEA.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The proposed information collection was previously published in the **Federal Register** on date, May 28, 2026, 91 FR 31746, allowing a 60-day comment period. Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information are encouraged.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information are encouraged. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the

- proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and/or
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

Written comments and recommendations for this information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function and entering either the title of the information collection or the OMB Control Number #1117–0043. This information collection request may be viewed at [www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov). Follow the instructions to view Department of Justice, information collections currently under review by OMB. Please provide a copy of your comments POC Kannessia Jordan, [kannessia.s.jordan@dea.gov](mailto:kannessia.s.jordan@dea.gov), (517) 776–2262 and reference OMB #1117–0043 in the subject line of your comments.

DOJ seeks PRA authorization for this information collection for three (3) years. OMB authorization for an ICR cannot be for more than three (3) years without renewal. The DOJ notes that information collection requirements submitted to the OMB for existing ICRs receive a month-to-month extension while they undergo review.

### Overview of This Information Collection

1. *Type of Information Collection:* Existing collection without an OMB number.
2. *Title of the Form/Collection:* Medical History and Examination.
3. *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department of Justice sponsoring the collection:* DEA–325, Drug Enforcement Administration.
4. *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Affected Public: Individuals.  
*Abstract:* The information collected is the basis for determining medical eligibility of applicants for duty in law enforcement and certain law enforcement support positions with the

Drug Enforcement Administration. This information is needed to determine the medical qualifications of applicants based upon their current and past medical history. The information obtained on the DEA–325 ensures the applicant is physically and medically capable of performing the essential duties of the position efficiently and without hazard to themselves or to others. The DEA–325 is needed as part of the required medical examination to assist physicians in making determinations as to medical clearance of applicants for positions within the DEA that are subject to medical standards, and verifies disqualifying medical condition(s) documented on the medical history and examination form.

5. *Obligation to Respond:* Required to obtain employment is positions subject to medical standards, GS–1811 (Special Agents), GS–1801 (Diversion Investigators) and GS–1320 (Forensic Chemists).

6. *Total Estimated Number of Respondents:* 1,800.

7. *Estimated Time per Respondent:* 4 hours.

8. *Frequency:* Once prior to employment.

9. *Total Estimated Annual Time Burden:* 7,200 hours.

10. *Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden:* \$0 [This is captured in #7 of the 60 day notice, in ROCIS and #13 of Supporting Statement A].

If additional information is required, contact: Darwin Arceo, Department Clearance Officer, Enterprise Portfolio Management, Justice Management Division, United States Department of Justice, Two Constitution Square, 145 N Street NE, 4W–218, Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: July 27, 2026.

**Darwin Arceo,**

*Department Clearance Officer for PRA, U.S.  
Department of Justice.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15305 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4410–09–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[OMB Number 1140–0020]

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comments Requested; Firearms Transaction Record—ATF Form 5300.9 and 5300.9A (“Form 4473”)

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; Department of Justice.

**ACTION:** Interim notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Justice (DOJ), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,

Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), will be submitting the following information collection request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). The proposed information collection was previously published in the **Federal Register**, 91 FR 25448, on May 8, 2026, allowing a 60-day comment period. This interim notice informs the public that ATF is requesting that OMB extend the existing ICR 1140–0020 without change. ATF will be publishing the usual second notice for a 30-day public comment period on proposed changes to the ICR thereafter.

ATF received comments on the proposed changes to Form 4473 under this ICR that it needs some time to address. In addition, because some of the proposed changes and comments reflect proposed revisions to associated regulations<sup>1</sup> whose public comment period does not end until a month after the 60-day ICR comment period ended, ATF needs additional time to assess those comments as well. However, the existing ICR is expiring at the end of August and thus does not afford sufficient time before it expires. As a result, ATF is publishing this interim notice to inform the public that it will be requesting that OMB extend the existing ICR without change while it addresses public comments, and will follow up with the normal 30-day notice to complete the PRA renewal process for the ICR's proposed changes. The request to extend the existing ICR is necessary to ensure continuity while ATF considers the public comments, so that federal firearms licensees continue to have a valid form on which to record firearms transactions in accordance with applicable regulations. In the subsequent 30-day notice, ATF will summarize as usual the public comments it received on the ICR's proposed changes, provide responses, and note any changes that might result. The public will have 30 days to then submit comments to OMB on the ICR, as per the usual PRA process.

**DATES:** This notice is effective July 29, 2026.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** If you need additional information or have questions on this notice, contact: Darwin Arceo, Department Clearance Officer, Policy and Planning Staff,

Justice Management Division; United States Department of Justice; Two Constitution Square, 145 N Street NE, 4W–218 Washington, DC 20530.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** DOJ will be seeking PRA authorization for this information collection for three years. OMB authorization for an ICR cannot be for more than three years without renewal. DOJ notes that information collection requirements submitted to OMB for existing ICRs receive a month-to-month extension while they undergo review; DOJ is requesting this same extension for the time it needs to respond to public comments before submitting to OMB for review.

Dated: July 27, 2026.

**Darwin Arceo,**

*Department Clearance Officer for PRA, U.S. Department of Justice.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15288 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4410–FY–P**

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC–2026–0068]

### Information Collection: Regulatory Issue Summary, Importance of Giving the NRC Advance Notice of Intent To Pursue License Renewal

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Renewal of existing information collection; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) invites public comment on the renewal of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for an existing collection of information. The information collection is entitled, “Regulatory Issue Summary, Importance of Giving the NRC Advance Notice of Intent To Pursue License Renewal.”

**DATES:** Submit comments by September 28, 2026. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the Commission is able to ensure consideration only for comments received on or before this date.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, identified by NRC–2026–0068, electronically through the Federal rulemaking website (unless this document describes a different method for submitting comments on a specific subject):

- *Federal rulemaking website:* Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC–2026–0068. Address questions about Docket IDs in *Regulations.gov* to Bridget Curran;

telephone: 301–415–1003; email: [Bridget.Curran@nrc.gov](mailto:Bridget.Curran@nrc.gov). For technical questions, contact the individual(s) listed in the “For Further Information Contact” section of this document.

For additional direction on obtaining information and submitting comments, see “Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments” in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kristen Benney, Office of the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001; telephone: 301–415–6355; email: [Infocollects.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:Infocollects.Resource@nrc.gov).

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### I. Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments

#### A. Obtaining Information

Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2026–0068 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information for this action. You may obtain publicly available information related to this action by any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC–2026–0068. A copy of the collection of information and related instructions may be obtained without charge by accessing Docket ID NRC–2026–0068 on this website.
- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select “Begin ADAMS Public Search.” For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, at 301–415–4737, or by email to [PDR.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:PDR.Resource@nrc.gov). A copy of the collection of information and related instructions may be obtained without charge by accessing ADAMS Accession No. ML26156A007. The supporting statement is available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML26156A006.

- *NRC's PDR:* The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of publicly available documents, is open by appointment. To make an appointment to visit the PDR, please send an email to [PDR.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:PDR.Resource@nrc.gov) or call 1–800–397–4209 or 301–415–4737, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. eastern time (ET), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

- *NRC's Clearance Officer:* A copy of the collection of information and related instructions may be obtained without

<sup>1</sup> These associated proposed rulemakings include but are not limited to Revising Firearms Transaction Record, “Form 4473,” 91 FR 25432 (May 8, 2026); Firearm Records Retention Periods, 91 FR 24413 (May 6, 2026); and Firearms Electronic Record-Keeping, 91 FR 25210 (May 8, 2026).

charge by contacting the NRC's Clearance Officer, Kristen Benney, Office of the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission; telephone: 301-415-6355; email: [Infocollects.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:Infocollects.Resource@nrc.gov).

### B. Submitting Comments

The NRC encourages electronic comment submission through the Federal rulemaking website (<https://www.regulations.gov>). Please include Docket ID NRC-2026-0068, in your comment submission.

The NRC cautions you not to include identifying or contact information in comment submissions that you do not want to be publicly disclosed in your comment submission. All comment submissions are posted at <https://www.regulations.gov> and entered into ADAMS. Comment submissions are not routinely edited to remove identifying or contact information.

If you are requesting or aggregating comments from other persons for submission to the NRC, then you should inform those persons not to include identifying or contact information that they do not want to be publicly disclosed in their comment submission. Your request should state that comment submissions are not routinely edited to remove such information before making the comment submissions available to the public or entering the comment into ADAMS.

## II. Background

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the NRC is requesting public comment on its intention to request the OMB's approval for the information collection summarized as follows.

1. *The title of the information collection:* Regulatory Issue Summary, Importance of Giving the NRC Advance Notice of Intent to Pursue License Renewal.
2. *OMB approval number:* 3150-0263.
3. *Type of submission:* Extension.
4. *The form number, if applicable:* Not applicable.
5. *How often the collection is required or requested:* Annually.
6. *Who will be required or asked to respond:* Commercial nuclear power plant licensees who wish to renew their operating licenses and holders of renewed licenses.
7. *The estimated number of annual responses:* 8.
8. *The estimated number of annual respondents:* 8.
9. *The estimated number of hours needed annually to comply with the information collection requirement or request:* 64.

10. *Abstract:* The NRC is issuing an extension of this regulatory issue summary (RIS) to continue to emphasize the importance of (1) providing the NRC with advance notice of licensee plans for license renewal and (2) notifying the NRC of changes in previously announced plans for license renewal. Responses to this RIS will allow the NRC staff to better plan and budget for the reviews of applications submitted in accordance with part 54 of title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), "Requirements for Renewal of Operating Licenses for Nuclear Power Plants."

## III. Specific Requests for Comments

The NRC is seeking comments that address the following questions:

1. Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the NRC to properly perform its functions? Does the information have practical utility? Please explain your answer.
2. Is the estimate of the burden of the information collection accurate? Please explain your answer.
3. Is there a way to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected?
4. How can the burden of the information collection on respondents be minimized, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology?

*Authority:* 42 U.S.C. 2011 *et seq.*

Dated: July 27, 2026.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Kristen Benney,**

*NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15304 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7590-01-P**

## POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

**[Docket Nos. K2025-1656; MC2026-321 and K2026-316]**

### New Postal Products

**AGENCY:** Postal Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission is noticing a recent Postal Service filing for the Commission's consideration concerning a negotiated service agreement. This notice informs the public of the filing, invites public comment, and takes other administrative steps.

**DATES:** *Comments are due:* August 3, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system at <https://www.prc.gov>. Those who cannot submit

comments electronically should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section by telephone for advice on filing alternatives.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

David A. Trissell, General Counsel, at 202-789-6820.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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- I. Introduction
- II. Public Proceeding(s)
- III. Summary Proceeding(s)

### I. Introduction

Pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.405, the Commission gives notice that the Postal Service filed request(s) for the Commission to consider matters related to Competitive negotiated service agreement(s). The request(s) may propose the addition of a negotiated service agreement from the Competitive product list or the modification of an existing product currently appearing on the Competitive product list.

The public portions of the Postal Service's request(s) can be accessed via the Commission's website (<http://www.prc.gov>). Non-public portions of the Postal Service's request(s), if any, can be accessed through compliance with the requirements of 39 CFR 3011.301.<sup>1</sup>

Section II identifies the docket number(s) associated with each Postal Service request, if any, that will be reviewed in a public proceeding as defined by 39 CFR 3010.101(p), the title of each such request, the request's acceptance date, and the authority cited by the Postal Service for each request. For each such request, the Commission appoints an officer of the Commission to represent the interests of the general public in the proceeding, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505 and 39 CFR 3000.114 (Public Representative). The Public Representative does not represent any individual person, entity or particular point of view, and, when Commission attorneys are appointed, no attorney-client relationship is established. Section II also establishes comment deadline(s) pertaining to each such request.

The Commission invites comments on whether the Postal Service's request(s) identified in Section II, if any, are consistent with the policies of title 39. Applicable statutory and regulatory requirements include 39 U.S.C. 3632, 39 U.S.C. 3633, 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR

<sup>1</sup> See Docket No. RM2018-3, Order Adopting Final Rules Relating to Non-Public Information, June 27, 2018, Attachment A at 19-22 (Order No. 4679).

part 3035, and 39 CFR part 3041. Comment deadline(s) for each such request, if any, appear in Section II.

Section III identifies the docket number(s) associated with each Postal Service request, if any, to add a standardized distinct product to the Competitive product list or to amend a standardized distinct product, the title of each such request, the request's acceptance date, and the authority cited by the Postal Service for each request. Standardized distinct products are negotiated service agreements that are variations of one or more Competitive products, and for which financial models, minimum rates, and classification criteria have undergone advance Commission review. *See* 39 CFR 3041.110(n); 39 CFR 3041.205(a). Such requests are reviewed in summary proceedings pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.325(c)(2) and 39 CFR 3041.505(f)(1). Pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.405(c)–(d), the Commission does not appoint a Public Representative or request public comment in proceedings to review such requests.

**II. Public Proceeding(s)**

1. *Docket No(s).*: K2025–1656; *Filing Title*: USPS Request Concerning Amendment One to Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 842, with Material Filed Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date*: July 24, 2026; *Filing Authority*: 39 CFR. 3035.105 and 39 CFR 3041.505; *Public Representative*: Jennaca Upperman; *Comments Due*: August 3, 2026.

**III. Summary Proceeding(s)**

1. *Docket No(s).*: MC2026–321 and K2026–316; *Filing Title*: USPS Request to Add New Mid-Market Standardized Distinct Product, PM–GA Contract 1052, and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date*: July 24, 2026; *Filing Authority*: 39 U.S.C. 3642 and 3633, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.325.

This Notice will be published in the **Federal Register**.

**Danielle LeFlore,**  
*Legal Assistant.*  
[FR Doc. 2026–15277 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 7710–FW–P**

**POSTAL SERVICE**

**Product Change—Priority Mail, and USPS Ground Advantage Negotiated Service Agreements**

**AGENCY:** Postal Service.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Postal Service gives notice of filing a request with the Postal Regulatory Commission to add a domestic shipping services contract to the list of Negotiated Service Agreements in the Mail Classification Schedule's Competitive Products List.

**DATES:** *Date of required notice:* July 29, 2026.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sean C. Robinson, 202–268–8405.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The United States Postal Service hereby gives notice that, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3642 and 3632(b)(3), it filed with the Postal Regulatory Commission the following requests:

| Date filed with Postal Regulatory Commission | Negotiated service agreement product category and No. | MC docket No. | K docket No. |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 07/21/26 .....                               | PM-GA 1049                                            | MC2026–317    | K2026–313.   |
| 07/23/26 .....                               | PM-GA 1050                                            | MC2026–319    | K2026–314.   |
| 07/23/26 .....                               | PM-GA 1051                                            | MC2026–320    | K2026–315.   |
| 07/24/26 .....                               | PM-GA 1052                                            | MC2026–321    | K2026–316.   |

Documents are available at [www.prc.gov](http://www.prc.gov).

**Sean C. Robinson,**  
*Attorney, Corporate and Postal Business Law.*  
[FR Doc. 2026–15238 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 7710–12–P**

POSTAL SERVICE

Sunshine Act Meetings

**TIME AND DATE:** Friday, August 7, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. EST; Friday, August 7, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. EST.

**PLACE:** Washington, DC, at U.S. Postal Service Headquarters, 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, in the Benjamin Franklin Room.

**STATUS:** Friday, August 7, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.—Closed. Friday, August 7, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.—Open.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:**

**Meeting of the Board of Governors**

*Friday, August 7, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. (Closed)*

1. Strategic Matters  
2. Financial and Operational Matters.  
3. Administrative Matters.

*Friday, August 7, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. (Open)*

1. Remarks of the Chairwoman of the Board of Governors.  
2. Remarks of the Postmaster General and CEO.  
3. Committee Reports.  
4. Quarterly Financial Report.  
5. Quarterly Service Performance Report.  
6. Approval of the Meeting Minutes.  
7. Approval of the Tentative Agenda for the November Open Meeting.

*General Counsel Certification:* The General Counsel of the United States Postal Service has certified that the meeting may be closed under the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Lucy C. Trout, Secretary of the Board of

Governors, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Washington, DC 20260–1000. Telephone: (202) 268–4800.

**Lucy C. Trout,**  
*Secretary.*  
[FR Doc. 2026–15307 Filed 7–27–26; 4:15 pm]  
**BILLING CODE 7710–12–P**

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**[Release No. 34–105988; File No. SR–TXSE–2026–006]**

**Self-Regulatory Organizations; Texas Stock Exchange LLC; Order Approving a Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment No. 1, To Amend Certain Parts of Its Opening and Closing Auctions**

July 24, 2026.

**I. Introduction**

On April 17, 2026, Texas Stock Exchange LLC (the “Exchange” or “TXSE”) filed with the Securities and

Exchange Commission (“Commission”), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”),<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> a proposed rule change to amend certain parts of its opening and closing auctions. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on April 29, 2026.<sup>3</sup> On June 10, 2026, the Commission designated a longer period within which to take action on the proposed rule change.<sup>4</sup> On June 30, 2026, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change, which replaced and superseded the Initial Proposal in its entirety. Amendment No. 1 was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on July 7, 2026.<sup>5</sup> The Commission did not receive any comments regarding the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1. This order approves the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1.

## II. Description of the Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment No. 1<sup>6</sup>

As described in more detail in the Notice,<sup>7</sup> TXSE proposes to amend TXSE Rule 11.022 to amend the Exchange’s opening auction (“Opening Auction”) and closing auction (“Closing Auction”) processes, including changes to its late limit order types and the information disseminated prior to the auctions.

Currently, between 9:28 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. and 3:59 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Users can submit late limit orders (“Late Auction Orders”)<sup>8</sup> for participation in the Opening Auction and Closing Auction, respectively.<sup>9</sup> To the extent that a Late Auction Order is priced more aggressively than the National Best Bid (“NBB”) (for bids) or National Best Offer (“NBO”) (for offers), the price of such Late Auction Order bids and offers will be the NBB or NBO, respectively.<sup>10</sup>

Where the NBB or NBO becomes more aggressive, the limit price of the Late Auction Order bid or offer will be adjusted to the more aggressive price to the extent that the more aggressive price is not more aggressive than the original limit price the User entered.<sup>11</sup> The limit price will not be adjusted to a less aggressive price, unless otherwise provided by Exchange Rules.<sup>12</sup> If there is no NBB or NBO, the Late Auction Order bid or offer, respectively, will assume its entered limit price.<sup>13</sup>

The Exchange is proposing to make changes to its Late Auction Orders such that they will be constrained by recent transaction- and/or quotation-based calculations (“Participation Bands”) rather than by the NBBO.<sup>14</sup> The Exchange states that the Participation Bands will be derived from a security’s own recent market activity and are designed to be self-calibrating such that the Participation Bands will be narrower for less volatile securities and wider for more volatile ones.<sup>15</sup> The Participation Bands, as well as the Upper Band Auction Interest<sup>16</sup> and Lower Band Auction Interest,<sup>17</sup> will be recalculated

<sup>11</sup> See *id.*

<sup>12</sup> See *id.*

<sup>13</sup> See *id.*

<sup>14</sup> See *id.*

<sup>15</sup> See *id.* at 41709. The Participation Bands will be calculated utilizing real-time transaction and/or quotation data from the consolidated tape for the applicable security and a mathematical calculation to determine a dynamic, symbol-specific price range within the Collar Price Range (as defined in TXSE Rule 11.022(a)(6)) and will be disseminated no less frequently than every five seconds between 9:28 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. (for Opening Auctions) and 3:58 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. (for Closing Auctions). In the event trade or quote data do not satisfy the Exchange’s objective “quality gates,” the Exchange may use a reference price as set forth in proposed TXSE Rule 11.022(a)(20). See *id.* at 41709–10. The formula and parameters, including permissible ranges, applicable to the calculation of the Participation Bands are set forth in proposed TXSE Rule 11.022(a)(20). See also Notice, *supra* note 5, at 41709 nn. 19–22 and accompanying text. The Exchange will provide a circular to its members no fewer than 30 calendar days prior to initial implementation of the Participation Bands setting forth, in accordance with the permissible ranges listed in TXSE Rule 11.022(a)(20), the specific parameters, formulas, and values necessary to calculate the Participation Bands. In the event of any changes to these parameters or values, the Exchange will provide notice at least five business days prior to the effective date, except that certain specified changes that would generally result in narrower Participation Bands would require notice only one business day prior to the effective date. See *id.* at 41709 n. 19.

<sup>16</sup> Proposed Rule 11.022(a)(26) defines “Upper Band Auction Interest” to mean the number of Eligible Auction Order shares to buy that are priced equal to or more aggressively than the Upper Band and the number of Eligible Auction Order shares to sell that are priced equal to or more aggressively than the Upper Band. See Notice, *supra* note 5, at 41710 n. 27.

<sup>17</sup> Proposed in Rule 11.022(a)(15) defines “Lower Band Auction Interest” to mean the number of

no less than frequently than every five seconds and disseminated at regular intervals during the auction period and will be calculated based on specified parameters and formulas, as more fully described in Amendment No. 1.<sup>18</sup>

Under the proposal, Late Auction Orders will continue to represent TXSE limit orders that are designated for execution only in the Opening or Closing Auction, as applicable. To the extent that Late Auction Order bids and offers received by the Exchange have a limit price that is more aggressive than the Upper Band or Lower Band, respectively, immediately prior to the Opening or Closing Auction, as applicable, the price of such bid or offer will be adjusted to be equal to the Upper Band or Lower Band, respectively.

The Exchange is also proposing to amend Rule 11.022 to provide: (i) that Market-On-Close (“MOC”) and Limit-On-Close (“LOC”) may be submitted until 3:58 p.m. instead of 3:59 p.m.; (ii) the proposed LOC.L (formerly LLOC) orders may be submitted to the Exchange starting at 3:58 p.m. rather than 3:59 p.m.; and (iii) that Eligible Auction Orders<sup>19</sup> may not be modified or cancelled after 3:58 p.m. (whereas they were previously non-cancellable after 3:59 p.m.). Similarly, the Exchange also proposes to delete text that permitted Regular Hours Only (“RHO”) orders to be modified between 9:28 a.m. and 9:30 a.m., so that all Eligible Auction Orders designated for the Opening Auction would therefore not be permitted to be modified or cancelled in the two minutes prior to the Opening Auction.<sup>20</sup>

In addition, the Exchange is proposing changes to the information related to Opening and Closing Auctions that is disseminated prior to the auctions.<sup>21</sup> Instead of the information it currently disseminates in advance of an auction,<sup>22</sup> the Exchange is proposing to disseminate two types of information in two separate periods. First, it proposes to disseminate number of shares that would match at the

Eligible Auction Order shares to buy that are priced equal to or more aggressively than the Upper Band and the number of Eligible Auction Order shares to sell that are priced equal to or more aggressive than the Upper Band. See Notice, *supra* note 5, at 41710 n. 26.

<sup>18</sup> See *id.* at 41709, 41710. The Notice provides examples of how the Opening and Closing Auctions will operate using the Participation Bands, as well as the proposed tiebreaker discussed below. See *id.* at 41711–13.

<sup>19</sup> See Notice, *supra* note 5, at 41709 n.18.

<sup>20</sup> See *id.* at 41708.

<sup>21</sup> See *id.*

<sup>22</sup> See *id.* at 41710.

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

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

<sup>3</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 105309 (Apr. 24, 2026), 91 FR 23128 (“Initial Proposal”).

<sup>4</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 105654, 91 FR 36019 (June 15, 2026). The Commission designated July 28, 2026, as the date by which the Commission shall approve, disapprove, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove the proposed rule change.

<sup>5</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 105837 (July 1, 2026), 91 FR 41707 (“Notice”).

<sup>6</sup> Unless otherwise stated, capitalized terms used herein are defined in the Notice.

<sup>7</sup> See *supra* note 5.

<sup>8</sup> Currently, TXSE has Late-Limit-On-Close (“LLOC”) and Late-Limit-On-Open (“LLOO”) order types. See Notice, *supra* note 5, at 41708 nn. 8–9. TXSE is also proposing to change the names of these order types to Limit-On-Close-Late (“LOC.L”) and Limit-On-Open-Late (“LOO.L”), respectively. See Notice, *supra* note 5, at 41708–09.

<sup>9</sup> See Notice, *supra* note 5, at 41709.

<sup>10</sup> See *id.*

Auction Only Price<sup>23</sup> (“Matched Shares”), and the side for which there are more shares available if the Closing Auction took place at the Auction Only Price (“Offset Side”) every five seconds between 8:00 a.m. and 9:28 a.m. for Opening Auctions and between 3:00 p.m. and 3:58 p.m. for Closing Auctions.<sup>24</sup> Second, beginning at 9:28 a.m. for Opening Auctions and 3:58 p.m. for Closing Auctions, the Exchange will disseminate the Participation Bands, the Lower Band Auction Interest, and the Upper Band Auction Interest. Such data will be updated no less frequently than every five seconds.

Finally, the Exchange is proposing to add a tiebreaker step to the waterfall design it uses to break ties in determining the TXSE Official Opening Price, TXSE Official Closing Price, and to the Auction Only Price.<sup>25</sup>

### III. Discussion and Commission Findings

After careful review, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with requirements of Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities exchange.<sup>26</sup> In particular, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>27</sup> which requires, among other things, that rules of an exchange be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and in general, to protect investors and the public interest, and not be designed to

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

In support of its proposal, the Exchange states that its proposal will enhance the price discovery process and make the Exchange’s auction process more robust.<sup>28</sup> The Exchange states that the proposed changes to the functionality of Late Auction Orders, the new data points disseminated in advance of an auction, and the changes to the timing and ability to cancel orders eligible to participate in the auctions, along with the proposed use of Participation Bands are designed to collectively provide a “deterministic, market-based solution” to creating orderly auctions.<sup>29</sup> Additionally, the Exchange states that the proposed changes are similar to other auction functionality in that they are intended to allow liquidity providers to participate in the auction process without impacting the auction price in a way that diverges from an exchange’s chosen measure of “current market conditions.”<sup>30</sup>

The Exchange has designed its Opening and Closing Auctions to be conducted within specified periods of time and in accordance with specified order entry, cancellation, pricing, and execution priority parameters. The proposed changes are designed to limit price movement through the prohibition on modifications and cancellations of Auction Eligible Orders during certain periods ahead of the Opening and Closing Auctions on the Exchange. The proposed changes to the Late Auction Orders could allow such orders to be entered at prices that are more likely to be able to participate in the auctions while still mitigating volatility around the Opening and Closing Auctions by constraining such orders’ limit prices based on the Participation Bands. Further, the proposed changes also are intended to provide Users with information about the potential price at which orders designated for execution in the Opening and Closing Auctions may execute. By disseminating Matched Shares and Offset Side information in advance of the Opening and Closing Auctions, as well as regularly updated Participation Bands, Lower Band Auction Interest, and Upper Band

Auction Interest, the Exchange will provide visibility into buy and sell interest to assist market participants in making decisions regarding size, direction, and pricing of orders they may choose to enter in advance of the Opening or Closing Auction, which should enhance transparency and promote competition among orders by facilitating the public dissemination of current trading interest in a particular security during Opening and Closing Auctions. These proposed changes may assist the price discovery process, should help minimize price volatility, and should promote a fair and orderly market for securities listed on the Exchange.

### IV. Conclusion

For the reasons set forth above, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1, is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities exchange, and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act.<sup>31</sup>

*It is therefore ordered*, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,<sup>32</sup> that the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1, (SR-TXSE-2026-006) be, and hereby is approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>33</sup>

**Sherry R. Haywood,**  
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026-15243 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[OMB Control No. 3235-0485]

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension: Rule 15c2-1

*Upon Written Request, Copies Available From:* Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of FOIA Services, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-2736

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (“PRA”) (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) is soliciting comments on the existing collection of information provided for in Rule 15c2-1, (17 CFR 240.15c2-1), under the Securities

<sup>23</sup> As defined in proposed TXSE Rule 11.022(a)(2), the term “Auction Only Price” means the price at which the most shares from the Auction Book would match. In the event of a volume-based tie at multiple price levels, the Auction Only Price will be the price which results in the minimum total imbalance. In the event of a volume-based tie and a tie in minimum total imbalance at multiple price levels, the Closing Auction price will be the entered price at which shares will remain unexecuted in the Closing Auction. In the event of a volume based tie, a tie in minimum total imbalance, and a tie in shares unexecuted at multiple price levels, the Auction Only Price will be the price closest to the Volume Based Tie Breaker (as defined in the TXSE Rules). See Notice, *supra* note 5, at 41711 n. 32.

<sup>24</sup> See Notice, *supra* note 5, at 41710.

<sup>25</sup> See *id.* at 41708. According to the Exchange, this proposed tiebreaker is substantively identical to Nasdaq Rule 4754(b)(2)(C), which relates to Nasdaq’s closing auction. See Notice, *supra* note 5, at 41711.

<sup>26</sup> In approving this proposed rule change the Commission notes that it has considered the proposed rule’s impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

<sup>27</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

<sup>28</sup> See Notice, *supra* note 5, at 41708.

<sup>29</sup> See *id.* at 41714.

<sup>30</sup> See Notice, *supra* note 5, at 41713. For example, the Exchange states this process is conceptually similar to both the current functionality (in that it gates Late Auction Orders based on market conditions measured by the NBB and NBO) and the New York Stock Exchange LLC’s approach for its Designated Market Maker (“DMM”) closing auction process, which uses a market-conditions-based price range at which the DMM can choose the auction price. See *id.* at 41713-14.

<sup>31</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

<sup>32</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)

<sup>33</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a *et seq.*). The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”) for extension and approval.

Rule 15c2–1 prohibits broker-dealers from commingling under the same lien securities of their margin customers with securities of the broker-dealer and those of other customers without their written consent. The rule also prohibits the re-hypothecation of customers’ margin securities for a sum in excess of the customer’s aggregate indebtedness. Respondents must collect information necessary to prevent the re-hypothecation of customer securities, issue and retain copies of notices of hypothecation of customer securities, and collect written consents from customers.

There are approximately 54 respondents. Each of these respondents makes an estimated 45 responses per year and each response takes approximately 0.5 hours to complete, resulting in an industry-wide annual burden of approximately 1,215 hours.

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.

Written comments are invited on: (a) whether this proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the SEC, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the SEC’s estimate of the burden imposed by the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and the assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated, electronic collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please direct your written comments on this 60-Day Collection Notice to Austin Gerig, Director/Chief Data Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Tanya Ruttenberg via email to [PaperworkReductionAct@sec.gov](mailto:PaperworkReductionAct@sec.gov) by September 28, 2026.

Dated: July 27, 2026.

**Sherry R. Haywood,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15281 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8011–01–P**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–105984; File No. SR–CboeEDGA–2026–022]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe EDGA Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Designation of a Longer Period for Commission Action on Proceedings To Determine Whether To Approve or Disapprove a Proposed Rule Change To Amend Rule 11.8(c) Regarding Intermarket Sweep Orders

July 24, 2026.

On June 5, 2026, Cboe EDGA Exchange, Inc. (“EDGA”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”), 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> a proposed rule change (a) to amend Rule 11.8(c) to: (i) permit an Intermarket Sweep Order to be entered as a Non-Displayed Order and (ii) to establish the price level at which the System will consider an Intermarket Sweep Order available for other orders to be entered and (b) to amend Rule 11.6(l)(3) to permit Non-Displayed Orders to re-price to more aggressive prices. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on June 24, 2026. <sup>3</sup>

Section 19(b)(2) of the Act <sup>4</sup> provides that within 45 days of the publication of notice of the filing of a proposed rule change, or within such longer period up to 90 days as the Commission may designate if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission shall either approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved. The 45th day after publication of the notice for this proposed rule change is August 8, 2026. The Commission is extending this 45-day time period.

The Commission finds it appropriate to designate a longer period within which to take action on the proposed rule change so that it has sufficient time to consider the proposed rule change and the issues raised therein. Accordingly, the Commission, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act, <sup>5</sup>

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

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

<sup>3</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 105725 (June 18, 2026), 91 FR 38045. The Commission has received no comment letters on the proposed rule change.

<sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

<sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

designates September 22, 2026, as the date by which the Commission shall either approve or disapprove, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove, the proposed rule change (File No. SR–CboeEDGA–2026–022).

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. <sup>6</sup>

**Sherry R. Haywood,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15250 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8011–01–P**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 36268; File No. 812–15954]

### Cohen & Steers Realty Shares, Inc., et al.

July 24, 2026.

**AGENCY:** Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission” or “SEC”).

**ACTION:** Notice.

Notice of an application under section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (“Act”) for an exemption from sections 2(a)(32), 5(a)(1), 18(f)(1), 18(i), 22(d) and 22(e) of the Act and rule 22c–1 under the Act and under sections 6(c) and 17(b) of the Act for an exemption from sections 17(a)(1) and 17(a)(2) of the Act.

**SUMMARY OF APPLICATION:** Applicants request an order (“Order”) that would permit a registered open-end management investment company to offer one class of exchange-traded shares that operates as an exchange-traded fund (an “ETF Class,” and such shares, “ETF Shares”) and one or more classes of shares that are not exchange-traded (each such class, a “Mutual Fund Class,” and such shares, “Mutual Fund Shares,” and each such fund, a “Multi-Class ETF Fund”). The Order would provide Multi-Class ETF Funds with two broad categories of relief: (i) the relief necessary to permit standard exchange-traded fund (“ETF”) operations consistent with Rule 6c–11 under the Act (“ETF Operational Relief”) and (ii) the relief necessary for a fund to offer an ETF Class and one or more Mutual Fund Classes (“ETF Class Relief”).

**APPLICANTS:** Cohen & Steers Realty Shares, Inc., Cohen & Steers Institutional Realty Shares, Inc., Cohen & Steers Real Estate Securities Fund, Inc., Cohen & Steers Global Realty

<sup>6</sup> 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(31).

Shares, Inc., Cohen & Steers International Realty Fund, Inc., Cohen & Steers Global Infrastructure Fund, Inc., Cohen & Steers Future of Energy Fund, Inc., Cohen & Steers Preferred Securities and Income Fund, Inc., Cohen & Steers Low Duration Preferred and Income Fund, Inc., Cohen & Steers Real Assets Fund, Inc., Cohen & Steers Preferred Securities and Income SMA Shares, Inc., Cohen & Steers ETF Trust, and Cohen & Steers Capital Management, Inc.

**FILING DATES:** The application was filed on December 12, 2025.

**HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING:** An order granting the requested relief will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing on any application by emailing the SEC's Secretary at *Secretarys-Office@sec.gov* and serving the Applicants with a copy of the request by email, if an email address is listed for the relevant Applicant below, or personally or by mail, if a physical address is listed for the relevant Applicant below. The email should include the file number referenced above. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m., Eastern time, on August 18, 2026, and should be accompanied by proof of service on the Applicants, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Pursuant to rule 0-5 under the Act, hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, any facts bearing upon the desirability of a hearing on the matter, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by emailing the Commission's Secretary at *Secretarys-Office@sec.gov*.

**ADDRESSES:** The Commission: *Secretarys-Office@sec.gov*. Applicants: Dana A. DeVivo, Cohen & Steers Capital Management, Inc., *ddevivo@cohenandsteers.com* and Michael G. Doherty, Esq., Ropes & Gray LLP, *michael.doherty@ropesgray.com*.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Laura L. Solomon, Senior Counsel, or Trace W. Rakestraw, Senior Special Counsel, at (202) 551-6825 (Division of Investment Management, Chief Counsel's Office).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** For Applicants' representations, legal analysis, and conditions, please refer to Applicants' application, filed December 12, 2025, which may be obtained via the Commission's website by searching for the file number at the top of this document, or for an Applicant using the Company name search field, on the SEC's EDGAR system. The SEC's

EDGAR system may be searched at <https://www.sec.gov/search-filings>. You may also call the SEC's Office of Investor Education and Assistance at (202) 551-8090.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, under delegated authority.

**Sherry R. Haywood,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15245 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8011-01-P**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-105982; File No. SR-CboeEDGX-2026-045]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Designation of a Longer Period for Commission Action on Proceedings To Determine Whether To Approve or Disapprove a Proposed Rule Change To Amend Rule 11.8(c) Regarding Intermarket Sweep Orders

July 24, 2026.

On June 5, 2026, Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc. ("EDGX") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), 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> a proposed rule change (a) to amend Rule 11.8(c) to: (i) permit an Intermarket Sweep Order to be entered as a Non-Displayed Order and (ii) to establish the price level at which the System will consider an Intermarket Sweep Order available for other orders to be entered and (b) to amend Rule 11.6(l)(3) to permit Non-Displayed Orders to re-price to more aggressive prices. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on June 24, 2026.<sup>3</sup>

Section 19(b)(2) of the Act<sup>4</sup> provides that within 45 days of the publication of notice of the filing of a proposed rule change, or within such longer period up to 90 days as the Commission may designate if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission shall either approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether the

proposed rule change should be disapproved. The 45th day after publication of the notice for this proposed rule change is August 8, 2026. The Commission is extending this 45-day time period.

The Commission finds it appropriate to designate a longer period within which to take action on the proposed rule change so that it has sufficient time to consider the proposed rule change and the issues raised therein. Accordingly, the Commission, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,<sup>5</sup> designates September 22, 2026, as the date by which the Commission shall either approve or disapprove, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove, the proposed rule change (File No. SR-CboeEDGX-2026-045).

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>6</sup>

**Sherry R. Haywood,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15246 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8011-01-P**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-105986; File No. SR-ICC-2026-002]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; ICE Clear Credit LLC; Order Approving Proposed Rule Change Relating to the Treasury Clearing Rules and Treasury Clearing Service Treasury Operations Policies and Liquidity Risk Management Framework

July 24, 2026.

#### I. Introduction

On May 7, 2026, ICE Clear Credit LLC ("ICC") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission" or "SEC"), 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> a proposed rule change to the Treasury Clearing Rules ("Treasury Rules"), Treasury Clearing Service Liquidity Risk Management Framework ("Treasury LRMF"), and Treasury Clearing Service Treasury Operations Policies and Procedures ("Treasury Operations Policy") (the "Proposed Rule Change"). The Proposed Rule Change was published for comment in the **Federal**

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

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

<sup>3</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 105726 (June 18, 2026), 91 FR 38054. The Commission has received no comment letters on the proposed rule change.

<sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

<sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

<sup>6</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(31).

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

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

**Register** on May 26, 2026.<sup>3</sup> On July 9, 2026, the Commission designated a longer period for Commission action on the Proposed Rule Change, until August 24, 2026.<sup>4</sup> The Commission has received comments on the Proposed Rule Change.<sup>5</sup> For the reasons discussed below, the Commission is approving the Proposed Rule Change.

## II. Description of the Proposed Rule Change

ICC is a clearing agency registered with the Commission that provides central counterparty (“CCP”) services for security-based swaps, including credit default swaps (“CDS”) and options on CDS. In January 2026, the Commission issued an order granting ICC’s application for registration as a clearing agency to provide CCP services for transactions involving U.S. Treasury securities (“Treasury Clearing Business”).<sup>6</sup> As such, ICC interposes itself as the buyer to every seller and the seller to every buyer for certain transactions involving U.S. Treasury securities, thus exposing it to certain risks arising from providing clearing and settlement services to its clearing participants. Such risks include liquidity risk, which is the risk that ICC may not have enough cash to meet its obligations.

ICC manages these risks and provides for the clearing of transactions involving U.S. Treasury securities more generally, through the application of its Treasury Rules, Treasury Operations Policy, and Treasury LRMF. The Proposed Rule Change would make revisions and updates to these documents, as described below.

### A. Changes to the Treasury Rules

ICC proposes several changes throughout its Treasury Rules. These changes are described below, grouped by the relevant section of the Treasury Rules. Moreover, ICC would fix certain typographical and reference errors throughout the Treasury Rules.

#### Preamble

In the Preamble, ICC would add that prior to the establishment of the Treasury Risk Committee, the Board may designate another committee to

perform the functions assigned to the Treasury Risk Committee under the Treasury Rules. In furtherance of this change, the Board has determined that the Board Risk Committee would perform the functions of the Treasury Risk Committee, subject to approval and completion of all applicable regulatory processes.<sup>7</sup> This proposed change accounts for the period before ICC establishes the Treasury Risk Committee by ensuring that the committee’s duties are handled during the time period prior to when it is established.<sup>8</sup> ICC would also change the preamble to clarify that the Treasury Rules do not apply to ICC’s credit default swap clearing business or operations (“CDS Clearing Business”) or to the rights or obligations of persons with respect thereto, and vice versa.<sup>9</sup> In the preamble and throughout the Treasury Rules, ICC proposes replacing “credit default swap clearing business” with the “CDS Clearing Business.”

#### Chapter 1

The Proposed Rule Change would also edit the definitions in Chapter 1 of the Treasury Rules. First, ICC would modify certain definitions that relate to ICC’s allocation of non-default losses pursuant to Treasury Rule 811. Currently, the definitions for Custodial Loss Resources and Investment Loss Resources do not identify an amount of resources available to be applied in each respective category. ICC would amend the definition of Custodial Loss Resources to identify \$20 million as the amount available to be applied to Custodial Losses pursuant to Treasury Rule 811. Similarly, ICC would amend the definition of Investment Loss Resources to identify \$10 million as the amount available to be applied to Investment Losses pursuant to Treasury Rule 811.<sup>10</sup> ICC stated in the Notice that it determined these amounts as risk-based in light of ICC’s potential exposure to such losses and its experience with its CDS Clearing Business.<sup>11</sup>

Second, ICC would modify several definitions as they relate to the governance of ICC. ICC has established a Nominating Committee of its Board of Managers, and current Treasury Rule 508 references the Nominating Committee. The Treasury Rules do not currently have any definition for the Nominating Committee, however. Accordingly, ICC would add a definition for the Nominating

Committee, which would mean the committee responsible for evaluating the independence and fitness of the persons proposed to be designated to be Managers of ICC. ICC also would add a definition for the Nominating Committee Charter, which would mean the charter of the Nominating Committee.

Certain features of ICC’s governance are triggered when ICC reaches the Treasury Governance Commencement Date. For example, effective as of the Treasury Governance Commencement Date, the Treasury Risk Committee will have authority to designate two members for election to the ICC Board of Managers.<sup>12</sup> The term Treasury Governance Commencement Date is currently defined in ICC’s operating agreement,<sup>13</sup> and ICC would add that definition to the Treasury Rules. Treasury Governance Commencement Date would be defined as the date of the first annual Board election that occurs after certain thresholds and timelines with respect to Treasury Clearing Business revenue and market share are achieved. ICC would also define terms used within the definition of Treasury Governance Commencement Date, such as Treasury Repo Clearing Deadline and Treasury Clearing Market Share.<sup>14</sup>

ICC also would remove defined terms related to a Default Committee. Although ICC utilizes a Default Committee for the CDS Clearing Business, ICC does not plan to establish a Treasury Default Committee for the Treasury Business because it does not believe that U.S. Treasury securities and the U.S. Treasury market structure require the same default committee framework that ICC developed for the CDS market.<sup>15</sup>

Finally, ICC would remove defined terms that are not used anywhere in the Treasury Rules.<sup>16</sup> For example, there is currently a defined term “Relevant Persons”, which has the meaning specified in Rule 412(f). There is no Rule 412 in the Treasury Rules, and the

<sup>3</sup> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 105526 (May 20, 2026), 91 FR 30751 (May 26, 2026) (File No. SR-ICC-2026-002) (“Notice”).

<sup>4</sup> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 105871 (July 9, 2026), 91 FR 43139 (July 19, 2026) (File No. SR-ICC-2026-002).

<sup>5</sup> Comments on the Proposed Rule Change are available at <https://www.sec.gov/rules-regulations/public-comments/sr-icc-2026-002>.

<sup>6</sup> See Exchange Act Release No. 104762 (Jan. 30, 2026), 91 FR 5528 (Feb. 6, 2026) (File No. 600-45) (“Application Order”).

<sup>7</sup> Notice, 91 FR at 30752, n.8.

<sup>8</sup> *Id.* at 30752.

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

<sup>10</sup> *Id.*

<sup>11</sup> *Id.*

<sup>12</sup> Application Order, 91 FR at 5532.

<sup>13</sup> Application Order, 91 FR at 5532, n. 63.

<sup>14</sup> ICC would define Treasury Repo Clearing Deadline as the date adopted by the Commission by which all Eligible Secondary Market Transactions (as defined in Rule 303) that are repurchase or reverse repurchase agreements must be cleared by a central counterparty. ICC would define Treasury Clearing Market Share as for a specified period, a fraction, the numerator of which is the publicly reported aggregate notional value of the Treasury products cleared by ICC in such period, and the denominator of which is the publicly reported aggregate notional value of the Treasury products cleared by all Treasury central counterparties in such period.

<sup>15</sup> Notice, 91 FR at 30752.

<sup>16</sup> *Id.*

term “Relevant Persons” is not used in any other Treasury Rule.

#### Chapter 2

In Chapter 2, ICC would revise Rule 201(c). Currently, this rule lists some of the entity types that may be approved as Treasury Participants including registered broker-dealers, registered investment companies, banks, insurance companies, or such other person or class of persons that the Commission may designate as appropriate. The Proposed Rule Change would add Futures Commission Merchants and registered clearing agencies to the list in Rule 201(c).<sup>17</sup>

#### Chapter 3

Chapter 3 of the Treasury Rules describes how ICC accepts transactions for clearing and the legal consequences of ICC’s acceptance of a transaction for clearing. Among other things, Chapter 3 includes a requirement that each Treasury Participant submit to ICC or another covered clearing agency for clearing each transaction that is an Eligible Secondary Market Transaction, as required by Commission Rule 17ad–22(e)(18)(iv).<sup>18</sup> This requirement is currently reflected in Treasury Rule 303. The current definition of Eligible Secondary Market Transaction, as found in Rule 303, reproduces the definition from Commission Rule 17ad–22(e)(18)(iv).<sup>19</sup> To provide additional flexibility should the Commission change its definition, ICC would replace the current definition with text providing that the term has the meaning specified in SEC Rule 17ad–22(a) (as interpreted by the Commission and its staff) from time to time.<sup>20</sup> Additionally, ICC would remove other related definitions from current Rule 303(a) that are also included in SEC Rule 17ad–22(a).<sup>21</sup>

ICC would also add a new Rule 312(c). This provision would clarify that no person has any recourse or claim, in respect of any amount or liability relating to payment or delivery obligations with respect to Contracts or under the Treasury Rules, to any margin, guaranty fund, ICC contribution, or other amount or assets held in connection with the CDS Clearing Business. ICC states that this addition would emphasize the separation of the CDS Clearing Business from the Treasury Clearing Business.<sup>22</sup>

Next, ICC would make several changes related to the treatment of client-related positions in Rule 316. First, in Rule 316(e), ICC would replace the current language describing client defaults with a reference to a new defined term for “Client Default.” This term would be defined in Rule 316(g).

Second, in Rule 316(g), in response to industry feedback, ICC would change how it handles client-related positions during a default.<sup>23</sup> Currently, ICC manages the close-out of the defaulting client’s positions unless the Treasury Participant carrying such positions elects to do so. The Proposed Rule Change would have the Treasury Participant manage the close-out of the defaulting client’s positions, unless the Treasury Participant elects to have ICC do so.<sup>24</sup> To align with this proposed change, ICC also would modify 316(g)(ii), which determines the responsibility of a Treasury Participant for the performance of its defaulting client’s positions until close-out.<sup>25</sup>

Third, ICC would move language regarding default associated with a Net Client IM Account and default of a Treasury Participant to separate paragraphs in new Rule 316(g)(iii) and (iv). New 316(g)(iii) would prohibit a Treasury Participant from electing for ICC to manage a client default if the default relates to positions associated with a Net Client IM Account, a restriction which is currently found in the main paragraph of existing Rule 316(g).<sup>26</sup> New 316(g)(iv) would state that Rule 316(g) does not apply to the default of a Treasury Participant, as that process is managed by ICC pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Treasury Rules.

Fourth, in response to industry feedback requesting assurances that cash and securities needed to cover the Non-Participant Party’s reimbursement obligations to the Treasury Participant do not dissipate, ICC also proposes a new Rule 316(h).<sup>27</sup> This proposed addition would state that, for the

avoidance of doubt, Rule 316 does not preclude a Treasury Participant from settling a client-related position in accordance with the Treasury Rules notwithstanding the occurrence of a client default. The proposed provision would further indicate that in the case of a client default with respect to a Non-Participant-Party that has established an Individual Client Direct Settlement Account, ICC will direct for settlement to occur to and from the house account of the clearing Treasury Participant (or otherwise directed by such Treasury Participant).

#### Chapter 4

Chapter 4 of the Treasury Rules describes ICC’s margin requirements, including the types of margin and how ICC collects such margin. Current Rule 401 contains a number of definitions related to margin. For example, Eligible Margin, in the case of satisfaction of an Initial Margin Requirement, is defined to include dollars or other currencies acceptable to ICC, as specified in Schedule 401. ICC would add to this definition the phrase “other assets,” such that an Initial Margin Requirement could be met with dollars, *other assets*, or other currencies acceptable to ICC. ICC would include other assets in this definition to align with Schedule 401 which currently allows U.S. Treasuries to be used to satisfy Initial Margin requirements.<sup>28</sup>

Rule 401(l) describes the effect of the settlement of a transfer of a Variation Payment. A Variation Payment is a payment obligation resulting from changes in the market value of a Treasury Participant’s own positions and the positions of the Treasury Participant’s Clients.<sup>29</sup> Currently, Rule 401(l) provides that once settlement of a Variation Payment is final, the fair value of the outstanding exposure is reset to zero. ICC modeled this provision on a comparable rule for the CDS Business.<sup>30</sup> ICC would revise this text to remove the reference to outstanding exposures and the provision that once settlement of a transfer of variation payment is final, the fair value of the outstanding exposures for the relevant contracts will be reset to zero. ICC would change the provision to indicate that once settlement of a transfer of variation payment is final, the margin requirement for the relevant contracts is reset to zero. ICC states that this change would more accurately reflect the mechanics of the Treasury market,

<sup>23</sup> *Id.*

<sup>24</sup> Under Rule 316(g), a Treasury Participant would elect to do so by providing ICC a written certification that a client default has occurred.

<sup>25</sup> Notice, 91 FR at 30753.

<sup>26</sup> As ICC explained in the Notice, a Net Client IM Account is an account in which a Treasury Participant holds, on a net omnibus basis, Initial Margin posted for client-related positions. ICC has no responsibility for investment decisions by a Treasury Participant with respect to assets in a Net Client IM Account and has no obligation to monitor the value of assets in that account or to inquire into any instructions or directions with respect to that account. As such, ICC believes the Treasury Participant maintaining the Net Client IM Account is best positioned to manage a default associated with positions in such account. Notice, 91 FR at 30753, n.19 and n.20.

<sup>27</sup> Notice, 91 FR at 30753.

<sup>28</sup> *Id.*

<sup>29</sup> Application Order, 91 FR at 5539.

<sup>30</sup> Notice, 91 FR at 30753.

<sup>17</sup> *Id.* at 30753.

<sup>18</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad–22(e)(18)(iv).

<sup>19</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad–22(e)(18)(iv).

<sup>20</sup> Notice, 91 FR at 30753.

<sup>21</sup> *Id.*

<sup>22</sup> *Id.*

where outstanding exposures are not typically rest to zero.<sup>31</sup>

ICC also would amend Rule 407 as it relates to Commission Rule 15c3–3. Currently, Rule 407(c) states that ICC hereby notifies Treasury Participants that client-funded gross collateral related to client-funded gross positions is held separately by ICC for the exclusive benefit of the customers of Treasury Participants, in compliance with Commission Rule 15c3– and related requirements. ICC would change the text of Rule 407(c) to state instead that ICC will provide written notice, outside of the Treasury Rules, of this same information.

Relatedly, in Rule 407(g), ICC would add language consistent with Commission Rule 15c3–3a, Note H(b)(2)(iv).<sup>32</sup> Rule 407(g) currently provides that Client-Funded Gross Collateral will be held by ICC in an account with the Federal Reserve or a bank meeting the requirements of SEC Rule 15c3–3a, Note H(b)(2)(iv). ICC would add to this certain conditions found in Note H, including that the account will be, without limitation, subject to a written notice from the Federal Reserve or such bank provided to and retained by ICC that the Client-Funded Gross Collateral in the account is being held pursuant to SEC Rule 15c3–3 and is being kept separate from any other accounts maintained by ICC or any other person.

ICC also would add specific percentages to Rule 409. Currently, this rule generally describes how clients and Treasury Participants contribute to Hybrid Gross IM Accounts.<sup>33</sup> ICC would revise this rule to set out the specific percentages that apply to Hybrid Gross IM Accounts, to make the rule more transparent.<sup>34</sup> Revised Rule 409 would provide that a Treasury Participant whose client's positions are associated with a Hybrid Gross IM Account must require that client to provide margin or collateral in an amount equal to 70% of the Initial Margin requirement. Further, it would provide that the Treasury Participant must provide the remaining 30%.

Finally, ICC would remove Rule 412, which currently serves as a placeholder.<sup>35</sup>

#### Chapter 5

Chapter 5 of the Treasury Rules describes the establishment and operation of ICC's Treasury Risk Committee. The Treasury Risk Committee includes representatives from Treasury Participants and non-participants, and pursuant to Treasury Rule 502, ICC may not take, or permit to be taken, certain actions without first consulting the Treasury Risk Committee. Such actions include modifying the Treasury Rules with respect to clearing new or existing Contracts, modifying provisions related to margin, and modifying provisions related to the Treasury Guaranty Fund.

ICC would add to the list of matters that require prior consultation with the Treasury Risk Committee in Rule 502. Specifically, ICC would add that determining the standards and requirements for initial and continuing Treasury Participant eligibility and approving or denying Treasury participant applications require prior consultation with the Treasury Risk Committee. ICC is making this change to align the responsibilities of the Treasury Risk Committee with the responsibilities of the CDS Risk Committee for the CDS Clearing Business.<sup>36</sup>

Because Rule 502 requires that ICC consult with the Treasury Risk Committee prior to taking certain actions, Rule 502 could prevent ICC from taking certain actions, and amending certain of its Treasury Rules, if there is no Treasury Risk Committee to consult. This potentially could occur while ICC is in the process of launching its Treasury Clearing Business. As noted above, ICC has added a provision to the preamble of the Treasury Rules to clarify that that prior to the establishment of the Treasury Risk Committee, the Board may designate another committee to perform the functions assigned to the Treasury Risk Committee under the Treasury Rules, and the Board has determined to accordingly designate the Board Risk Committee.

In addition to the situation where ICC has not yet launched the Treasury service and therefore has not established a Treasury Risk Committee, Rule 502 could prevent ICC from taking certain actions where ICC does not yet have enough Treasury Participants to constitute a full Treasury Risk

Committee. To resolve this potential issue, ICC is amending Rule 503 to change the number of members of the committee from a fixed amount to a maximum amount.

Specifically, ICC would revise Rule 503, which describes the composition of the Treasury Risk Committee.<sup>37</sup> Currently, Rule 503(a)(i) requires that the committee consist of fourteen members. ICC would revise this to state that the Treasury Risk Committee shall consist of up to fourteen members rather than fourteen members. Moreover, Rule 503(a)(iv) requires that nine members of the Committee be representatives of Treasury Participants, and Rule 503(a)(v) requires that two members be representatives of clients. ICC would revise these rules to state instead that up to nine members will be representatives of Treasury Participants and up to two members will be representatives of clients. Finally, ICC would clarify that the ICC Board of Managers will specify the initial representatives of Treasury Participants and clients in connection with the launch of the Treasury Clearing Business.<sup>38</sup>

ICC would also remove Rule 508(d) which indicates that certain defined terms are in the ICC Operating Agreement. The Proposed Rule Change would include these defined terms in Treasury Rule 102.<sup>39</sup> Additionally, the Proposed Rule Change would revise Rule 503(a)(iii) to remove an unnecessary bracket and replace a reference to a Chief Financial Officer with Chief Operating Officer.<sup>40</sup> ICC does not have a Chief Financial Officer position.<sup>41</sup>

#### Chapter 6

Chapter 6 of the Treasury Rules deals with miscellaneous matters, such as procedures for physical emergencies and the state law that applies to the interpretation of the Treasury Rules. In Rule 611, which explains the relationship of the Treasury Rules to certain laws on insolvency, ICC would replace "swap agreement" with "securities contract" because swap agreements are not applicable to the Treasury Rules.<sup>42</sup> In Rule 613, which describes the application of taxes to the clearing of transactions, ICC would

<sup>31</sup> *Id.*

<sup>32</sup> 17 CFR 240.15c3–3a. *See also* Notice, 91 FR at 30753–54.

<sup>33</sup> Rule 102 defines a Hybrid Gross IM Account as an account maintained by or on behalf of ICC with respect to a Treasury Participant for the purpose of holding on a gross omnibus basis Initial Margin posted by a Treasury Participant in respect of client-related positions. The Hybrid Gross IM Account consists of two subaccounts, one funded by a client and one funded the Treasury Participant.

<sup>34</sup> Notice, 91 FR at 30754.

<sup>35</sup> *Id.*

<sup>36</sup> *Id.* at 30754 n.26.

<sup>37</sup> *Id.* at 30754.

<sup>38</sup> Although the ICC Board will determine the initial representatives of Treasury Participants, pursuant to revised Rule 503(a)(iv)(C), the composition of the Participant Appointees will be reconstituted on or before the Treasury Governance Commencement Date.

<sup>39</sup> Notice, 91 FR at 30754.

<sup>40</sup> *Id.*

<sup>41</sup> *Id.*

<sup>42</sup> *Id.*

remove brackets from the rule and a reference to a specific section of the Treasury Participant Agreement, which ICC believes is unnecessary as the relevant section number may change.<sup>43</sup>

#### Chapter 8

Chapter 8 of the Treasury Rules describes the creation and operation of the Treasury Guaranty Fund and how ICC satisfies payment obligations in certain situations. The Treasury Guaranty Fund is a pool of pre-funded financial resources which ICC can use to help cover losses that ICC may incur in resolving the default of a Treasury Participant.

In Rule 801(a), ICC would change the minimum required Treasury Participant contribution to the Treasury Guaranty Fund from \$20 million to \$10 million ("Minimum Contribution"). ICC believes this Minimum Contribution is appropriate at this stage of the Treasury Clearing Business and that the Treasury Guaranty Fund would continue to provide adequate funds to cover losses in accordance with regulatory requirements.<sup>44</sup> ICC would update the Minimum Contribution in Schedule 401 as well to reflect this change. ICC also would remove a reference to credit spreads that does not apply to its Treasury Clearing Business from Rule 801(a).<sup>45</sup>

In Rule 804 and throughout the Treasury Rules, ICC proposes replacing references to the Guaranty Fund with references to the Treasury Guaranty Fund to avoid confusion with the Guaranty Fund for ICC's CDS Clearing Business.<sup>46</sup>

Rule 812 describes the steps ICC would take to satisfy its payment obligations in the event of a Delivery Failure or a Settlement Payment Failure.<sup>47</sup> Under Treasury Rule 2205, a Delivery Failure occurs when a Treasury Participant fails to deliver a Treasury security subject to a cleared transaction, and under Treasury Rule 2206, a Settlement Payment Failure occurs when a Treasury Participant fails to pay for a Treasury security (such as Treasury Participants being defined as "Failing Parties"). Currently, under Rule 812, if a Delivery Failure or Settlement Failure occurs and ICC determines that it would have (or may have) insufficient cash liquidity to complete settlement, then ICC may designate a Settlement Liquidity Event. In the case of a Settlement Liquidity Event, Treasury

Rule 812(b) sets out a waterfall of resources that ICC may apply or use to obtain cash liquidity.

Rule 812 currently provides that ICC may use these resources for the payment of its settlement obligations in the case of a Settlement Liquidity Event. ICC would revise Rule 812 to state that ICC may use these resources for the payment or performance of its settlement obligations. Moreover, the waterfall of resources in Rule 812(b) currently includes liquidity obtained through sale by ICC of non-cash Initial Margin in house accounts and non-cash Treasury Guaranty Fund contributions provided by the Failing Parties. ICC would revise this provision to include liquidity obtained through borrowing or other use for settlement by ICC of non-cash Initial Margin in house accounts and non-cash Treasury Guaranty Fund contributions provided by the Failing Parties.

Similarly, the waterfall of resources in Rule 812(b) currently provides that ICC may require all Treasury Participants, other than the Failing Parties, to substitute cash for their non-cash Initial Margin in house accounts and non-cash Treasury Guaranty Fund contributions in the case of a Settlement Liquidity Event. ICC would revise this provision to allow ICC to borrow for use in settlement any non-cash Initial Margin in house accounts and non-cash Treasury Guaranty Fund contributions of Treasury Participants other than the Failing Parties in the case of a Settlement Liquidity Event. ICC also would add here that ICC may accept in lieu of a substitution of cash, a substitution of securities of a specific CUSIP requested by ICC from one or more Treasury Participants, so that ICC may use those securities to complete settlement, in the case of a Settlement Liquidity Event.

#### Chapter 20

Additionally, ICC proposes changes to rules regarding Treasury Participant default in Chapter 20. Currently, Rule 20-605(d) allows ICC to cause open Treasury positions of a defaulting Treasury Participant to be offset against each other and/or to be settled at the mark-to-market price for such contracts, or at such other price(s) reflecting the current market. For clarity, ICC would add to this a similar provision, allowing ICC to cause house and client positions to be offset against each other where a defaulting Treasury Participant holds house positions corresponding to and economically offsetting client-related positions. This could occur where, for example, the Treasury Participant has an obligation to deliver and the client to receive the same security or vice

versa.<sup>48</sup> These positions would be closed out at market value in lieu of settlement, and this provision would be limited to default management.<sup>49</sup> ICC also would revise Treasury Rule 20-605(h), which requires ICC to effect the closing out process for house and client positions separately, to specifically reference Treasury Rule 20-605(d)(iii) to account for this change.

Finally, in Rule 20-605(d)(vi), ICC would specify that it may permit the settlement of open Treasury positions of a defaulter to occur in accordance with their terms and the Treasury Rules notwithstanding the default. This provision would provide ICC more flexibility in closing out a defaulting Treasury Participant's positions.<sup>50</sup>

#### Chapter 22

Chapter 22 describes how ICC settles transactions. Treasury Rule 2204 sets out the various obligations that arise in the settlement of a transaction, such as the obligation to deliver a security and the obligation to pay for that security. Clients looking to settle their obligations directly with ICC, without going through a Treasury Participant, may do so by establishing an Individual Client Direct Settlement Account with ICC, as described in Chapter 22. ICC would add to Rule 2204(c) that each Non-Participant Party with an Individual Client Direct Settlement Account shall enter into an agreement with ICC in the form designated by ICC from time to time. ICC believes this change would provide transparency and would confirm that a legally binding agreement with ICC is required in case of such an account.<sup>51</sup>

ICC also proposes changes in Treasury Rule 2205, which describes how ICC would resolve a Treasury Participant's Delivery Failure. Among other things, Treasury Rule 2205(c) allows ICC to resolve the Delivery Failure by acquiring the security, delivering it, and obligating the Treasury Participant that failed to deliver the security in the first place to pay ICC for its costs and expenses. ICC would add to this provision that ICC may acquire or borrow the security that was not delivered. This change would recognize that, in the context of a Delivery Failure, ICC may acquire or borrow the settling security to reflect an additional tool available to ICC.<sup>52</sup>

<sup>43</sup> *Id.*

<sup>44</sup> *Id.*

<sup>45</sup> *Id.* at 30755.

<sup>46</sup> *Id.*

<sup>47</sup> *Id.*

<sup>48</sup> *Id.*

<sup>49</sup> *Id.*

<sup>50</sup> *Id.*

<sup>51</sup> *Id.*

<sup>52</sup> *Id.*

Finally, in Rule 2205(d), ICC proposes removing unnecessary text.<sup>53</sup> This rule currently states that the procedures in 2205(a) will not apply where ICC has determined that Treasury Rule 2205(d) should apply following a delivery failure that continued for more than “[ ] consecutive ICE Business Days”. ICC is removing this provision, as it no longer believes it is necessary to state Treasury Rule 2205(a) will not apply where a different rule (Treasury Rule 2205(d)) already applies.<sup>54</sup>

#### *B. Treasury Operations Policy and Treasury LRMF Changes*

ICC also proposes several related changes to the Treasury Operations Policy and Treasury LRMF.

In both documents, ICC would add references to the Board Risk Committee and update the minimum guaranty fund contribution. Specifically, in Section X and Appendix 1 of the Treasury Operations Policy and Sections 1 through 4 of the Treasury LRMF, ICC would add references to the Board Risk Committee. With respect to the Treasury LRMF, these changes would specify certain matters as being subject to review by the Board Risk Committee.<sup>55</sup> For example, Section 3.2.4 describes how ICC’s Risk Department may determine to make enhancements to its liquidity risk methodology, after first discussing the enhancements with ICC senior management and the Treasury Risk Committee. As revised, ICC’s Risk Department would be required to discuss the enhancements with ICC senior management, the Board Risk Committee, and the Treasury Risk Committee. Although ICC established the Board Risk Committee in 2025,<sup>56</sup> the initial versions of the Treasury Operations Policy and the Treasury LRMF inadvertently failed to reference the committee. Finally, ICC would also reflect that the Minimum Contribution to the Treasury Guaranty Fund by Treasury Participants would be changed from \$20 million to \$10 million, consistent with the changes to Treasury Rule 801(a) discussed above.<sup>57</sup>

In the Treasury Operations Policy, ICC would remove a reference to the Treasury Director reporting to the Chief Operating Officer. The Treasury director currently reports to the ICC President.<sup>58</sup> In Section X and Appendix I of the Treasury Operations Policy, ICC would

use the term “Treasury Risk Committee” instead of “Treasury Clearing Service Risk Committee” or “Risk Committee.” Finally, throughout the Treasury Operations Policy, ICC would replace certain references to CP (for “Clearing Participant”) with TP (for “Treasury Participant”), as the references to CP are related to ICC’s CDS Clearing Business.<sup>59</sup>

#### **III. Discussion and Commission Findings**

Section 19(b)(2)(C) of the Act requires the Commission to approve a proposed rule change of a self-regulatory organization if it finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the organization.<sup>60</sup> Under the Commission’s Rules of Practice, the “burden to demonstrate that a proposed rule change is consistent with the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations issued thereunder . . . is on the self-regulatory organization [‘SRO’] that proposed the rule change.”<sup>61</sup>

The description of a proposed rule change, its purpose and operation, its effect, and a legal analysis of its consistency with applicable requirements must all be sufficiently detailed and specific to support an affirmative Commission finding,<sup>62</sup> and any failure of an SRO to provide this information may result in the Commission not having a sufficient basis to make an affirmative finding that a proposed rule change is consistent with the Exchange Act and the applicable rules and regulations.<sup>63</sup> Moreover, “unquestioning reliance” on an SRO’s representations in a proposed rule change is not sufficient to justify Commission approval of a proposed rule change.<sup>64</sup>

After carefully considering the Proposed Rule Change and the comment letters received, the Commission finds that the Proposed Rule Change is consistent with Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Act<sup>65</sup> and Rules 17Ad–22(e)(1); (e)(2)(i) and (v); (e)(3); (e)(4)(iii); and (e)(6)(i) thereunder,<sup>66</sup> as described in detail below.

#### *A. Consistency With Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Act*

Under Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Act, ICC’s rules, among other things, must be “designed to promote the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions and . . . to assure the safeguarding of securities and funds which are in the custody or control of the clearing agency or for which it is responsible . . . .”<sup>67</sup> Based on a review of the record, and for the reasons discussed below, the Proposed Rule Change is consistent with Section 17A(b)(3)(F) because it would (i) help ensure that ICC has sufficient funds to manage potential risks and losses associated with its Treasury Clearing Business; (ii) clearly separate ICC’s Treasury Clearing Business from its CDS Clearing Business; (iii) strengthen ICC’s ability to facilitate settlement; (iv) improve ICC’s process for managing the default of a Treasury Participant or client; and (v) improve governance associated with ICC’s Treasury Risk Committee and its Board Risk Committee.

Several of ICC’s proposed changes help ensure that ICC has sufficient funds to manage potential risks and losses associated with its Treasury Clearing Business and CDS Clearing Business. For example, ICC proposes specifying that \$20 million is available to be applied to Custodial Losses and \$10 million is available to be applied to Investment Losses. ICC notes that these amounts are risk-based in light of ICC’s potential exposure to such losses and is based on ICC’s experience with the CDS Clearing Business.<sup>68</sup> The amounts that ICC makes available to be applied to Custodial Losses and Investment Losses assets directly impacts ICC’s ability to replace any funds lost as a result of its custodial or investment risks materializing. Setting a risk-based level of funds available for Custodial Losses and Investment Losses better positions ICC to continue operating through such losses and thereby continue to promptly and accurately clear and settle transactions and safeguard securities and funds in its custody or control.

In another example of such changes, ICC proposes changing the Minimum Contribution to the Treasury Guaranty Fund from \$20 million to \$10 million. In this case, the Treasury Guaranty Fund should continue to provide adequate funds to cover losses in accordance with regulatory requirements under the Proposed Rule Change, as the Treasury Participant’s

<sup>53</sup> *Id.*

<sup>54</sup> *Id.*

<sup>55</sup> *Id.*

<sup>56</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 103161 (May 30, 2025), 90 FR 23970 (June 5, 2025) (File No. SR–ICC–2025–006).

<sup>57</sup> Notice, 91 FR at 30755.

<sup>58</sup> *Id.*

<sup>59</sup> *Id.*

<sup>60</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(C).

<sup>61</sup> Rule 700(b)(3), Commission Rules of Practice, 17 CFR 201.700(b)(3).

<sup>62</sup> *Id.*

<sup>63</sup> *Id.*

<sup>64</sup> *Susquehanna Int’l Group, LLP v. Securities and Exchange Commission*, 866 F.3d 442, 447 (D.C. Cir. 2017).

<sup>65</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78q–1(b)(3)(F).

<sup>66</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad–22(e)(1); (e)(2)(i) and (v); (e)(3); (e)(4)(iii); and (e)(6)(i).

<sup>67</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78q–1(b)(3)(F).

<sup>68</sup> Notice, 91 FR at 30752.

required contribution to the Treasury Guaranty Fund would continue to be the greater of the Treasury Participant's proportionate share of the aggregate Treasury Participant loss exposure (calculated as the two largest participant loss exposures) and the Minimum Contribution.<sup>69</sup> ICC failing to maintain sufficient funds to address losses could result in ICC failing to maintain sufficient funds to fulfill its obligations, including its obligations accompanying its role as a CCP. To the extent that ICC may be unable to fulfill its obligations, its ability to promptly and accurately clear and settle securities transactions would be disrupted. These proposed changes would work to avoid such a disruption.

ICC also proposes changes to more clearly separate its Treasury Clearing Business from its CDS Clearing Business, thereby shielding the CDS Clearing Business from potential losses incurred in the Treasury Clearing Business. Specifically, ICC would clarify that no person has any recourse or claim, in respect of any amount or liability relating to payment or delivery obligations with respect to Contracts or under the Treasury Rules to any amount or assets held in connection with the CDS Clearing Business. If losses materialize in the Treasury Clearing Business, such losses could threaten the stability of the CDS Clearing Business, affecting ICC's ability to promptly and accurately clear and settle transactions. ICC's proposed changes would work to prevent these issues and thereby promote the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of transactions.

Other proposed changes strengthen the tools available to ICC to facilitate settlement in specified circumstances where a failure to make a payment or delivery has occurred and ICC has designated a Settlement Liquidity Event. For example, proposed changes would allow ICC to, in the case of a Settlement Liquidity Event, use or borrow non-cash assets to facilitate settlement and would provide that ICC may accept in lieu of a substitution of cash a substitution of securities of a specific CUSIP, to be used by ICC to complete settlement. Such changes would allow ICC to ensure that it has sufficient liquidity to meet its settlement obligations in the case of a Settlement Liquidity Event, which would include circumstances where a failure to make a payment or delivery has occurred. These changes therefore would position ICC to promptly and accurately clear and settle securities transactions in the case of a Settlement Liquidity Event.

Other proposed changes would improve the process for managing the default of a Treasury Participant or client. For example, ICC would allow the Treasury Participant to manage the close-out of a defaulting client's positions, unless the Treasury Participant elects to have ICC do so. A Treasury Participant also would not be precluded by a specific ICC Treasury Rule from settling a client-related position in accordance with the Treasury Rules, notwithstanding the occurrence of a client default. In the case of a default with respect to a client that has established an Individual Client Direct Settlement Account, ICC would direct for settlement to occur to and from the house account of the clearing Treasury Participant (or as otherwise directed by such Treasury Participant). These changes would allow the party most familiar with the defaulting client's portfolio, the Treasury Participant, to manage the close-out of the portfolio. This could help make the close-out more efficient and effective, which could ultimately help ensure that ICC continues to promptly and accurately clear and settle securities transactions. These changes would also give the Treasury Participant added visibility and control over transactions for its clients, for which it is already ultimately responsible. This added control and visibility would allow the Treasury Participant to be better prepared to handle its obligations, such as reimbursement, resulting from a client default, which in turn could help prevent a Treasury Participant from defaulting on its own obligations. These proposed changes thereby better position ICC to continue promptly and accurately clearing and settling securities transactions, even during the default of a Treasury Participant or client.

ICC also would clarify that, in closing out a defaulting Treasury Participant's positions, it may offset house and client positions, if those positions correspond to and economically offset each other. This also could potentially lessen the cost of a default by allowing ICC to close offsetting positions without the use of an auction or any financial resources. ICC also proposes permitting the settlement of open Treasury positions of a defaulter to occur in accordance with their terms and the Treasury Rules notwithstanding a default. This change could also work to lessen the cost of a default by lowering the amount of open positions that ICC would need to potentially auction or hold. Preventing or lowering the cost of a default could ultimately help ensure that ICC

promptly and accurately clears and settles securities transactions, even during a default.

Additionally, some proposed changes would improve governance associated with ICC's Treasury Risk Committee and its Board Risk Committee. As noted above, the changes with respect to the Treasury Risk Committee account for the early nature of the Treasury Clearing Business. Clarifying that prior to the establishment of the Treasury Risk Committee, the Board may designate another committee to perform the functions assigned to the Treasury Risk Committee, will ensure that those functions can be performed prior to the launch of the Treasury Clearing Business. Similarly, removing the requirement that the Treasury Risk Committee have a set minimum number of members will ensure that the Treasury Risk Committee can be established and function even where there are not enough Treasury Participants to meet that minimum. Having a functioning Treasury Risk Committee would provide ICC an additional source of consultation and guidance on its risk management, thereby improving ICC's ability to promptly and accurately clear and settle transactions.

Finally, other changes would clarify and correct errors in the Treasury Rules, Treasury LRMF, and Treasury Operations Policy. For example, ICC would clarify that the Treasury Rules do not apply to ICC's CDS Clearing Business or to the rights or obligations of persons with respect thereto and vice versa. As another example, ICC would revise Rule 303 to reference the meaning of Eligible Secondary Market Transaction as specified in SEC Rule 17ad-22(a), as interpreted by the Commission and its staff. The Proposed Rule Change would also correct typographic errors and eliminate or replace unnecessary and inaccurate language. For example, ICC would remove defined terms related to a Default Committee as ICC does not intend to establish such a committee for the Treasury Clearing Business and replace Chief Financial Officer with Chief Operating Officer, as ICC does not have a Chief Financial Officer. These changes allow ICC to better and more clearly apply the Treasury Rules, Treasury LRMF, and Treasury Operations Policy, which in turn should better position ICC to promptly and accurately clear and settle securities transactions and safeguard securities and funds in its custody and control.

Accordingly, the Proposed Rule Change is consistent with the

<sup>69</sup> Notice, 91 FR at 30754.

requirements of Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Act.<sup>70</sup>

#### *B. Consistency With Rule 17ad-22(e)(1)*

Under Rule 17ad-22(e)(1), ICC must establish, implement, maintain, and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to provide for a well-founded, clear, transparent, and enforceable legal basis for each aspect of its activities in all relevant jurisdictions.<sup>71</sup> Based on a review of the record and for the reasons discussed below, the Proposed Rule Change is consistent with Rule 17ad-22(e)(1).<sup>72</sup>

ICC would clarify Rule 201(c) by adding Futures Commission Merchants and registered clearing agencies to the list of entities that ICC may approve to be Treasury Participants. Although the list in Rule 201(c) is not intended to be exclusive, and therefore ICC could have approved Futures Commission Merchants and registered clearing agencies to be Treasury Participants without this change, adding those entities to the list clarifies the rule. Doing so thereby provides a clear legal basis for Rule 201(c), consistent with Rule 17ad-22(e)(1).<sup>73</sup>

Accordingly, the Proposed Rule Change is consistent with the requirements of Rule 17ad-22(e)(1).<sup>74</sup>

#### *C. Consistency With Rule 17ad-22(e)(2)(i) and (v)*

Under Rule 17ad-22(e)(2)(i) and (v), ICC must, establish, implement, maintain, and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to, as applicable, provide for governance arrangements that are clear and transparent and specify clear and direct lines of responsibility.<sup>75</sup> Based on a review of the record, and for the reasons discussed below, the Proposed Rule Change is consistent with Rules 17ad-22(e)(2)(i) and (v).<sup>76</sup>

ICC would make several changes to provide for governance arrangements that are clear and transparent and that also specify clear and direct lines of responsibility. These changes would specify that the Board may designate another committee to perform the functions of the Treasury Risk Committee under the Treasury Rules prior to the Treasury Risk Committee's establishment, add to the list of matters that require prior consultation with the Treasury Risk Committee, and specify in the Treasury LRMF what is subject to

review by the Board Risk Committee. With respect to the Treasury Risk Committee, the Board has already determined that ICC's Board Risk Committee would perform the functions assigned to the Treasury Risk Committee under the Treasury Rules, subject to the approval and completion of all applicable regulatory processes.<sup>77</sup> These changes would ensure that ICC clearly assigns and documents responsibility and accountability for relevant items to the Board, Board Risk Committee, and Treasury Risk Committee. As such, these changes assigning responsibility are consistent with maintaining clear and transparent governance arrangements that also specify clear and direct lines of responsibility.

A commenter stated that these changes, in particular the assignment of the duties of the Treasury Risk Committee to the Board Risk Committee, were inconsistent with maintaining clear and transparent governance arrangements that also specify clear and direct lines of responsibility.<sup>78</sup> The commenter suggested that the Commission was being asked to approve a rulebook in which the committee that was supposed to consult on participant eligibility, default management, and other matters does not exist yet.<sup>79</sup>

In response, ICC noted that the Board Risk Committee is an existing committee that assists the ICC Board in overseeing the risk management of ICC and has defined responsibilities and reporting structure.<sup>80</sup> ICC further noted that once established, the Treasury Risk Committee will function in accordance with its defined responsibilities and reporting structure, and the transitory provisions involving the Board Risk Committee would not alter ICC's governance standards.<sup>81</sup>

The Proposed Rule Change's inclusion of the Board Risk Committee's responsibilities with respect to ICC's Treasury Clearing Business is consistent with the Act and rules thereunder. ICC cannot currently form a complete Treasury Risk Committee. Under ICC's Treasury Rules, that committee should include representatives of Treasury

Participants and Non-Participant Parties.<sup>82</sup> Currently, ICC's Treasury Clearing Business does not have Treasury Participants or Non-Participant Parties.<sup>83</sup> As such, it does not have representatives of Treasury Participants or Non-Participant Parties that it can add to the Treasury Risk committee, or any other committee.<sup>84</sup> By allowing the Board to designate another committee (the Board Risk Committee) to perform the functions assigned to the Treasury Risk Committee under the Treasury Rules, before the establishment of the Treasury Risk Committee, the Proposed Rule Change would clearly and transparently identify a clear and direct line of responsibility with respect to the functions of the Treasury Risk Committee during the time period when ICC is still starting the Treasury Clearing Business. Moreover, ICC's Board Risk Committee includes representatives of ICC's clearing participants,<sup>85</sup> so in performing the functions of the Treasury Risk Committee prior to the launch of that committee, the Board Risk Committee will include participant input. Finally, to the extent the commenter asserts that with the Proposed Rule Change the Commission is being asked to approve the entire Treasury Clearing rulebook, the Commission notes that it already approved such rulebook with the Application Order.<sup>86</sup>

Accordingly, the Proposed Rule Change is consistent with the requirements of Rule 17ad-22(e)(2)(i) and (v).<sup>87</sup>

#### *D. Consistency With Rule 17ad-22(e)(3)*

Under Rule 17ad-22(e)(3), ICC must establish, implement, maintain, and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to maintain a sound risk management framework for comprehensively managing legal, credit, liquidity, operational, general business, investment, custody, and other risks that arise in or are borne by ICC.<sup>88</sup> Based on a review of the record, and for the reasons discussed below, the Proposed

<sup>70</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(F).

<sup>71</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad-22(e)(1).

<sup>72</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad-22(e)(1).

<sup>73</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad-22(e)(1).

<sup>74</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad-22(e)(1).

<sup>75</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad-22(e)(2)(i) and (v).

<sup>76</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad-22(e)(2)(i) and (v).

<sup>77</sup> Notice, 91 FR at 30752 n.8.

<sup>78</sup> See Comment for the Record, In the Matter of: File No. SR-ICC-2026-002, submitted by James Hunter Poole, Executive Chairman and CEO, Obelisk Tech Systems, Inc. (May 27, 2026) ("Obelisk Comment"). The commenter provided, in total, five different submissions as part of the comment, some of which was unrelated to the substance of the filing.

<sup>79</sup> *Id.* at 10.

<sup>80</sup> See letter from Stanislav Ivanov, President, ICE Clear Credit (June 16, 2016) ("ICC Response").

<sup>81</sup> *Id.* at 3.

<sup>82</sup> Treasury Rules 501 and 503.

<sup>83</sup> ICC Response at 3, n.16.

<sup>84</sup> *Id.*

<sup>85</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 103161 (May 30, 2025), 90 FR 23970 (June 5, 2025) (File No. SR-ICC-2025-006).

<sup>86</sup> See ICE Clear Credit LLC; Notice of Filing of an Application for Registration as a Clearing Agency Under Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Exchange Act Release No. 103727 (Aug. 18, 2025), 90 FR 40879 (Aug. 21, 2025) (describing the contents of ICC's application for registration of the Treasury Clearing Business, including the proposed rules of the Treasury Clearing Business).

<sup>87</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad-22(e)(2)(i) and (v).

<sup>88</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad-22(e)(3).

Rule Change is consistent with Rule 17ad–22(e)(3).<sup>89</sup>

ICC would cap its exposure to Custodial Losses at \$20 million and Investment Losses at \$10 million. ICC would do so by further defining Custodial Loss Resources and Investment Loss Resources, as discussed above. Although these terms did not identify the amount of such resources, the Commission approved these terms, and ICC's overall framework for apportioning non-default losses amongst ICC and its Treasury Participants, with the Application Order. Moreover, the Commission notes that ICC's framework for apportioning non-default losses between ICC and its Treasury Participants mirrors the framework that ICC has in place for its CDS business, albeit with lower Custodial Loss Resources and Investment Loss Resources for the Treasury business.<sup>90</sup>

The commenter noted that ICC asserted the proposed Custodial Loss cap of \$20 million and Investment Loss cap of \$10 million to be risk-based in light of ICC's potential exposure.<sup>91</sup> The commenter suggested, however, that ICC's assertion was "unfalsifiable" on the present record because ICC was a business with no operational track record.<sup>92</sup> The commenter further suggested that Rule 17Ad–22(e)(1) (well-founded, clear, transparent, enforceable legal basis)<sup>93</sup> and Rule 17Ad–22(e)(4) (credit risk) each warrant analytical reconciliation.<sup>94</sup>

<sup>89</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad–22(e)(3).

<sup>90</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 88253 (Feb. 20, 2020), 85 FR 11129, 11133–35 (Feb. 26, 2020) (File No. SR–ICC–2019–010).

<sup>91</sup> Obelisk Comment at 10.

<sup>92</sup> *Id.*

<sup>93</sup> *Id.* Rule 17ad–22(e)(1) requires ICC to establish, implement, maintain and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to provide for a well-founded, clear, transparent, and enforceable legal basis for each aspect of its activities in all relevant jurisdictions. The Commission finds that the proposed addition of the monetary caps for Custodial Losses and Investment Losses is consistent with providing for a well-founded, clear, transparent, and enforceable legal basis for apportioning Custodial Losses and Investment Losses between ICC and its Treasury Participants.

<sup>94</sup> Obelisk Comment at 10. Rule 17ad–22(e)(4) requires ICC to establish, implement, maintain and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to effectively identify, measure, monitor, and manage its credit exposures to participants and those arising from its payment, clearing, and settlement processes. These proposed changes relate to non-default losses arising from custodial and investment situations, not the credit risk arising from exposures to Treasury Participants. To the extent ICC's framework for apportioning Custodial Losses and Investment Losses between ICC and its Treasury Participants does implicate credit exposures arising from ICC's Treasury Clearing Business, the framework is consistent with having policies and procedures reasonably designed to effectively identify, measure, monitor, and manage such exposures.

ICC responded that its determinations were risk-based in light of ICC's potential exposure to custodial and investment losses and based on ICC's experience with its CDS Clearing Business.<sup>95</sup> Further, ICC noted that it has significant experience as a clearing house and CCP in establishing and managing risk management frameworks, margin methodologies, and financial resource requirements, and that ICC operates the world's largest clearing house for CDS.<sup>96</sup>

The Commission agrees that ICC has operational experience with respect to its CDS Clearing Business. Although ICC has only recently launched the Treasury Clearing Business, ICC has operated its CDS Clearing Business since 2009.<sup>97</sup> In doing so, ICC has gained operational experience in risk management, including the management of potential non-default losses. Thus, the Commission does not agree with the commenter's assertion that ICC is a business with no operational track record.

Moreover, as noted above, the Commission reviewed and approved the overall framework for managing non-default losses as part of the Application Order. This framework mirrors what ICC has in place for the CDS business, which the Commission also reviewed and approved.<sup>98</sup> The change here establishes the overall limits for ICC's liability for Custodial Losses and Investment Losses. These caps, and the corresponding framework for apportioning non-default losses, allow ICC to determine in advance its maximum liability for potential Custodial Losses and Investment Losses, and are therefore consistent with maintaining a sound risk management framework for comprehensively managing general business, investment, and custody risks that arise in or are borne by, consistent with Rule 17ad–22(e)(3).<sup>99</sup>

Accordingly, the Proposed Rule Change is consistent with the requirements of Rule 17ad–22(e)(3).<sup>100</sup>

#### *E. Consistency With Rule 17ad–22(e)(4)(iii)*

Under Rule 17ad–22(e)(4)(iii), ICC must establish, implement, maintain, and enforce written policies and

procedures reasonably designed to effectively identify, measure, monitor, and manage its credit exposures to participants and those arising from its payment, clearing, and settlement processes including by maintaining additional financial resources at the minimum to enable it to cover a wide range of foreseeable stress scenarios that include, but are not limited to, the default of the participant family that would potentially cause the largest aggregate credit exposure for the covered clearing agency in extreme but plausible market conditions.<sup>101</sup> Based on a review of the record, and for the reasons discussed below, the Proposed Rule Change is consistent with Rule 17ad–22(e)(4)(iii).<sup>102</sup>

ICC proposes changing the Minimum Contribution to the Treasury Guaranty Fund from \$20 million to \$10 million. With this change, a Treasury Participant's required contribution to the Treasury Guaranty Fund would continue to be the greater of the Treasury Participant's proportionate share of the aggregate Treasury Participant loss exposure (calculated as the two largest participant loss exposures) and the Minimum Contribution. As such, ICC would continue to size the Treasury Guaranty Fund to provide financial resources based on Cover-2 regulatory standards,<sup>103</sup> and ICC's Treasury Guaranty Fund sizing methodology may produce a Treasury Guaranty Fund size larger than the one computed to the default of the participant family that would potentially cause the largest aggregate credit exposure. Therefore, the Treasury Guaranty Fund sizing methodology is reasonably designed to be consistent with Rule 17ad–22(e)(4)(iii).<sup>104</sup> Although the Proposed Rule Change would lower the Minimum Contribution, as noted, a Treasury Participant would still be required to cover its proportionate share of the aggregate Treasury Participant loss exposure (calculated as the two largest participant loss exposures), if that amount is greater than \$10 million.

The commenter suggested that ICC had justified this change solely by saying that the reduction is appropriate at this stage.<sup>105</sup> The commenter asserted that this was a "record thin justification" for a CCP about to clear U.S. Treasury secondary market transactions under the SEC's Treasury

<sup>95</sup> ICC Response at 2.

<sup>96</sup> *Id.*

<sup>97</sup> See ICC Disclosure Framework, [https://www.ice.com/publicdocs/clear\\_credit/ICEClearCredit\\_DisclosureFramework.pdf](https://www.ice.com/publicdocs/clear_credit/ICEClearCredit_DisclosureFramework.pdf).

<sup>98</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 88253 (Feb. 20, 2020), 85 FR 11129, 11133–35 (Feb. 26, 2020) (File No. SR–ICC–2019–010).

<sup>99</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad–22(e)(3).

<sup>100</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad–22(e)(3).

<sup>101</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad–22(e)(4)(iii).

<sup>102</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad–22(e)(4)(iii).

<sup>103</sup> Notice, 91 FR at 30754.

<sup>104</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad–22(e)(4)(iii).

<sup>105</sup> Obelisk Commenter at 10.

Clearing mandate.<sup>106</sup> The commenter stated that Cover-2 standards require empirical, not aspirational, sizing.<sup>107</sup>

ICC responded that the change in the minimum contribution did not alter ICC's Treasury Guaranty Fund methodology.<sup>108</sup> ICC noted that a Treasury Participant's required contribution to the Treasury Guaranty Fund would continue to be the Treasury Participant's proportionate share of the aggregate Treasury Participant loss exposure (calculated as the two largest participant loss exposures) if greater than the Minimum Contribution and that ICC would continue to size the Treasury Guaranty Fund to provide financial resources based on Cover-2 regulatory standards.<sup>109</sup> Further, ICC noted that Commission Rule 17ad-22(e)(4)<sup>110</sup> does not prescribe a minimum contribution or otherwise require that such minimum be set at a particular level.<sup>111</sup>

As noted by ICC, Rule 17ad-22(e)(4)<sup>112</sup> does not require that ICC maintain a certain minimum contribution to its Treasury Guaranty Fund. Rather, the rule requires that ICC effectively identify, measure, monitor, and manage its credit exposures to participants and those arising from its payment, clearing, and settlement processes, including by maintaining sufficient financial resources to cover its credit exposure to each participant fully with a high degree of confidence and by maintaining certain additional financial resources. As noted above, ICC maintains a separate Treasury Guaranty Fund which ICC sizes to enable ICC to meet its financial obligations to Treasury Participants notwithstanding a default by the two Treasury Participants (including any of their affiliated Treasury Participants) creating the largest combined loss to ICC in extreme but plausible market conditions. Therefore, the Treasury Guaranty Fund sizing methodology is reasonably designed to be consistent with Rule 17ad-22(e)(4)(iii)<sup>113</sup> and may produce a Treasury Guaranty Fund larger than that required by the rule. Moreover, the Proposed Rule Change would not affect this sizing, because a Treasury Participant's required contribution to the Treasury Guaranty Fund would continue to be the Treasury Participant's proportionate share of the aggregate

Treasury Participant loss exposure (calculated as the two largest participant loss exposures) if greater than the Minimum Contribution.

Accordingly, the Proposed Rule Change is consistent with the requirements of Rule 17ad-22(e)(4)(iii).<sup>114</sup>

#### *F. Consistency With Rule 17ad-22(e)(6)(i)*

Under Rule 17ad-22(e)(6)(i), ICC must establish, implement, maintain, and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to cover its credit exposures to its participants by establishing a risk-based margin system that, among other things, calculates, collects, and holds margin amounts from a direct participant for its proprietary positions in Treasury securities separately and independently from margin calculated and collected from that direct participant in connection with U.S. Treasury securities transactions by an indirect participant that relies on the services provided by the direct participant to access ICC's payment, clearing, or settlement facilities.<sup>115</sup> Based on a review of the record, and for the reasons discussed below, the Proposed Rule Change is consistent with Rule 17ad-22(e)(6)(i).<sup>116</sup>

As noted above, ICC would specify in Treasury Rule 409 that a Treasury Participant whose Client-Related Positions are associated with a Hybrid Gross IM Account must require such Non-Participant Party to provide margin or collateral in an amount equal to 70% of the Initial Margin required and that the Treasury Participant must provide the remaining 30%. Moreover, as noted above, in Rule 407, ICC would add language to help ensure that the rule is consistent with Commission Rule 15c3-3a, Note H.<sup>117</sup>

The commenter suggested that the 70/30 Hybrid Gross IM allocation was an improvement over the prior discretionary formulation but introduced a fixed split without an empirical basis on the record for that specific ratio.<sup>118</sup> In response, ICC noted that the 70% represents approximately the requirements associated with the first day of the Treasury Clearing Business's two-day margin period of risk.<sup>119</sup> Further, ICC noted that this allocation was previously provided and evaluated as part of the Application

Order and made known to regulators and market participants.<sup>120</sup> The proposed changes, ICC stated, are intended to enhance transparency and provide additional clarity in the Treasury Rules. Finally, ICC suggested that it did not need additional empirical support as its proposed changes did not introduce a change in the allocation or existing framework.<sup>121</sup>

The Hybrid Gross IM Account is an account maintained by or on behalf of ICC with respect to a Treasury Participant for the purpose of holding on a gross omnibus basis Initial Margin posted by a Treasury Participant in respect of client-related positions. As noted above, the Hybrid Gross IM Account consists of two subaccounts, one funded by a client and one funded by a Treasury Participant. Having separate subaccounts, one funded by a client and one funded by a Treasury Participant, is consistent with the requirement that ICC's margin system calculate, collect, and hold margin amounts from a Treasury Participant for its proprietary positions separately and independently from margin calculated and collected from that direct participant in connection with U.S. Treasury securities transactions by an indirect participant under Rule 17ad-22(e)(6)(i).<sup>122</sup>

With respect to the actual amount of the split, 70/30, the Commission notes that its rules neither require that ICC maintain a Hybrid Gross IM Account nor that responsibility for margin in such an account be split in any particular manner. As noted by ICC, the Commission reviewed this allocation as part of the Application Order, and the Proposed Rule Change would merely memorialize that allocation in Treasury Rule 409. Moreover, ICC's explanation, that it based the 70/30 on the two-day margin period of risk it applies to the Treasury Clearing Business, provides an additional empirical basis, on the record, for the split.

Finally, the changes in Rule 407 would generally help ensure that the rule is consistent with Commission Rule 15c3-3a, Note H<sup>123</sup> and the conditions therein. In doing so, the Proposed Rule Change would help ensure that ICC's margin system calculates, collects, and holds margin amounts from a Treasury Participant for its proprietary positions separately and independently from margin calculated and collected from that direct participant in connection with U.S. Treasury securities

<sup>106</sup> *Id.*

<sup>107</sup> *Id.*

<sup>108</sup> ICC Response at 2.

<sup>109</sup> *Id.*

<sup>110</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad-22(e)(4).

<sup>111</sup> ICC Response at 2.

<sup>112</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad-22(e)(4).

<sup>113</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad-22(e)(4)(iii).

<sup>114</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad-22(e)(4)(iii).

<sup>115</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad-22(e)(6)(i).

<sup>116</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad-22(e)(6)(i).

<sup>117</sup> 17 CFR 240.15c3-3a.

<sup>118</sup> Obelisk Commenter at 10.

<sup>119</sup> ICC Response at 4.

<sup>120</sup> *Id.*

<sup>121</sup> *Id.*

<sup>122</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad-22(e)(6)(i).

<sup>123</sup> 17 CFR 240.15c3-3a.

transactions by an indirect participant under Rule 17ad-22(e)(6)(i).<sup>124</sup>

Accordingly, the Proposed Rule Change is consistent with the requirements of Rule 17ad-22(e)(6)(i).<sup>125</sup>

#### IV. Conclusion

On the basis of the foregoing, the Commission finds that the Proposed Rule Change is consistent with the requirements of the Act, and in particular, Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Act<sup>126</sup> and Rules 17Ad-22(e)(1); (e)(2)(i) and (v); (e)(3); (e)(4)(iii); and (e)(6)(i) thereunder.<sup>127</sup>

*It is therefore ordered* pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act that the proposed rule change (SR-ICC-2026-002) be, and hereby is, approved.<sup>128</sup>

For the Commission by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>129</sup>

**Sherry R. Haywood,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15249 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8011-01-P**

#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[OMB Control No. 3235-0476]

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension: Rule 10b-17

*Upon Written Request, Copies Available*

From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of FOIA Services, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-2736

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 ("PRA") (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") is soliciting comments on the existing collection of information provided for in Rule 10b-17 (17 CFR 240.10b-17), under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a *et seq.*). The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") for extension and approval.

Rule 10b-17 requires any issuer of a class of securities publicly traded by the use of any means or instrumentality of

interstate commerce or of the mails or of any facility of any national securities exchange to give notice of the following specific distributions relating to such class of securities: (1) a dividend or other distribution in cash or in kind other than interest payments on debt securities; (2) a stock split or reverse stock split; or (3) a rights or other subscription offering.

There are approximately 9,648 respondents per year. These respondents make approximately 41,591 responses per year. Each response takes approximately 10 minutes to complete. Thus, the total hour burden per year is approximately 6,932 hours. The total internal labor cost of compliance for respondents associated with providing notice under Rule 10b-17 is approximately \$804,112.

*Written comments are invited on:* (a) whether this proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the SEC, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the SEC's estimate of the burden imposed by the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and the assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated, electronic collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

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.

Please direct your written comments on this 60-Day Collection Notice to Austin Gerig, Director/Chief Data Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Tanya Ruttenberg via email to [PaperworkReductionAct@sec.gov](mailto:PaperworkReductionAct@sec.gov) by September 28, 2026.

Dated: July 24, 2026.

**Sherry R. Haywood,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15248 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8011-01-P**

#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-105989; File No. SR-IEX-2026-23]

#### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Investors Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Pursuant to IEX Rule 15.110(a) and (c) To Amend the Exchange's Fee Schedule

July 24, 2026.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)<sup>1</sup> of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>2</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>3</sup> notice is hereby given that on July 20, 2026, the Investors Exchange LLC ("IEX" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

#### I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) under the Act,<sup>4</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>5</sup> the Exchange is filing with the Commission a proposed rule change to amend the IEX Fee Schedule ("Fee Schedule"), pursuant to IEX Rules 15.110(a) and (c), to increase the fee charged for the Exchange's top of book proprietary market data feed, TOPS. Changes to the Fee Schedule pursuant to this proposal are effective upon filing,<sup>6</sup> and will be operative beginning on October 1, 2026.

The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Exchange's website at <https://www.iexexchange.io/resources/regulation/rule-filings> and at the principal office of the Exchange.

#### II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the self-regulatory organization included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below.

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

<sup>2</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78a.

<sup>3</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>5</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>124</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad-22(e)(6)(i).

<sup>125</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad-22(e)(6)(i).

<sup>126</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(F).

<sup>127</sup> 17 CFR 240.17ad-22(e)(1); (e)(2)(i) and (v); (e)(3); (e)(4)(iii); and (e)(6)(i).

<sup>128</sup> In approving the proposed rule change, the Commission considered the proposal's impacts on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

<sup>129</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

The self-regulatory organization has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

*A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change*

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend the Market Data Fees section of the Fee Schedule to increase the fee for real-time access to the Exchange's top of book proprietary market data feed, TOPS, which the Exchange currently offers for \$500 per month. TOPS is an uncompressed data feed,<sup>7</sup> available on a Real-Time and Delayed basis,<sup>8</sup> that provides aggregated top of book quotations for all displayed orders resting on the Order Book<sup>9</sup> and execution information (*i.e.*, last sale information) for executions on the Exchange.<sup>10</sup> The Exchange proposes to increase the monthly fee for Real-Time access to TOPS to \$1,000 per month.

As is the case currently, the amount of the monthly fee charged for Real-Time access to the TOPS data feed would cover all uses of the data feed and would be the same for each Data Subscriber,<sup>11</sup> regardless of whether the

Data Subscriber is using the data feed internally or distributing it externally. The Exchange is not proposing to adopt additional fees, such as external distribution fees, non-display fees, or user fees for the TOPS data feed.

In general, the Exchange believes that exchanges, in setting fees of all types, should meet very high standards of transparency to demonstrate why each new fee or fee increase meets the Exchange Act requirements. The Exchange believes this high standard is especially important when an exchange imposes fees for its own depth of book market data because each exchange is the exclusive source of its own depth of book market data.

The Exchange believes the proposed fee is reasonable when compared with the fees charged by other exchanges for comparable market data products, notwithstanding that the other exchanges may have different fee structures. More specifically, as described in the Statutory Basis section, the proposed fee is lower than the aggregate fees charged by other exchanges with market share similar to or lower than IEX, for comparable market data products.

The Exchange notes that Real-Time access to TOPS is optional. The Exchange is not required to make Real-Time access to TOPS available to Members or market data customers, nor is any customer or Member of the Exchange required, either by any Exchange rule or the federal securities laws, to purchase Real-Time access to the TOPS data feed. Moreover, the Exchange offers Delayed access to TOPS free of charge.<sup>12</sup> As of May 15, 2026, approximately 22% of Members subscribe to TOPS and would be subject to the proposed fee increase.

The Exchange plans to implement the proposed fee change on October 1, 2026, subject to effectiveness of this proposed rule change, in order to provide an opportunity for Data Subscribers to update their subscriptions to suit their particular market data needs. On July 2, 2026, the Exchange announced the planned implementation of the proposed fee increase for Real-Time access to TOPS on October 1, 2026,

Subscriber does not control both the entitlement to and display of the Real-Time IEX Market Data by the Data Subscriber. A Data Subscriber must enter into a Data Subscriber Agreement with IEX in order to receive Real-Time IEX market data. A natural person or entity that receives Real-Time IEX market data from an affiliated Data Subscriber is subject to the Data Subscriber Agreement of such affiliated Data Subscriber. See IEX Fee Schedule, *supra* note 8.

<sup>12</sup> See IEX Fee Schedule, *supra* note 8.

subject to the filing and effectiveness of an SEC rule filing.<sup>13</sup>

2. Statutory Basis

IEX believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6(b) of the Act<sup>14</sup> in general and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,<sup>15</sup> in particular, in that it is designed to provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its Members and other persons using its facilities. In addition, the Exchange believes that the proposed fee is consistent with the purposes of Section 6(b)(5)<sup>16</sup> of the Act in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to a free and open market and national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest, and particularly, is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

As described in the Purpose section, the proposed fee for Real-Time access to TOPS would continue to be an all-inclusive access fee, as the current fee for TOPS does, covering all use cases. IEX does not charge additional fees for external distribution or non-display use of TOPS and is not proposing to do so. In contrast, other exchanges charge additional fees for external distribution, non-display, and per user in addition to an internal distribution/access fee. In addition, IEX bundles quote data and last sale data together in the TOPS feed and makes all of the combined data available for a single fee. In contrast, certain other exchanges offer last sale data in a separate data feed for an additional fee.<sup>17</sup>

Based on publicly available information as of May 1, 2026, the Exchange compared the proposed fee to the fees charged by other equities

<sup>7</sup> An uncompressed data feed is a transmission of raw, unprocessed data without applying compression techniques.

<sup>8</sup> "Real-Time IEX Market Data" is IEX Market Data that is accessed, used or distributed less than fifteen (15) minutes after it was made available by the Exchange. "Delayed IEX Market Data" is IEX Market Data that is accessed, used or distributed at least fifteen (15) minutes after it was made available by the Exchange. See IEX Fee Schedule—Market Data Fees, available at <https://www.iex.io/resources/trading/fee-schedule#market-data-fees>. IEX only provides Real-Time IEX Market Data and will not itself delay the dissemination of IEX Market Data to Data Subscribers.

<sup>9</sup> "Order Book" means the System's electronic file of orders. See IEX Rule 1.160(p). The term "System" means the electronic communications and trading facility designated by the Board through which securities orders of Members are consolidated for ranking, execution, and, when applicable, routing. See IEX Rule 1.160(nn).

<sup>10</sup> See IEX Rule 11.330(a)(1). The Exchange also offers two additional Real-Time market data products, DEEP and DEEP+. DEEP is an uncompressed data feed that provides aggregated depth of book quotations for all displayed orders resting on the Order Book at each price level, and execution information (*i.e.*, last sale information) for executions on the Exchange. See IEX Rule 11.330(a)(2). DEEP+ is an uncompressed data feed that provides order-by-order depth of book quotations for all displayed orders resting on the Order Book at each price level, and execution information (*i.e.*, last sale information) for executions on the Exchange. See IEX Rule 11.330(a)(3).

<sup>11</sup> "Data Subscriber" means any natural person or entity that receives Real-Time IEX market data either directly from the Exchange or from another non-affiliated Data Subscriber via uncontrolled distribution where such non-affiliated Data

<sup>13</sup> See IEX Trading Alert #2026-008.

<sup>14</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>15</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

<sup>16</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

<sup>17</sup> MEMX, NYSE American, and 24X, for example, offer separate market data products comprised of last sale data. See MEMX Equities Fee Schedule—Market Data Fees ("MEMX Equities Fee Schedule"), available at <https://info.memxtrading.com/equities-trading-resources/us-equities-fee-schedule/>; NYSE American Market Data Fee Schedule ("NYSE American Fee Schedule"), available at [https://www.nyse.com/publicdocs/nyse/data/NYSE\\_American\\_Equities\\_Market\\_Data\\_Fee\\_Schedule.pdf](https://www.nyse.com/publicdocs/nyse/data/NYSE_American_Equities_Market_Data_Fee_Schedule.pdf); 24X National Exchange Market Data Fees ("24X Fee Schedule"), available at <https://equities.24exchange.com/api/media/file/24X%20Market%20Data%20Fees.pdf>.

exchanges with market share similar to or lower than IEX for comparable data products. IEX's year-to-date market share as of May 1, 2026 was approximately 3.78%. As described more fully below, IEX believes the proposed fee is reasonable because, for the use case of internal distribution

alone, it is equal to the fee charged by MIAX Pearl Equities ("MIAX Pearl") for a comparable market data product, which has a lower market share than IEX.<sup>18</sup> Furthermore, when taking into account the fact that the proposed fee is an all-inclusive fee that covers not only internal distribution, but also external

distribution and non-display uses, the proposed fee is lower than the aggregate fees charged by other exchanges with similar or lower market share for the same uses of similar data products. A more detailed discussion of these comparisons follows.

| Exchange                                                | IEX           | Cboe BZX           | MEMX          | MIAX Pearl         | NYSE American                         | 24X      |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Market Share as of 5/1/2026 .....                       | 3.78% .....   | 3.73% .....        | 2.28% .....   | 0.92% .....        | 0.29% .....                           | 0.11%.   |
| Top of Book Data Feed .....                             | TOPS .....    | BZX Top .....      | MEMOIR TOP .. | Top of Market ..   | NYSE American BBO .....               | 24X TOP. |
| Internal Distribution/General Access Fee ..             | \$1,000 ..... | \$750 .....        | \$750 .....   | \$1,000 .....      | \$750 .....                           | \$750.   |
| Internal Distribution Per User Fees .....               | .....         | \$4/Prof .....     | .....         | \$2/Prof. User ... | \$100 per user* ..                    | .....    |
| .....                                                   | .....         | \$0/Non-Prof ..... | .....         | \$0.10/Non-Prof .. | .....                                 | .....    |
| External Distribution .....                             | .....         | \$2,500 .....      | \$2,000 ..... | \$2,000 .....      | \$100 per user* ..                    | \$2,000. |
| Non-Display .....                                       | .....         | .....              | .....         | \$1,000 .....      | Category 1: \$500 ..                  | .....    |
| Non-Display—Trading Platform .....                      | .....         | .....              | .....         | \$1,000 .....      | Category 2: \$500 ..                  | .....    |
| .....                                                   | .....         | .....              | .....         | .....              | Category 3: \$500, capped at \$1,500. | .....    |
| Last Sale Data included .....                           | yes .....     | yes .....          | no .....      | yes .....          | no .....                              | no.      |
| Maximum Amount of Aggregate Fees (excluding user fees). | \$1,000 ..... | \$3,250 .....      | \$2,750 ..... | \$5,000 .....      | \$2,250 .....                         | \$2,750. |

\* NYSE American charges the Per User Access Fee to (i) a subscriber that receives a data feed and uses the market data product only for Professional Users and Non-Professional Users in a display-only format, including for internal use and external redistribution in a display-only format, and (ii) a Redistributor that subscribes to the NYSE American BBO and NYSE American Trades data feeds, and does not subscribe to any other Products listed on the NYSE American fee schedule other than the NYSE American OpenBook data feed and/or the NYSE American Aggregated Lite data feed, and uses these market data products for external distribution only.

### Internal Distribution

Current reporting data<sup>19</sup> for the TOPS Real-Time market data feed reflects that 100% of current TOPS subscribers use the data for internal distribution purposes. The proposed fee would be equal to the fees currently charged by MIAX Pearl for internal distribution of its Top of Market data feed, a comparable market data product to TOPS. MIAX Pearl charges \$1,000 per month for internal distribution of its Top of Market data feed.<sup>20</sup> MIAX Pearl's market share was approximately 0.92% as of May 1, 2026, or less than one quarter of the Exchange's market share for the same time period. MIAX Pearl, however, also charges user fees for internal distribution whereas IEX does not charge any user fees. Accordingly, in a situation where a MIAX Pearl subscriber had a non-zero number of Professional users in an internal distribution subscription, IEX's proposed fee would be slightly lower than the total cost of a MIAX Pearl internal distribution subscription for its top of book market data product.<sup>21</sup>

MEMX, 24X and NYSE American each charge a fee of \$750 for internal

distribution of or general access to their respective top of book data feeds.<sup>22</sup> While their fees are lower than the proposed fee, their data feeds are not comparable to IEX's TOPS in that they do not include last sale data. MEMX and 24X each charge \$500/month for their MEMOIR Last Sale and 24X Last Sale data feeds, respectively.<sup>23</sup> NYSE American offers last sale data in a separate product—the NYSE American Trades data feed—which has a general access fee of \$750/month.<sup>24</sup> Accordingly, the proposed fee of \$1,000 is less than the total fees for internal distribution of the comparable data feeds offered by MEMX, 24X, and NYSE American. In addition, as of May 1, 2026, those exchanges' respective market share were significantly lower than IEX's market share: MEMX's market share was approximately 40% lower than IEX's, 24X's market share was approximately 97% lower, and NYSE American's market share was approximately 92% lower.

### External Distribution

Based on current reporting data, approximately 14% of current TOPS

subscribers report distributing the data feed externally in Real-Time to unaffiliated third-parties. As noted above, other exchanges charge a separate fee, in addition to an internal distribution fee, for external distribution of their comparable top of book market data feeds.

The proposed fee of \$1,000 would cover any external distribution and would be lower than the fees charged by Cboe BZX, MIAX Pearl, MEMX, and 24X for external distribution of their comparable top of book data feeds. Cboe BZX charges \$3,250 (\$750 internal distribution/access fee plus \$2,500 external distribution fee) for external distribution of the BZX Top data feed.<sup>25</sup> MIAX Pearl charges \$3,000 (\$1,000 internal distribution/access fee plus \$2,000 external distribution fee) for external distribution of its Top of Market data feed. MEMX and 24X each charge \$2,750 (\$750 internal distribution/access fee plus \$2,000 external distribution fee) for external distribution of their MEMOIR Top data feeds.<sup>26</sup> In contrast, IEX does not charge any additional fee for redistribution of TOPS and is not proposing to do so. In

<sup>18</sup> Exchange market share data noted in this rule filing represents the percent of executed share volume by the relevant exchange compared to market-wide executed share volume in NMS securities (see Rule 600(64) of Regulation NMS) as of May 1, 2026 based on NYSE TAQ (Trade and Quote) data.

<sup>19</sup> The Exchange requires Data Subscribers to regularly report their usage of IEX Market Data. See IEX Data Subscriber Agreement, Section 7, available at <https://www.iex.io/documents/iex-data-subscriber-agreement>; IEX Market Data Policies,

Section 8, <https://www.iex.io/documents/iex-market-data-policies-rev202408>. The reporting data included herein is as of May 15, 2026.

<sup>20</sup> MIAX Pearl Fee Schedule, available at [https://www.miaxglobal.com/sites/default/files/fee-schedule-files/MIAX\\_Pearl\\_Equities\\_Fee\\_Schedule\\_05012026\\_0.pdf](https://www.miaxglobal.com/sites/default/files/fee-schedule-files/MIAX_Pearl_Equities_Fee_Schedule_05012026_0.pdf).

<sup>21</sup> The Exchange notes that, since MIAX Pearl charges a per user fee of \$0 for internal distribution non-professional users, in that scenario, the proposed fee would be equal to MIAX Pearl's fee.

<sup>22</sup> See MEMX Equities Fee Schedule; 24X Fee Schedule; NYSE American Fee Schedule, *supra* note 17.

<sup>23</sup> See *id.*

<sup>24</sup> See NYSE American Fee Schedule, *supra* note 17.

<sup>25</sup> See Cboe BZX Fee Schedule, available at <https://www.cboe.com/us/equities/membership/fee-schedule/bzx/>.

<sup>26</sup> MEMX and 24X also charge per user fees for external distribution. MEMX charges \$0.01 per user. 24X charges \$0.10 per user. See *supra* note 17.

addition, as of May 1, 2026, all of the above-referenced exchanges had market share lower than IEX's, as reflected in the table above.

#### Non-Display

The proposed fee of \$1,000 per month includes all Non-Display<sup>27</sup> uses, and the Exchange is not proposing a separate fee for Non-Display use. As summarized in the table above, the proposed fee would be within the range of fees charged by exchanges with lower market share than IEX for non-display use of their comparable market data feeds. A more detailed discussion of the comparison follows.

In comparison, non-display use of the NYSE American comparable data feed would be subject to an access fee (\$750), non-display fees ranging from \$500 to \$1,500, depending on the specific non-display uses, plus per user fees for display use. The aggregate of such fees for such use of the NYSE American comparable data feed would thus range from a minimum of \$1,250 (plus user fees) to \$2,250 per month—in each case more than IEX's proposed monthly fee of \$1,000.

Similarly, internal non-display use of the MIAX Pearl comparable data feed would be subject to an internal distribution fee of \$1,000, a non-display fee of \$1,000 (for non-trading purposes), and a non-display fee of \$1,000 (for trading purposes).<sup>28</sup> In addition, redistribution of the MIAX Pearl comparable data feed to nonaffiliates for display use by such recipients would incur an additional external distribution fee of \$2,000.<sup>29</sup> In the aggregate, non-display use of any type of the MIAX Pearl comparable data feed would be more costly compared to the same non-display use of IEX TOPS under the proposed fee.

#### The Proposed Fee Is Equitably Allocated and Not Unfairly Discriminatory

The Exchange believes that its proposed fee for Real-Time access to the TOPS data feed is reasonable, fair, equitable, and not unfairly discriminatory. The Exchange believes the proposed fee is fair and equitable because subscribing to the TOPS data feed is optional and the fee would apply uniformly to all Data Subscribers, irrespective of their relationship with the Exchange (*i.e.*, Member, non-Member, etc.) or what type of business they operate.

Moreover, the proposed \$1,000 monthly fee would apply equally to all Data Subscribers. The decision to subscribe to Real-Time access to TOPS or any other market data feed offered by IEX is within the control of any particular market participant, and each market participant has the ability to choose the market data product (or combination of products) best suited to its business objectives. Each Data Subscriber would be subject to the same comparatively low fee and can also receive the same data on a 15-minute Delayed basis for no fee. As a result, the proposed fee also does not favor certain categories of market participants in a manner that would impose a burden on competition because each market participant can select the market data product best suited to its needs. Thus, the Exchange believes that the proposed fee of \$1,000 per month for Real-Time access to TOPS is not unfairly discriminatory.

Accordingly, based on the foregoing analysis, IEX believes that the proposed fee for Real-Time access to TOPS is consistent with the Act.

#### B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

IEX does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on intra-market competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. Use of Real-Time TOPS is optional. As discussed in the Statutory Basis section, each Data Subscriber would be subject to the same comparatively low fee and can also receive the same data on a 15-minute Delayed basis for no fee. As a result, the proposed fee also does not favor certain categories of market participants in a manner that would impose a burden on competition because each market participant can

select the market data product best suited to its needs. Moreover, the Exchange will continue to make Real-Time access to TOPS available to market participants on a fair and impartial basis, and on terms that are not unfairly discriminatory, as discussed in the Statutory Basis section.

Further, as discussed in the Statutory Basis section, the proposed fee is within the range of fees charged by other exchanges for comparable market data products and less than the fees charged for such products by exchanges with market share similar to or lower than IEX. Thus, IEX does not believe that the proposed relatively low fee would operate as a barrier to entry, or impose a significant cost burden, on smaller Members or Data Subscribers.

The Exchange also does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on inter-market competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. As discussed in the Statutory Basis section, other exchanges charge higher fees for comparable market data products. Market participants are not required to subscribe to any market data feed. The Exchange does not believe that increasing the fees for Real-Time access to TOPS will harm inter-market competition. Moreover, competing exchanges are free to adopt comparable fee structures subject to the Commission rule filing process.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

### 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)(ii)<sup>30</sup> of the Act.

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 shall institute proceedings under Section 19(b)(2)(B)<sup>31</sup> of the Act to determine whether the proposed rule

<sup>27</sup> "Non-Display" use refers to accessing, processing, or consuming Real-Time IEX Market Data for a purpose other than (i) solely facilitating Data Subscriber's display of the Real-Time IEX Market Data or (ii) solely internally or externally distributing the Real-Time IEX Market Data. Non-Display use includes, but is not limited to, internally matching buy and sell orders within an organization, automated trading, order routing, order management, investment analysis, risk management, surveillance, compliance, and portfolio valuation. See IEX Market Data Policies, *supra* note 19, Section 13.

<sup>28</sup> IEX understands that a non-display trading fee charged by other exchanges would apply where a data recipient uses the market data to operate an exchange, an ATS, or a single dealer platform; and a non-display fee would apply where the data recipient uses the market data for internal trading purposes, such as algorithmic trading.

<sup>29</sup> See MIAX Pearl Fee Schedule, *supra* note 20.

<sup>30</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>31</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

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 (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include file number SR-IEX-2026-23 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-IEX-2026-23. 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 website (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the filing will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-IEX-2026-23 and should be submitted on or before August 19, 2026.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>32</sup>

**Sherry R. Haywood,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15247 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8011-01-P**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-105985; File No. SR-CboeEDGA-2026-024]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe EDGA Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Introduce a Data Vendor Program

July 24, 2026.

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 July 15, 2026, Cboe EDGA Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "EDGA") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

#### I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

Cboe EDGA Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "EDGA") proposes to introduce a Data Vendor Program, which includes introducing a new defined term of Data Vendor, along with other clarifying changes. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Commission's website (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>), the Exchange's website ([https://www.cboe.com/us/equities/regulation/rule\\_filings/edga/](https://www.cboe.com/us/equities/regulation/rule_filings/edga/)), and at the principal office of the Exchange.

#### II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

#### A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

##### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this proposed rule change is to (i) introduce a definition of Data Vendor; (ii) codify the existing definition (as defined in the Exchange's applicable North American Market Data Policies) of Extranet Service Provider; (iii) codify an existing practice that permits an External Distributor of both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium to be liable only for the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium; and (iv) create a program for Data Vendors in order to incentivize Data Vendors to build out the applicable feeds and make them commercially available to subscribers.<sup>3</sup> The proposed program will provide fee waivers (as described below) for External Distribution Fees for Data Vendors for the Cboe One Summary Feed and Cboe One Premium Feed.

##### Proposed Definitions

In connection with this proposed program, the Exchange first proposes to adopt a definition for a specific category of participants. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to establish the term "Data Vendor" to mean "an External Distributor that (i) is actively engaged, as part of its primary business objective, in the solicitation of unaffiliated third-party Distributors to redistribute a transformed Market Data Product; (ii) does not maintain a brokerage relationship with Users in connection with the receipt or use of the applicable Market Data Product; and (iii) is not an Extranet Service Provider." As part of this new definition, and as further described below, the Exchange proposes to codify the existing definition of Extranet Service Provider within the Cboe Global North American Market Data Policies to be within its Fee Schedule.

The Exchange has also established objective, verifiable criteria for determining eligibility as a Data Vendor. The following criteria, which will be reflected in the Exchange's Fee Schedule, must be satisfied: (1) the External Distributor must identify itself as a Data Vendor in publicly available marketing materials; (2) the External Distributor must transform the applicable Market Data Product before redistribution, which may include aggregation across multiple data

<sup>3</sup> The Exchange initially submitted the proposed rule change on July 1, 2026 (SR-CboeEDGA-2026-023). On July 15, 2026, the Exchange withdrew that filing and submitted this filing.

<sup>32</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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

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

sources, normalization into a consistent format, enrichment with reference data or analytics, or repackaging into a proprietary delivery mechanism (e.g., terminal, API, or proprietary feed); (3) the External Distributor must redistribute the applicable transformed Market Data Product to downstream Distributors as part of a paid commercial offering; (4) the External Distributor must not maintain a brokerage relationship with any User to whom it distributes the applicable Market Data Product; (5) the External Distributor must not be an Extranet Service Provider; and (6) the External Distributor must be actively engaged in the solicitation of unaffiliated third-party Distributors to subscribe to and redistribute the applicable transformed Market Data Product. Upon request, the External Distributor must provide a written attestation certifying compliance with the foregoing criteria. The Exchange may request supporting documentation, including but not limited to Distributor subscriber lists, revenue breakdowns by recipient type, and descriptions of the transformations applied to the Market Data Product. These objective eligibility criteria ensure that the Data Vendor Program is equitably applied to all similarly situated market participants.

#### External Distributor

To begin, “Data Vendor” is intended to only encompass External Distributors and not Internal Distributors. An External Distributor is defined as a Distributor that receives the Exchange Market Data product and then distributes that data to a third party or one or more Users outside the Distributor’s own entity.<sup>4</sup> The Exchange seeks to adopt this program in order to encourage broader redistribution of this data. As such, the Exchange limits this to External Distributors as the intent of this program is to have data distributed outside one’s own entity.

#### Primary Business Is To Redistribute to Distributors

To be eligible as a Data Vendor, an External Distributor must be taking in data for the primary business purpose of selling access to the applicable feed as a service in its own right, not merely redistributing data in incidental support of broader business functions such as trade execution, account management, or brokerage services. The Exchange notes that, as part of its business, a Data Vendor may redistribute a market data product to Users, but the primary purpose must be to redistribute data to

Distributors. The Exchange will assess whether an External Distributor’s primary business purpose satisfies this criterion based on the External Distributor’s publicly available marketing materials. If the Exchange were to modify this requirement to permit a primary business purpose of redistribution to either Distributors or Users, it would unintentionally include firms that may redistribute only to Users and that are not traditionally considered data vendors (e.g., a media outlet or a bank).

#### Transformed Market Data Product

To be eligible, the Exchange requires that the Data Vendor not simply pass through data in its original form. Transformation may include aggregation across multiple sources, normalization into a consistent format, enrichment with derived analytics, or repackaging into a proprietary delivery mechanism (e.g., terminal, API, feed), or any other value-added processing that distinguishes the output from the original source data.

#### No Brokerage Relationship With Users

Next, the Exchange proposes that the definition of Data Vendor include a stipulation that a Data Vendor must not maintain a brokerage relationship with Users who receive the market data product. The Exchange already has programs aimed at retail brokers, for example, both the Small Retail Broker Program and the Small Retail Broker Hosted Solutions Program.<sup>5</sup> This proposed program is intended to encourage Data Vendors specifically to take in the applicable feeds and distribute them. A Data Vendor’s service model is different from a retail broker’s, as a Data Vendor’s business model is built around providing data to firms and Users alike, whereas a retail broker’s business model is focused on connecting Users to markets in order to trade and may include providing market data as part of its offering to its Users. As the Exchange already has programs specifically for retail brokers, the Exchange does not believe it would be appropriate to include retail brokers here. The Exchange notes that if a Data Vendor that is currently receiving a fee waiver under this Program subsequently commences a brokerage relationship with its Users, it will no longer satisfy the definition of Data Vendor and will cease to be eligible for the Program. In such case, the External Distributor would be assessed the standard External Distribution Fee for the applicable feed

as of the date it no longer satisfies the definition of Data Vendor.

#### Not an Extranet Service Provider

As noted above, the Exchange proposes also to define Extranet Service Provider when it introduces the definition of Data Vendor into its Fee Schedule. Today, this term already exists in the Cboe Global Markets North American Data Policies.<sup>6</sup> The Exchange proposes to codify this definition in its Fee Schedule because the proposed definition of Data Vendor directly references this defined term. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to codify that an Extranet Service Provider is “an entity that has entered into a Cboe Global Markets Global Data Agreement and Transmits an Exchange Market Data Product, via an extranet operated by such entity, to data recipients. ‘Transmit’ means to direct an Exchange Market Data Product to one or more data recipients without modification of the content, format, or other characteristics of the Exchange Market Data Product.” An Extranet Service Provider is not authorized to use or process an Exchange Market Data Product for any purpose.

#### Applicable Data Feeds

By way of background, the Exchange offers the Cboe One Premium Data Feed, which is a data feed that disseminates, on a real-time basis, the aggregate best bid and offer (“BBO”) of all displayed orders for securities traded on the Exchange and its affiliated equities exchanges and enables recipients to receive aggregated two-sided quotations from EDGA and its affiliated equities exchanges for up to twelve (12) price levels (and, for a limited time, up to five (5) price levels).<sup>7</sup> The Cboe One Premium Data Feed is created using the data from the Exchange and each of its affiliated equities exchanges’ Summary Depth data feeds (allowing for up to 48 total price levels).

The Exchange also offers the Cboe One Summary Data Feed, which disseminates, on a real-time basis, the aggregate BBO of all displayed orders for securities traded on EDGA and its affiliated equities exchanges and also contains individual last sale information

<sup>6</sup> See Market\_Data\_Policies.pdf

<sup>7</sup> EDGA filed to increase the levels of the Cboe One Premium Data Feed from five (5) levels to twelve (12) levels. To help in this transition, it is currently supporting both the five and twelve level feeds; however, as stated in its rule, EDGA shall sunset the five (5) level feed of Cboe One Premium by December 31, 2026 (with the date to be announced via Exchange Notice). See Rule 13.8(b)(i).

<sup>4</sup> See EDGA Equities Fee Schedule.

<sup>5</sup> See EDGA Equities Fee Schedule.

for EDGA and its affiliated equities exchanges.<sup>8</sup>

#### External Distribution Fees for Cboe One Premium and Cboe One Summary

The proposed rule change also clarifies that External Distributors of both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium shall only be responsible for paying the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium. The current fee schedule provides that “Cboe One Summary User Fees can be applied to Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fees.” Under the Exchange’s existing application of this provision, an External Distributor receiving both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium is assessed only the Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fee<sup>9</sup>, and User Fees for both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium may be applied to offset that fee.

The Exchange is now proposing to make this treatment explicit by adding clarifying language to the fee schedule stating that External Distributors of both feeds are only responsible for paying the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium. This amendment does not alter the economic substance of the Exchange’s existing fee structure, nor does it impose any new or increased fees on market participants. Rather, it reduces potential ambiguity by expressly codifying the Exchange’s existing application of the user fee offset provisions. The Exchange believes this clarification will promote transparency and reduce confusion among External Distributors regarding their fee obligations under the Cboe One market data product offerings.

<sup>8</sup> The Cboe One Summary Feed is distinguishable from the Cboe One Premium Feed in that it does not provide depth of book data. In contrast, the Cboe One Premium Feed contains all the available data in the Cboe One Summary Feed and also provides depth of book data.

<sup>9</sup> To better illustrate this concept, consider the following examples. Example 1: If a firm subscribes to only Cboe One Summary, its User costs will be used to offset the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Summary. In the event the firm’s User costs total \$2,000, the firm will pay \$2,000 in User fees and \$3,000 (\$5,000 – \$2,000) for its External Distribution Fee. Example 2: If a firm subscribes only to Cboe One Premium, its User costs will be used to offset the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium. In the event a firm’s User costs total \$10,000, the firm will pay \$10,000 in User fees and \$2,500 (\$12,500 – \$10,000) for its External Distribution Fee. Example 3: If a firm subscribes to both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium, only the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium is assessed and this fee may be offset by both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium User fees. In the event a firm’s User costs are \$2,000 for Cboe One Summary and \$10,000 for Cboe One Premium, the firm will pay a total of \$12,000 in User fees (\$10,000 + \$2,000) and it will pay \$500 for its External Distribution Fee (\$12,500 – (\$10,000 + \$2,000)).

#### Impact of Proposed Program

As noted above, the proposed program would waive External Distribution Fees for Data Vendors of the Cboe One Summary Feed and the Cboe One Premium Feed (each, an “Applicable Feed”) that satisfy certain eligibility requirements. A Data Vendor must not have received the Applicable Feed for which it seeks the waiver during the 18 months<sup>10</sup> preceding the waiver application date, and must integrate, or be actively in the process of integrating, the Applicable Feed and making it commercially available to its subscribers. The Data Vendor need not have fully integrated the Applicable Feed or made it commercially available before the waiver begins. For a qualifying Data Vendor, the applicable waiver commences on the date it first receives the Applicable Feed, and, if that date occurs mid-month, that partial month counts as the first month of the waiver period. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to waive the External Distribution Fee of \$5,000 per month for Cboe One Summary for 12 months (the “Summary Waiver Period”), except that a Data Vendor is not eligible for a Summary Waiver Period if it is receiving Cboe One Premium because Cboe One Summary is included in the Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fee as noted herein. To clarify, because a Data Vendor receiving Cboe One Premium pays only the Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fee (and no separate fee is assessed for Cboe One Summary), there is no separate Cboe One Summary External Distribution Fee to waive for such a firm.<sup>11</sup> The Exchange proposes to waive the External Distribution Fee of \$12,500 per month for Cboe One Premium for 24 months (the “Premium Waiver Period”).

If an eligible Data Vendor already receives Cboe One Summary, it may still receive the Premium Waiver Period if it has not received Cboe One Premium during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date and satisfies the integration and commercial availability requirement with respect to Cboe One Premium. During the Premium Waiver Period, the Data Vendor’s Cboe One Summary subscription would be covered under the Premium Waiver, and no separate External Distribution Fee

would be assessed for Cboe One Summary. Similarly, an eligible Data Vendor that builds out both feeds simultaneously would receive only the Premium Waiver Period.

#### 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”) and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.<sup>12</sup> Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)<sup>13</sup> requirements that the rules of an exchange be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)<sup>14</sup> requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

In particular, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change promotes just and equitable principles of trade by establishing a clear, objective, and transparent definition of “Data Vendor” that properly captures the characteristics distinguishing Data Vendors from other categories of External Distributors. The proposed definition sets forth specific, verifiable criteria—namely, that a Data Vendor must (i) be an External Distributor; (ii) be actively engaged, as part of its primary business objective, in the solicitation of unaffiliated third-party Distributors to redistribute a transformed Market Data Product; (iii) not maintain a brokerage relationship with Users; and (iv) not be an Extranet Service Provider. By establishing objective eligibility criteria, the proposed rule change ensures that similarly situated market participants are treated consistently and that the benefits of the Data Vendor Program are available to all External Distributors that meet the defined qualifications.

The Exchange further believes that the codification of the existing Extranet

<sup>10</sup> The Exchange notes that this same 18-month requirement is the standard for its other fee waiver programs. See EDGA Equities Fee Schedule.

<sup>11</sup> As noted above, a firm that subscribes to both Cboe One Premium and Cboe One Summary is only charged the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium. Accordingly, an eligible Data Vendor that builds out to both feeds simultaneously receives only the Premium Waiver Period.

<sup>12</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>13</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

<sup>14</sup> *Id.*

Service Provider definition within the Fee Schedule promotes just and equitable principles of trade. Because the proposed Data Vendor definition directly references the term “Extranet Service Provider,” market participants seeking to understand their eligibility for the Program should not be required to consult the Cboe Global Markets North American Data Policies to determine how that term applies. By incorporating both defined terms into the Fee Schedule itself, the Exchange ensures that participants have access to the complete framework.

The Exchange further believes that the proposed rule change removes impediments to and perfects the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system. The Data Vendor Program is designed to incentivize Data Vendors to integrate the Applicable Feeds, make them commercially available to subscribers, and redistribute them by providing fee waivers for External Distribution Fees for the Cboe One Summary Feed and Cboe One Premium Feed. By waiving the External Distribution Fee of \$5,000 per month for Cboe One Summary for the Summary Waiver Period and waiving the External Distribution Fee of \$12,500 per month for Cboe One Premium for the Premium Waiver Period, the Exchange encourages broader redistribution of its market data products. Broader distribution of market data enhances price transparency and supports informed decision-making across the national market system, which in turn perfects the mechanism of a free and open market by ensuring that market participants have access to comprehensive, competitive data offerings.

By allowing the waiver to begin while an eligible Data Vendor is actively integrating the Applicable Feed and working to make it commercially available, the Program lowers barriers to entry during the build-out period and incentivizes a broader set of market participants to enter the Cboe One distribution chain, thereby expanding the availability of consolidated multi-exchange market data throughout the national market system.

The proposed rule change also protects investors and the public interest. By encouraging Data Vendors to take in, transform, and redistribute market data feeds, the proposed program promotes greater availability of enriched market data products to downstream Distributors and Users. The transformation requirement—which may include aggregation across multiple sources, normalization into a consistent format, enrichment with derived

analytics, or repackaging into a proprietary delivery mechanism such as a terminal, API, or feed—is a key element of qualifying as a Data Vendor and ensures that meaningful value is added to the data before redistributing it, thereby increasing the utility and accessibility of market information. To the extent the Program achieves its purpose and results in more widespread redistribution of the Cboe One feeds, market participants may benefit from enhanced access to consolidated, real-time price and last sale information through the distribution channels developed by Data Vendors.

Additionally, the codification of the existing Extranet Service Provider definition within the Fee Schedule provides additional clarity on the program requirements and codifies the definition that exists already in the Cboe Global Markets North American Market Data Policies. Furthermore, the clarification that External Distributors of both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium are only responsible for paying the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium promotes transparency by expressly codifying a practice that is already reflected in the Exchange’s existing application of the fee provision. This reduces potential confusion among market participants regarding their fee obligations.

#### Not Unfairly Discriminatory

The Exchange believes that the proposed Data Vendor Program is consistent with and complementary to its existing programs for other categories of market participants, and that offering a targeted fee waiver program specifically for Data Vendors does not constitute unfair discrimination. The Exchange has a history of establishing differentiated programs that recognize the distinct roles of different market participants. For example, the Small Retail Broker Distribution Program, provides discounted Distribution Fees and Data Consolidation Fees for eligible broker-dealers distributing the applicable feeds to Non-Professional Data Users with whom the broker-dealer has a brokerage relationship.<sup>15</sup> This program is designed to address the specific characteristics and economic needs of small retail broker-dealers. Similarly, the Small Retail Broker Hosted Solutions Program, provides fee waivers for eligible Small Retail Brokers that provide the applicable feeds to other Small Retail Brokers via hosted solutions.<sup>16</sup> This program recognizes that smaller retail brokers face unique

integration challenges and cost constraints when building out hosted data solutions. In addition, the New Internal Distributor Waiver for the EDGA Depth Data Feed waives Internal Distribution Fees for three months for Internal Distributors that have not received the EDGA Depth Data Feed during the prior 18 months.<sup>17</sup> This program incentivizes new Internal Distributors to integrate the depth-of-book feed into their systems.

The proposed Data Vendor Program is consistent with this approach. Data Vendors occupy a distinct role in the market data distribution ecosystem. Unlike retail brokers, whose primary business is providing trade execution and account management services to Users (with market data distribution as an ancillary feature), Data Vendors are primarily engaged in the business of transforming and redistributing market data to other Distributors. This fundamental difference in business model justifies a distinct program with tailored eligibility criteria and waiver periods. The waiver periods under the proposed Data Vendor Program—12 months for Cboe One Summary and 24 months for Cboe One Premium—are designed to reflect the relative complexity of integrating each feed. Depth-of-book products such as Cboe One Premium typically require more extensive technical build-out, including handling of larger data volumes, more complex display and aggregation logic, and more rigorous quality assurance processes. Additionally, Cboe One Premium is more expensive relative to the top of book of feeds. This means that Data Vendors require additional interest from clients in these products before they can even break even. Accordingly, the Exchange believes a 24-month waiver period for this product is appropriate to provide sufficient time for Data Vendors to complete their build-out. Top-of-book and summary products, in contrast, are generally less complex to integrate, and the Exchange believes a 12-month waiver period is appropriate for Cboe One Summary.

The Exchange does not maintain comparable fee waiver programs for larger broker-dealers that distribute market data to their brokerage customers. The Exchange believes this distinction is appropriate. The Small Retail Broker programs are specifically designed to address the cost constraints faced by smaller broker-dealers in building out market data distribution capabilities. Larger broker-dealers, by contrast, typically have established data infrastructure and greater resources to

<sup>15</sup> See EDGA Equities Fee Schedule.

<sup>16</sup> *Id.*

<sup>17</sup> *Id.*

absorb market data distribution costs as part of their overall brokerage operations, and, as such, their cost per user is meaningfully lower. The Data Vendor Program is intended to address a different need: incentivizing specialized data redistribution firms to build out the Applicable Feeds and bring on additional downstream Distributors. By encouraging Data Vendors to invest in the transformation and redistribution of the Exchange's market data products, the Program expands the reach and availability of this data throughout the national market system, benefiting end users and promoting competition. The Exchange therefore believes that creating a targeted program for Data Vendors, in addition to its existing programs for Small Retail Brokers and Internal Distributors, among others, is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act and does not constitute unfair discrimination.

The Exchange also believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act in that it is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers. The Data Vendor Program is available to all External Distributors that satisfy the objective criteria set forth in the proposed definition of Data Vendor and, for waiver eligibility, the additional objective criteria regarding the 18-month lookback for prior receipt of the Applicable Feed and integration or active integration of the Applicable Feed for commercial availability. The distinctions drawn by the definition—(i) requiring that a Data Vendor's primary business objective be the solicitation of unaffiliated third-party Distributors, (ii) that it not maintain a brokerage relationship with Users, and (iii) that it not be an Extranet Service Provider—reflect meaningful differences in business models and market functions.

#### External Distributors

The Exchange believes that limiting the Data Vendor Program to External Distributors is not unfairly discriminatory. Internal Distributors and External Distributors occupy fundamentally different roles in the market data distribution ecosystem and are not similarly situated participants. An Internal Distributor receives a market data product and distributes it solely within its own entity, whereas an External Distributor redistributes data outside its entity to Users or other Distributors—and a Data Vendor, as a specialized category of External Distributor, further serves the specific function of soliciting unaffiliated third-party Distributors to redistribute a

transformed market data product. The Data Vendor Program is designed precisely to incentivize and expand this type of external redistribution, a purpose that has no meaningful application to Internal Distributors who, by definition, cannot advance the proposed program's goal of broadening the reach of the Exchange's market data to downstream Distributors and end-user investors. Furthermore, the Exchange already offers programs for its Internal Distributors that it does not offer for External Distributors.<sup>18</sup>

#### Primary Business Is To Redistribute to Distributors

To be eligible as a Data Vendor, an External Distributor must be taking in data for the primary business purpose of selling access to the applicable feed as a service in its own right—not merely redistributing data in incidental support of broader business functions such as trade execution, account management, or brokerage services. The Exchange notes that as part of its business, a Data Vendor may redistribute a market data product to Users, but the primary purpose must be the redistribution of data to Distributors. The Exchange will assess whether an External Distributor's primary business purpose satisfies this criterion based on the External Distributor's publicly available marketing materials. This requirement is not unfairly discriminatory because it is directly tied to the purpose of the Program: encouraging entities whose core commercial activity is the transformation and redistribution of market data to build out the Cboe One feeds and bring on additional downstream Distributors, thereby expanding the reach and availability of the Exchange's data products. An entity that distributes market data only incidentally—as an ancillary feature of a brokerage, execution, or account management business—does not serve this purpose.

#### Transformed Market Data Product

The Exchange believes it is not unfairly discriminatory to require that a Data Vendor transform market data as a condition of eligibility, as transformation is a definitional characteristic that goes to the core of what distinguishes a Data Vendor from other categories of External Distributors and is directly tied to the Program's purpose of incentivizing participants that create new, differentiated distribution channels for the Exchange's

consolidated market data. This reasoning is directly analogous to the rationale for excluding Extranet Service Providers—entities that transmit data without modification and therefore cannot create the type of value-added products, whether delivered via terminal, API, or proprietary feed, that the Program is designed to incentivize. Because the transformation requirement ensures that the Program's fee incentives are directed only at entities whose business is built around adding that value, the Exchange believes this criterion is reasonable and does not constitute unfair discrimination.

#### No Brokerage Relationship With Users

The Exchange believes it is not unfairly discriminatory to require that Data Vendors not maintain a brokerage relationship with Users. The Exchange already maintains separate programs specifically for qualifying broker-dealers that distribute market data to their brokerage customers. Specifically, the Exchange offers the Small Retail Broker Distribution Program, which provides discounted Distribution Fees and Data Consolidation Fees for eligible broker-dealers distributing the applicable feeds to Non-Professional Data Users with whom the broker-dealer has a brokerage relationship. The Exchange also offers the Small Retail Broker Hosted Solutions Program, which provides fee waivers and lower data costs for Small Retail Brokers that provide the applicable feeds to other Small Retail Brokers via hosted solutions. These existing programs are specifically designed to encourage retail brokers to distribute market data, and the eligibility criteria for those programs reflect the characteristics of the retail brokerage business model.

The proposed Data Vendor Program does not displace or reduce the benefits available to retail brokers under those existing programs. Rather, it creates a parallel and complementary framework for a distinct category of participants—Data Vendors—that do not maintain brokerage relationships with Users, and whose primary business purpose is categorically different from that of a retail broker. Just as it would not be appropriate to extend the Small Retail Broker Program to Data Vendors, it is similarly appropriate—and not unfairly discriminatory—not to extend the Data Vendor Program to retail brokers or other participants that maintain brokerage relationships with their Users, whose needs are separately addressed by the Exchange's existing programs.

<sup>18</sup> See, e.g., EDGA Equities Fee Schedule that describes the New Internal Distributor Waiver for EDGA Depth Data Feed.

### Not an Extranet Service Provider

The Exchange also believes it is not unfairly discriminatory to exclude Extranet Service Providers from the Data Vendor Program. An Extranet Service Provider, as defined, is an entity that transmits a market data product to data recipients without modification of the content, format, or other characteristics of the product. Extranet Service Providers do not transform, enrich, or add value to the data they transmit—they serve as conduits, passing data through in its original form. This is fundamentally distinct from the function of a Data Vendor, which, by definition, must transform the Market Data Product as part of its service offering.

The Data Vendor Program is specifically premised on the value that transformation adds to the data distribution ecosystem. By enabling Data Vendors to create differentiated products—delivered via a terminal, API, proprietary feed, or other value-added mechanism—that appeal to a broader range of downstream Distributors, the Program advances the Exchange's goal of maximizing the reach and utility of its consolidated market data throughout the national market system. Extending the Program to Extranet Service Providers, which do not perform this transformative function, would undermine the Program's core purpose and would not serve the policy goal of broadening distribution of market data products in readily accessible, value-added formats.

The Exchange has created programs to address the distinct needs and business models of different categories of market participants, and the proposed Data Vendor Program is a natural extension of this approach. In addition to the Small Retail Broker programs described above, the Exchange also offers fee waivers for eligible Internal Distributors of the EDGA Depth Data Feed, which are intended to incentivize new Internal Distributors to integrate data feeds into their systems. The differentiation between Data Vendors and other categories of market participants reflects the distinct roles these entities play and the distinct incentive structures appropriate to each and does not constitute unfair discrimination.

### 18-Month and Integration Requirements

The Exchange further believes it is not unfairly discriminatory to limit the Program to Data Vendors that have not received the Applicable Feed for which they seek a waiver during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date, and that have integrated, or are actively

in the process of integrating,<sup>19</sup> the Applicable Feed and making it commercially available to subscribers. The 18-month limitation is designed to ensure that the fee waivers serve their intended purpose of reducing the upfront cost barriers for new market participants. This approach is directly consistent with the analogous frameworks the Exchange has adopted in prior programs—including the Internal Distributor Waiver for the EDGA Depth Data Feed, which similarly limits fee relief to distributors that have not received the relevant feed in the prior 18 months. The integration and commercial availability requirement is likewise reasonable because it ensures that the waiver is directed to Data Vendors that are undertaking the build-out necessary to distribute the Applicable Feed to subscribers, while not requiring full integration or commercial availability before the waiver begins. The Exchange therefore believes that these objective limitations are reasonable and appropriate, prevent the Program from operating as a permanent subsidy for established distributors, and are not unfairly discriminatory.

The Exchange also believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,<sup>20</sup> which requires that Exchange rules provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its Trading Permit Holders and other persons using its facilities. The proposed fee waivers represent a reasonable and equitable allocation of charges. The fee waivers for External Distribution Fees are limited in duration—the Summary Waiver Period for Cboe One Summary and the Premium Waiver Period for Cboe One Premium—and are available only to Data Vendors that have not received the Applicable Feed for which they seek a waiver during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date and that have integrated, or are actively in the process of integrating, the Applicable Feed and making it commercially available to subscribers. This time-limited structure ensures that the waivers serve their intended purpose of incentivizing new market entry and build-out of data feeds. The 18-month lookback requirement further ensures the equitable allocation of fees by limiting the Program to new feeds for Data Vendors, and the integration and commercial availability requirement

ensures that the waiver is tied to actual build-out and distribution activity. The Exchange notes that this same 18-month standard is consistent with the requirements applied in its other fee waiver programs.

The clarification that External Distributors of both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium shall only be responsible for paying the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium does not alter the economic substance of the Exchange's existing fee structure and does not impose any new or increased fees on market participants. Rather, it expressly codifies the Exchange's existing application of the user fee offset provisions—under which an External Distributor disseminating both products is assessed only the Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fee—thereby ensuring that all market participants have a clear and equitable understanding of their fee obligations. The Exchange therefore believes the proposed rule change provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable fees among persons using its facilities.

Lastly, the Exchange believes that the limitations regarding the waiver structure for both Cboe One Premium and Cboe One Summary equitably allocate fees. With respect to the Cboe One Summary waiver, only Data Vendors that (i) have not received Cboe One Summary during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date, (ii) are integrating or actively in the process of integrating Cboe One Summary and making it commercially available to subscribers, and (iii) are not receiving Cboe One Premium are eligible for the Summary Waiver Period. The Exchange believes that this is reasonable, as a firm that subscribes to Cboe One Premium already may elect to receive (without incurring an additional External Distribution Fee) Cboe One Summary Feed. For this reason, there is no need to provide a separate Summary Waiver Period while a firm receives Cboe One Premium, because that firm may receive the Cboe One Summary Feed without paying an additional External Distribution Fee that the proposed program seeks to waive.

Next, the Exchange notes that if a Data Vendor currently receives Cboe One Summary and elects to receive Cboe One Premium under the proposed program, so long as the Data Vendor has not received the Cboe One Premium Feed during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date and satisfies the integration and commercial availability requirement with respect to Cboe One Premium, the Data Vendor may receive the Premium Waiver Period. During that period, the Data

<sup>19</sup> The Exchange notes that no specific step is required for this, only that Data Vendor is working to integrate the Applicable Feed into its system.

<sup>20</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

Vendor's existing Cboe One Summary<sup>21</sup> subscription will be covered under the Premium Waiver, and no separate External Distribution Fee will be assessed for Cboe One Summary. This is because the Cboe One Summary External Distribution Fee is subsumed within the Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fee—accordingly, there is no separate Cboe One Summary fee to waive for a firm receiving Cboe One Premium. The Exchange believes this treatment is reasonable because it avoids providing overlapping or duplicative waiver relief while still incentivizing an existing Summary subscriber to build out Cboe One Premium.

Lastly, if a Data Vendor has not received either Applicable Feed during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date and elects to build out to both simultaneously, the Data Vendor will not receive separate Summary and Premium waivers. Instead, because the Cboe One Summary External Distribution Fee is subsumed within the Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fee, the Data Vendor will receive only the Premium Waiver Period, and no separate Summary Waiver Period will apply while it receives Cboe One Premium.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder, including, in particular, the requirements of Sections 6(b)(4)<sup>22</sup> and 6(b)(5)<sup>23</sup> of the Act.

#### *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 Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change imposes any burden on intramarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed Data Vendor Program is available to all External Distributors that satisfy the objective, clearly defined criteria set forth in the proposed

definition of "Data Vendor" and the Program's waiver eligibility standards. Any External Distributor that, as part of its primary business objective, solicits unaffiliated third-party Distributors to redistribute a transformed Market Data Product, does not maintain a brokerage relationship with Users in connection with the applicable Market Data Product, is not an Extranet Service Provider, has not received the Applicable Feed for which it seeks a waiver during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date, and has integrated or is actively integrating the Applicable Feed and making it commercially available to subscribers may qualify for the Program on equal terms. Because eligibility is determined by objective, verifiable criteria rather than by subjective or discretionary determinations, no External Distributor is advantaged or disadvantaged relative to any other similarly situated participant.

To the extent that certain External Distributors—such as retail broker-dealers or Extranet Service Providers—do not qualify for the Data Vendor Program, this does not impose a burden on intramarket competition. As described above, retail broker-dealers and Extranet Service Providers are not similarly situated to Data Vendors. Retail broker-dealers distribute market data to their own brokerage customers as an ancillary feature of their core business of providing trade execution and account management services, and their data distribution needs are more appropriately addressed by the Exchange's existing Small Retail Broker Distribution Program and Small Retail Broker Hosted Solutions Program. Extranet Service Providers, by contrast, transmit data in its original form without transformation, and therefore do not serve the same function in the data distribution ecosystem as Data Vendors, which aggregate, transform, and redistribute data to downstream Distributors. Designing a fee program specifically targeted to Data Vendors, rather than applying it uniformly across all categories of External Distributors, does not burden intramarket competition—it reflects the materially different roles, business models, and barriers of these distinct categories of participants.

Similarly, limiting the Data Vendor Program to External Distributors and not extending it to Internal Distributors does not impose a burden on intramarket competition. Internal Distributors receive and use market data solely within their own legal entities and do not redistribute data to third parties outside their organizations. They are

therefore not participants in the same competitive market for external data redistribution that the Program is designed to promote, and their needs are separately addressed through the Exchange's existing Internal Distributor programs—including the New Internal Distributor Waiver for the EDGA Depth Data Feed. The proposed Program is specifically designed to incentivize external redistribution of the Cboe One feeds, a purpose that has no meaningful application to Internal Distributors and that creates no competitive disadvantage for them.

The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change imposes any burden on intermarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. To the contrary, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change will enhance intermarket competition by incentivizing a broader class of market participants to subscribe to and redistribute the Exchange's market data products, thereby increasing the Exchange's ability to compete with other national securities exchanges and data vendors for the business of Data Vendors and their downstream Distributor clients.

The market for equity market data is highly competitive. Numerous national securities exchanges offer products that compete directly with the Cboe One Summary Feed and Cboe One Premium Feed. Market participants can obtain comprehensive market data from numerous sources, including competing exchanges (such as NYSE and Nasdaq), the consolidated tape (SIP), and alternative trading systems. Prospective Data Vendors evaluating whether to build out the Cboe One feeds must weigh the upfront costs of connectivity, software development, integration, and commercial launch against the commercial opportunity presented by the Exchange's data products. The Data Vendor Program is designed to make the Exchange's market data offering competitively priced relative to alternative options, encouraging Data Vendors to enter the Cboe One distribution chain and thereby expanding the availability and reach of the Exchange's consolidated multi-exchange market data throughout the national market system.

Far from burdening intermarket competition, the proposed rule change is a direct response to competitive market forces. The Exchange's decision to offer targeted fee waivers to new Data Vendors reflects its recognition that it must compete aggressively for the participation of data redistribution firms, and that reducing the upfront cost

<sup>21</sup> For example, if a Data Vendor currently subscribes to Cboe One Summary Feed and is eligible for the proposed program for the Cboe One Premium Feed, no separate External Distribution Fee would be assessed for Cboe One Summary during the Premium Waiver Period because Cboe One Summary is included in the Cboe One Premium subscription. The Data Vendor would receive the Premium Waiver Period and would not receive a separate Summary Waiver Period during that time.

<sup>22</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

<sup>23</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

of entry is a legitimate and necessary competitive tool in the market for exchange data products. The Commission has recognized that exchanges operate in a competitive environment with respect to market data, and that exchange fee programs designed to attract new participants and expand market data distribution are consistent with the Act's goals of promoting competition and efficiency in the national market system.

The proposed clarification that External Distributors of both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium are only responsible for paying the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium similarly does not impose any burden on intermarket competition. This change does not alter the economic substance of the Exchange's existing fee structure and does not impose any new fees on any market participant. It simply makes explicit the Exchange's existing application of the user fee offset provisions, reducing potential confusion and ensuring that all market participants have a clear and consistent understanding of their fee obligations. Regulatory clarity of this nature promotes, rather than burdens, competition by enabling market participants to make fully informed decisions about their participation in the Exchange's market data programs.

With respect to the Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium feeds specifically, the Exchange notes that the proposed Data Vendor Program does not impose any burden on competition arising from differential pricing between Cboe One and the applicable underlying equities feeds.<sup>24</sup> The Exchange notes that historically, its pricing for Cboe One products has been based on the sum of the External Distribution Fees for the four underlying equities feeds.<sup>25</sup> As an initial matter, not all underlying

equities feeds are offered under this Program. The proposed Data Vendor Program applies only to the following feeds: EDGX Top, EDGX Summary Depth, BZX Summary Depth, Cboe One Premium, and Cboe One Summary. A Data Vendor may choose to receive a waiver for Cboe One Summary or Cboe One Premium, or for EDGX Top, or for EDGX Summary Depth, or for BZX Summary Depth, or any combination thereof, subject to the applicable eligibility requirements. However, the proposed Program does not offer fee waivers for BZX Top, BYX Top, or EDGA Top data feeds, nor does it offer fee waivers for BYX Summary Depth or EDGA Summary Depth. Accordingly, the applicable underlying equities feeds do not "sum" to the applicable Cboe One feed under this proposed Program.<sup>26</sup>

Even setting aside the foregoing, the Exchange does not believe that pricing the Cboe One Summary or Cboe One Premium feeds differently from the underlying equities feeds imposes any burden on competition. To date, the Exchange is not aware of any distributor that purchases the underlying equities feeds (either the Top or Summary Depth Feeds) for the purpose of creating its own consolidated product comparable to Cboe One Summary or Cboe One Premium. This demonstrates that the practical market concern underlying any perceived burden—that distributors might be disadvantaged by differential pricing on Cboe One that is not extended to the underlying feeds—does not correspond to actual market behavior.

Moreover, Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium are distinct, independent data products—they are not merely consolidations of data from the four underlying equities feeds. In addition to consolidating top-of-book data from BZX, BYX, EDGX, and EDGA, Cboe One Summary includes supplementary data elements not found in the individual underlying feeds, including data derived from the Securities Information Processor ("SIP") containing information on the national cumulative volume. This additional content makes Cboe One a distinct product with independent utility. Market participants subscribe to the underlying equities feeds and Cboe One for fundamentally different purposes. For example, a subscriber may be interested only in top-of-book data from

a single exchange, such as EDGX, for trading, routing or compliance purposes. Such a subscriber has no need for a consolidated product. Conversely, subscribers seeking a comprehensive, cross-exchange view of Cboe liquidity choose Cboe One precisely because it offers consolidated data with additional enhancements. These distinct use cases support differentiated pricing treatment.

Data Vendors may, in theory, choose to purchase each of the four underlying equities feeds and create their own consolidated product. However, this option is not economically viable in practice. Cboe One offer a pre-consolidated feed with additional information—including cumulative volume from the SIP—that is not available in the underlying feeds. Even before considering any fee waivers or discounts, the time, effort, and technical resources required for a data vendor to acquire the four underlying feeds, integrate them, and supplement them with additional data sources would exceed the cost of simply subscribing to Cboe One. The proposed Program therefore does not place distributors at a competitive disadvantage because self-consolidation is not a realistic market alternative.

Section 6(b)(8) of the Exchange Act requires that exchange rules not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. Cboe One Summary, Cboe One Premium, and the applicable underlying equities feeds are separate products serving different market needs. Just as the Commission has permitted exchanges to offer different fees for depth-of-book data versus top-of-book data, the Exchange should have discretion to price its consolidated summary product differently from its component feeds.

Finally, the proposed Data Vendor Program is pro-competitive. By reducing the cost of consolidated and top-of-book data products for qualifying Data Vendors, the Exchange enables broader distribution of comprehensive market information to downstream distributors and, ultimately, to retail and institutional investors. Wider access to market data promotes informed investment decisions, enhances market efficiency, and supports the Exchange Act's goals of investor protection and fair and efficient markets. The Exchange does not view external distributors as competitors for its real-time feed offerings; rather, distributors serve as essential conduits that expand delivery of Cboe real-time market data to end users who do not have the technical capability or commercial need to connect directly to Cboe's individual

<sup>24</sup> For Cboe One Summary, the four equities feeds are BZX Top, BYX Top, EDGA Top and EDGX Top. For Cboe One Premium, the four equities feeds are BZX Summary Depth, BYX Summary Depth, EDGA Summary Depth and EDGX Summary Depth.

<sup>25</sup> For example, under the Small Retail Broker Distribution Program, the discounted External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Summary is \$3,500 per month, which equals the sum of the External Distribution Fees for the four underlying Top feeds: BZX Top (\$2,500), BYX Top (\$250), EDGA Top (\$0), and EDGX Top (\$750). See Cboe BZX, BYX, EDGA, and EDGX U.S. Equities Exchange Fee Schedules. Because the proposed Data Vendor Program does not offer fee waivers for BZX Top, BYX Top, EDGA Top, BYX Summary Depth, or EDGA Summary Depth, the External Distribution Fee for each of those feeds would remain in effect for any Data Vendor receiving those feeds, while the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Summary (\$0 during the Summary Waiver Period) or Cboe One Premium (\$0 during the Premium Waiver Period) would be waived. This results in a pricing differential between the sum of the underlying equities feeds and the Cboe One feeds under this Program.

<sup>26</sup> For example, the External Distribution Fee is \$0 for Cboe One Summary under the proposed Program, but the sum of the four underlying equities feeds under the proposed Program is \$2,750 (\$0 EDGX Top + \$2,500 BZX Top + \$250 BYX Top + \$0 EDGA Top).

market data feeds. This is particularly important for the retail community, as retail investors typically access market data through vendors rather than purchasing it directly from exchanges. By offering the proposed Data Vendor Program, the Exchange enables distributors to deliver competitively priced, comprehensive market data to a broader audience, thereby enhancing—not burdening—competition in the market data landscape.

For the foregoing reasons, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change imposes any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

### *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 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<sup>27</sup> and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4<sup>28</sup> 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 (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include file number SR-CboeEDGA-2026-024 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-CboeEDGA-2026-024. 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 website (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the filing will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-CboeEDGA-2026-024 and should be submitted on or before August 19, 2026.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>29</sup>

**Sherry R. Haywood,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15244 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8011-01-P**

## **SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**[Release No. 34-105983; File No. SR-CboeEDGX-2026-049]**

### **Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Introduce a Data Vendor Program**

July 24, 2026.

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 July 15, 2026, Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "EDGX") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

### **I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change**

Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "EDGX") proposes to introduce a Data Vendor Program, which includes introducing a new defined term of Data Vendor, along with other clarifying changes. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Commission's website (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>), the Exchange's website ([https://www.cboe.com/us/equities/regulation/rule\\_filings/edgx/](https://www.cboe.com/us/equities/regulation/rule_filings/edgx/)), and at the principal office of the Exchange.

### **II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change**

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

#### *A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change*

##### **1. Purpose**

The purpose of this proposed rule change is to (i) introduce a definition of Data Vendor; (ii) codify the existing definition (as defined in the Exchange's applicable North American Market Data Policies) of Extranet Service Provider; (iii) codify an existing practice that permits an External Distributor of both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium to be liable only for the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium; and (iv) create a program for Data Vendors in order to incentivize Data Vendors to build out the applicable feeds and make them commercially available to subscribers.<sup>3</sup> The proposed program will provide fee waivers (as described below) for External Distribution Fees for Data Vendors for the Cboe One Summary Feed, Cboe One Premium Feed, EDGX Summary Depth Data Feed, and EDGX Top Data Feed.

<sup>3</sup> The Exchange initially submitted the proposed rule change on July 1, 2026 (SR-CboeEDGX-2026-048). On July 15, 2026, the Exchange withdrew that filing and submitted this filing.

<sup>27</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>28</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f).

<sup>29</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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

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

### Proposed Definitions

In connection with this proposed program, the Exchange first proposes to adopt a definition for a specific category of participants. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to establish the term “Data Vendor” to mean “an External Distributor that (i) is actively engaged, as part of its primary business objective, in the solicitation of unaffiliated third-party Distributors to redistribute a transformed Market Data Product; (ii) does not maintain a brokerage relationship with Users in connection with the receipt or use of the applicable Market Data Product; and (iii) is not an Extranet Service Provider.” As part of this new definition, and as further described below, the Exchange proposes to codify the existing definition of Extranet Service Provider within the Cboe Global North American Market Data Policies to be within its Fee Schedule.

The Exchange has also established objective, verifiable criteria for determining eligibility as a Data Vendor. The following criteria, which will be reflected in the Exchange’s Fee Schedule, must be satisfied: (1) the External Distributor must identify itself as a Data Vendor in publicly available marketing materials; (2) the External Distributor must transform the applicable Market Data Product before redistribution, which may include aggregation across multiple data sources, normalization into a consistent format, enrichment with reference data or analytics, or repackaging into a proprietary delivery mechanism (e.g., terminal, API, or proprietary feed); (3) the External Distributor must redistribute the applicable transformed Market Data Product to downstream Distributors as part of a paid commercial offering; (4) the External Distributor must not maintain a brokerage relationship with any User to whom it distributes the applicable Market Data Product; (5) the External Distributor must not be an Extranet Service Provider; and (6) the External Distributor must be actively engaged in the solicitation of unaffiliated third-party Distributors to subscribe to and redistribute the applicable transformed Market Data Product. Upon request, the External Distributor must provide a written attestation certifying compliance with the foregoing criteria. The Exchange may request supporting documentation, including but not limited to Distributor subscriber lists, revenue breakdowns by recipient type, and descriptions of the transformations applied to the Market Data Product. These objective eligibility criteria

ensure that the Data Vendor Program is equitably applied to all similarly situated market participants.

### External Distributor

To begin, “Data Vendor” is intended to only encompass External Distributors and not Internal Distributors. An External Distributor is defined as a Distributor that receives the Exchange Market Data product and then distributes that data to a third party or one or more Users outside the Distributor’s own entity.<sup>4</sup> The Exchange seeks to adopt this program in order to encourage broader redistribution of this data. As such, the Exchange limits this to External Distributors as the intent of this program is to have data distributed outside one’s own entity.

### Primary Business Is To Redistribute to Distributors

To be eligible as a Data Vendor, an External Distributor must be taking in data for the primary business purpose of selling access to the applicable feed as a service in its own right, not merely redistributing data in incidental support of broader business functions such as trade execution, account management, or brokerage services. The Exchange notes that, as part of its business, a Data Vendor may redistribute a market data product to Users, but the primary purpose must be to redistribute data to Distributors. The Exchange will assess whether an External Distributor’s primary business purpose satisfies this criterion based on the External Distributor’s publicly available marketing materials. If the Exchange were to modify this requirement to permit a primary business purpose of redistribution to either Distributors or Users, it would unintentionally include firms that may redistribute only to Users and that are not traditionally considered data vendors (e.g., a media outlet or a bank).

### Transformed Market Data Product

To be eligible, the Exchange requires that the Data Vendor not simply pass through data in its original form. Transformation may include aggregation across multiple sources, normalization into a consistent format, enrichment with derived analytics, or repackaging into a proprietary delivery mechanism (e.g., terminal, API, feed), or any other value-added processing that distinguishes the output from the original source data.

### No Brokerage Relationship With Users

Next, the Exchange proposes that the definition of Data Vendor include a stipulation that a Data Vendor must not maintain a brokerage relationship with Users who receive the market data product. The Exchange already has programs aimed at retail brokers, for example, both the Small Retail Broker Program and the Small Retail Broker Hosted Solutions Program.<sup>5</sup> This proposed program is intended to encourage Data Vendors specifically to take in the applicable feeds and distribute them. A Data Vendor’s service model is different from a retail broker’s, as a Data Vendor’s business model is built around providing data to firms and Users alike, whereas a retail broker’s business model is focused on connecting Users to markets in order to trade and may include providing market data as part of its offering to its Users. As the Exchange already has programs specifically for retail brokers, the Exchange does not believe it would be appropriate to include retail brokers here. The Exchange notes that if a Data Vendor that is currently receiving a fee waiver under this Program subsequently commences a brokerage relationship with its Users, it will no longer satisfy the definition of Data Vendor and will cease to be eligible for the Program. In such case, the External Distributor would be assessed the standard External Distribution Fee for the applicable feed as of the date it no longer satisfies the definition of Data Vendor.

### Not an Extranet Service Provider

As noted above, the Exchange proposes also to define Extranet Service Provider when it introduces the definition of Data Vendor into its Fee Schedule. Today, this term already exists in the Cboe Global Markets North American Data Policies.<sup>6</sup> The Exchange proposes to codify this definition in its Fee Schedule because the proposed definition of Data Vendor directly references this defined term. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to codify that an Extranet Service Provider is “an entity that has entered into a Cboe Global Markets Global Data Agreement and Transmits an Exchange Market Data Product, via an extranet operated by such entity, to data recipients. ‘Transmit’ means to direct an Exchange Market Data Product to one or more data recipients without modification of the content, format, or other characteristics of the Exchange Market Data Product.” An Extranet

<sup>5</sup> See EDGX Equities Fee Schedule.

<sup>6</sup> See Market\_Data\_Policies.pdf.

<sup>4</sup> See EDGX Equities Fee Schedule.

Service Provider is not authorized to use or process an Exchange Market Data Product for any purpose.

#### Applicable Data Feeds

By way of background, the Exchange offers the Cboe One Premium Data Feed, which is a data feed that disseminates, on a real-time basis, the aggregate best bid and offer (“BBO”) of all displayed orders for securities traded on the Exchange and its affiliated equities exchanges and enables recipients to receive aggregated two-sided quotations from EDGX and its affiliated equities exchanges for up to twelve (12) price levels (and, for a limited time, up to five (5) price levels).<sup>7</sup> The Cboe One Premium Data Feed is created using the data from the Exchange and each of its affiliated equities exchanges’ Summary Depth data feeds (allowing for up to 48 total price levels).

The Exchange also offers the Cboe One Summary Data Feed, which disseminates, on a real-time basis, the aggregate BBO of all displayed orders for securities traded on EDGX and its affiliated equities exchanges and also contains individual last sale information for EDGX and its affiliated equities exchanges.<sup>8</sup>

The Exchange offers the EDGX Summary Depth Data Feed, which is a data feed that offers aggregated two-sided quotations up to twelve price levels for all displayed orders entered into the System and the EDGX Top Data Feed, which is a data feed that offers top-of-book quotations and last sale information based on orders entered into the Exchange’s System.

#### External Distribution Fees for Cboe One Premium and Cboe One Summary

The proposed rule change also clarifies that External Distributors of both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium shall only be responsible for paying the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium. The current fee schedule provides that “Cboe One Summary User Fees can be applied to Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fees.” Under the Exchange’s existing

application of this provision, an External Distributor receiving both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium is assessed only the Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fee,<sup>9</sup> and User Fees for both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium may be applied to offset that fee.

The Exchange is now proposing to make this treatment explicit by adding clarifying language to the fee schedule stating that External Distributors of both feeds are only responsible for paying the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium. This amendment does not alter the economic substance of the Exchange’s existing fee structure, nor does it impose any new or increased fees on market participants. Rather, it reduces potential ambiguity by expressly codifying the Exchange’s existing application of the user fee offset provisions. The Exchange believes this clarification will promote transparency and reduce confusion among External Distributors regarding their fee obligations under the Cboe One market data product offerings.

#### Impact of Proposed Program

As noted above, the proposed program would waive External Distribution Fees for Data Vendors of the Cboe One Summary Feed, Cboe One Premium Feed, EDGX Summary Depth Data Feed, and EDGX Top Data Feed (each, an “Applicable Feed”) that satisfy certain eligibility requirements. A Data Vendor must not have received the Applicable Feed for which it seeks the waiver during the 18 months<sup>10</sup> preceding the waiver application date, and must integrate, or be actively in the process of integrating, the Applicable Feed and making it commercially available to its subscribers. The Data

Vendor need not have fully integrated the Applicable Feed or made it commercially available before the waiver begins. For a qualifying Data Vendor, the applicable waiver commences on the date it first receives the Applicable Feed, and, if that date occurs mid-month, that partial month counts as the first month of the waiver period. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to waive the External Distribution Fee of \$5,000 per month for Cboe One Summary for 12 months (the “Summary Waiver Period”), except that a Data Vendor is not eligible for a Summary Waiver Period if it is receiving Cboe One Premium because Cboe One Summary is included in the Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fee as noted herein. To clarify, because a Data Vendor receiving Cboe One Premium pays only the Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fee (and no separate fee is assessed for Cboe One Summary), there is no separate Cboe One Summary External Distribution Fee to waive for such a firm.<sup>11</sup> The Exchange proposes to waive the External Distribution Fee of \$12,500 per month for Cboe One Premium for 24 months (the “Premium Waiver Period”).

If an eligible Data Vendor already receives Cboe One Summary, it may still receive the Premium Waiver Period if it has not received Cboe One Premium during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date and satisfies the integration and commercial availability requirement with respect to Cboe One Premium. During the Premium Waiver Period, the Data Vendor’s Cboe One Summary subscription would be covered under the Premium Waiver, and no separate External Distribution Fee would be assessed for Cboe One Summary. Similarly, an eligible Data Vendor that builds out both Cboe One feeds simultaneously would receive only the Premium Waiver Period.

Lastly, for eligible Data Vendors, the Exchange also proposes to waive the External Distribution Fee of \$2,500 per month for EDGX Summary Depth for 24 months (the “Summary Depth Waiver Period”) and the External Distribution Fee for EDGX Top of \$2,250 for 12 months (the “Top Waiver Period”).

#### 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”) and the rules and regulations

<sup>7</sup> EDGX filed to increase the levels of the Cboe One Premium Data Feed from five (5) levels to twelve (12) levels. To help in this transition, it is currently supporting both the five and twelve level feeds; however, as stated in its rule, EDGX shall sunset the five (5) level feed of Cboe One Premium by December 31, 2026 (with the date to be announced via Exchange Notice). See Rule 13.8(b)(i).

<sup>8</sup> The Cboe One Summary Feed is distinguishable from the Cboe One Premium Feed in that it does not provide depth of book data. In contrast, the Cboe One Premium Feed contains all the available data in the Cboe One Summary Feed and also provides depth of book data.

<sup>9</sup> To better illustrate this concept, consider the following examples. Example 1: If a firm subscribes to only Cboe One Summary, its User costs will be used to offset the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Summary. In the event the firm’s User costs total \$2,000, the firm will pay \$2,000 in User fees and \$3,000 (\$5,000 – \$2,000) for its External Distribution Fee. Example 2: If a firm subscribes only to Cboe One Premium, its User costs will be used to offset the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium. In the event a firm’s User costs total \$10,000, the firm will pay \$10,000 in User fees and \$2,500 (\$12,500 – \$10,000) for its External Distribution Fee. Example 3: If a firm subscribes to both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium, only the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium is assessed and this fee may be offset by both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium User fees. In the event a firm’s User costs are \$2,000 for Cboe One Summary and \$10,000 for Cboe One Premium, the firm will pay a total of \$12,000 in User fees (\$10,000 + \$2,000) and it will pay \$500 for its External Distribution Fee (\$12,500 – (\$10,000 + \$2,000)).

<sup>10</sup> The Exchange notes that this same 18-month requirement is the standard for its other fee waiver programs. See EDGX Equities Fee Schedule.

<sup>11</sup> As noted above, a firm that subscribes to both Cboe One Premium and Cboe One Summary is only charged the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium. Accordingly, an eligible Data Vendor that builds out to both feeds simultaneously receives only the Premium Waiver Period.

thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.<sup>12</sup> Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)<sup>13</sup> requirements that the rules of an exchange be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)<sup>14</sup> requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

In particular, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change promotes just and equitable principles of trade by establishing a clear, objective, and transparent definition of “Data Vendor” that properly captures the characteristics distinguishing Data Vendors from other categories of External Distributors. The proposed definition sets forth specific, verifiable criteria—namely, that a Data Vendor must (i) be an External Distributor; (ii) be actively engaged, as part of its primary business objective, in the solicitation of unaffiliated third-party Distributors to redistribute a transformed Market Data Product; (iii) not maintain a brokerage relationship with Users; and (iv) not be an Extranet Service Provider. By establishing objective eligibility criteria, the proposed rule change ensures that similarly situated market participants are treated consistently and that the benefits of the Data Vendor Program are available to all External Distributors that meet the defined qualifications.

The Exchange further believes that the codification of the existing Extranet Service Provider definition within the Fee Schedule promotes just and equitable principles of trade. Because the proposed Data Vendor definition directly references the term “Extranet Service Provider,” market participants seeking to understand their eligibility for the Program should not be required to consult the Cboe Global Markets North American Data Policies to determine how that term applies. By

incorporating both defined terms into the Fee Schedule itself, the Exchange ensures that participants have access to the complete framework.

The Exchange further believes that the proposed rule change removes impediments to and perfects the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system. The Data Vendor Program is designed to incentivize Data Vendors to integrate the Applicable Feeds, make them commercially available to subscribers, and redistribute them by providing fee waivers for External Distribution Fees for the Cboe One Summary Feed, Cboe One Premium Feed, EDGX Summary Depth Data Feed, and EDGX Top Data Feed. By waiving the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Summary for 12 months, Cboe One Premium for 24 months, EDGX Summary Depth for 24 months, and EDGX Top for 12 months, the Exchange encourages broader redistribution of its market data products. Broader distribution of market data enhances price transparency and supports informed decision-making across the national market system, which in turn perfects the mechanism of a free and open market by ensuring that market participants have access to comprehensive, competitive data offerings.

By allowing the waiver to begin while an eligible Data Vendor is actively integrating the Applicable Feed and working to make it commercially available, the Program lowers barriers to entry during the build-out period and incentivizes a broader set of market participants to enter the Exchange’s data distribution chain, thereby expanding the availability of market data throughout the national market system.

The proposed rule change also protects investors and the public interest. By encouraging Data Vendors to take in, transform, and redistribute market data feeds, the proposed program promotes greater availability of enriched market data products to downstream Distributors and Users. The transformation requirement—which may include aggregation across multiple sources, normalization into a consistent format, enrichment with derived analytics, or repackaging into a proprietary delivery mechanism such as a terminal, API, or feed—is a key element of qualifying as a Data Vendor and ensures that meaningful value is added to the data before redistributing it, thereby increasing the utility and accessibility of market information. To the extent the Program achieves its purpose and results in more widespread redistribution of the Applicable Feeds, market participants may benefit from

enhanced access to consolidated real-time price, depth-of-book, top-of-book, and last sale information through the distribution channels developed by Data Vendors.

Additionally, the codification of the existing Extranet Service Provider definition within the Fee Schedule provides additional clarity on the program requirements and codifies the definition that exists already in the Cboe Global Markets North American Market Data Policies. Furthermore, the clarification that External Distributors of both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium are only responsible for paying the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium promotes transparency by expressly codifying a practice that is already reflected in the Exchange’s existing application of the fee provision. This reduces potential confusion among market participants regarding their fee obligations.

#### Not Unfairly Discriminatory

The Exchange believes that the proposed Data Vendor Program is consistent with and complementary to its existing programs for other categories of market participants, and that offering a targeted fee waiver program specifically for Data Vendors does not constitute unfair discrimination. The Exchange has a history of establishing differentiated programs that recognize the distinct roles of different market participants. For example, the Small Retail Broker Distribution Program, provides discounted Distribution Fees and Data Consolidation Fees for eligible broker-dealers distributing the applicable feeds to Non-Professional Data Users with whom the broker-dealer has a brokerage relationship.<sup>15</sup> This program is designed to address the specific characteristics and economic needs of small retail broker-dealers. Similarly, the Small Retail Broker Hosted Solutions Program, provides fee waivers for eligible Small Retail Brokers that provide the applicable feeds to other Small Retail Brokers via hosted solutions.<sup>16</sup> This program recognizes that smaller retail brokers face unique integration challenges and cost constraints when building out hosted data solutions. In addition, the New Internal Distributor Waiver for the EDGX Depth Data Feed waives Internal Distribution Fees for three months for Internal Distributors that have not received the EDGX Depth Data Feed during the prior 18 months.<sup>17</sup> This

<sup>12</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>13</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

<sup>14</sup> *Id.*

<sup>15</sup> See EDGX Equities Fee Schedule.

<sup>16</sup> See EDGX Equities Fee Schedule.

<sup>17</sup> *Id.*

program incentivizes new Internal Distributors to integrate the depth-of-book feed into their systems.

The proposed Data Vendor Program is consistent with this approach. Data Vendors occupy a distinct role in the market data distribution ecosystem. Unlike retail brokers, whose primary business is providing trade execution and account management services to Users (with market data distribution as an ancillary feature), Data Vendors are primarily engaged in the business of transforming and redistributing market data to other Distributors. This fundamental difference in business model justifies a distinct program with tailored eligibility criteria and waiver periods. The waiver periods under the proposed Data Vendor Program—12 months for Cboe One Summary and EDGX Top, and 24 months for Cboe One Premium and EDGX Summary Depth—are designed to reflect the relative complexity of integrating each feed. Depth-of-book products such as Cboe One Premium and EDGX Summary Depth typically require more extensive technical build-out, including handling of larger data volumes, more complex display and aggregation logic, and more rigorous quality assurance processes. Additionally, EDGX Summary Depth and Cboe One Premium are more expensive relative to the top of book of feeds. This means that Data Vendors require additional interest from clients in these products before they can even break even. Accordingly, the Exchange believes a 24-month waiver period for these products is appropriate to provide sufficient time for Data Vendors to complete their build-out. Top-of-book and summary products, in contrast, are generally less complex to integrate, and the Exchange believes a 12-month waiver period is appropriate for these feeds.

The Exchange does not maintain comparable fee waiver programs for larger broker-dealers that distribute market data to their brokerage customers. The Exchange believes this distinction is appropriate. The Small Retail Broker programs are specifically designed to address the cost constraints faced by smaller broker-dealers in building out market data distribution capabilities. Larger broker-dealers, by contrast, typically have established data infrastructure and greater resources to absorb market data distribution costs as part of their overall brokerage operations, and, as such, their cost per user is meaningfully lower. The Data Vendor Program is intended to address a different need: incentivizing specialized data redistribution firms to build out the Applicable Feeds and

bring on additional downstream Distributors. By encouraging Data Vendors to invest in the transformation and redistribution of the Exchange's market data products, the Program expands the reach and availability of this data throughout the national market system, benefiting end users and promoting competition. The Exchange therefore believes that creating a targeted program for Data Vendors, in addition to its existing programs for Small Retail Brokers and Internal Distributors, among others, is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act and does not constitute unfair discrimination.

The Exchange also believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act in that it is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers. The Data Vendor Program is available to all External Distributors that satisfy the objective criteria set forth in the proposed definition of Data Vendor and, for waiver eligibility, the additional objective criteria regarding the 18-month lookback for prior receipt of the Applicable Feed and integration or active integration of the Applicable Feed for commercial availability. The distinctions drawn by the definition—(i) requiring that a Data Vendor's primary business objective be the solicitation of unaffiliated third-party Distributors, (ii) that it not maintain a brokerage relationship with Users, and (iii) that it not be an Extranet Service Provider—reflect meaningful differences in business models and market functions.

#### External Distributors

The Exchange believes that limiting the Data Vendor Program to External Distributors is not unfairly discriminatory. Internal Distributors and External Distributors occupy fundamentally different roles in the market data distribution ecosystem and are not similarly situated participants. An Internal Distributor receives a market data product and distributes it solely within its own entity, whereas an External Distributor redistributes data outside its entity to Users or other Distributors—and a Data Vendor, as a specialized category of External Distributor, further serves the specific function of soliciting unaffiliated third-party Distributors to redistribute a transformed market data product. The Data Vendor Program is designed precisely to incentivize and expand this type of external redistribution, a purpose that has no meaningful application to Internal Distributors who, by definition, cannot advance the proposed program's goal of broadening

the reach of the Exchange's market data to downstream Distributors and end-user investors. Furthermore, the Exchange already offers programs for its Internal Distributors that it does not offer for External Distributors.<sup>18</sup>

#### Primary Business Is To Redistribute to Distributors

To be eligible as a Data Vendor, an External Distributor must be taking in data for the primary business purpose of selling access to the applicable feed as a service in its own right—not merely redistributing data in incidental support of broader business functions such as trade execution, account management, or brokerage services. The Exchange notes that as part of its business, a Data Vendor may redistribute a market data product to Users, but the primary purpose must be the redistribution of data to Distributors. The Exchange will assess whether an External Distributor's primary business purpose satisfies this criterion based on the External Distributor's publicly available marketing materials. This requirement is not unfairly discriminatory because it is directly tied to the purpose of the Program: encouraging entities whose core commercial activity is the transformation and redistribution of market data to build out the Applicable Feeds and bring on additional downstream Distributors, thereby expanding the reach and availability of the Exchange's data products. An entity that distributes market data only incidentally—as an ancillary feature of a brokerage, execution, or account management business—does not serve this purpose.

#### Transformed Market Data Product

The Exchange believes it is not unfairly discriminatory to require that a Data Vendor transform market data as a condition of eligibility, as transformation is a definitional characteristic that goes to the core of what distinguishes a Data Vendor from other categories of External Distributors and is directly tied to the Program's purpose of incentivizing participants that create new, differentiated distribution channels for the Exchange's consolidated market data. This reasoning is directly analogous to the rationale for excluding Extranet Service Providers—entities that transmit data without modification and therefore cannot create the type of value-added products, whether delivered via terminal, API, or proprietary feed, that

<sup>18</sup> See, e.g., EDGX Equities Fee Schedule that describes the New Internal Distributor Waiver for EDGX Depth Data Feed.

the Program is designed to incentivize. Because the transformation requirement ensures that the Program's fee incentives are directed only at entities whose business is built around adding that value, the Exchange believes this criterion is reasonable and does not constitute unfair discrimination.

#### No Brokerage Relationship With Users

The Exchange believes it is not unfairly discriminatory to require that Data Vendors not maintain a brokerage relationship with Users. The Exchange already maintains separate programs specifically for qualifying broker-dealers that distribute market data to their brokerage customers. Specifically, the Exchange offers the Small Retail Broker Distribution Program, which provides discounted Distribution Fees and Data Consolidation Fees for eligible broker-dealers distributing the applicable feeds to Non-Professional Data Users with whom the broker-dealer has a brokerage relationship. The Exchange also offers the Small Retail Broker Hosted Solutions Program, which provides fee waivers and lower data costs for Small Retail Brokers that provide the applicable feeds to other Small Retail Brokers via hosted solutions. These existing programs are specifically designed to encourage retail brokers to distribute market data, and the eligibility criteria for those programs reflect the characteristics of the retail brokerage business model.

The proposed Data Vendor Program does not displace or reduce the benefits available to retail brokers under those existing programs. Rather, it creates a parallel and complementary framework for a distinct category of participants—Data Vendors—that do not maintain brokerage relationships with Users, and whose primary business purpose is categorically different from that of a retail broker. Just as it would not be appropriate to extend the Small Retail Broker Program to Data Vendors, it is similarly appropriate—and not unfairly discriminatory—not to extend the Data Vendor Program to retail brokers or other participants that maintain brokerage relationships with their Users, whose needs are separately addressed by the Exchange's existing programs.

#### Not an Extranet Service Provider

The Exchange also believes it is not unfairly discriminatory to exclude Extranet Service Providers from the Data Vendor Program. An Extranet Service Provider, as defined, is an entity that transmits a market data product to data recipients without modification of the content, format, or other characteristics of the product. Extranet Service

Providers do not transform, enrich, or add value to the data they transmit—they serve as conduits, passing data through in its original form. This is fundamentally distinct from the function of a Data Vendor, which, by definition, must transform the Market Data Product as part of its service offering.

The Data Vendor Program is specifically premised on the value that transformation adds to the data distribution ecosystem. By enabling Data Vendors to create differentiated products—delivered via a terminal, API, proprietary feed, or other value-added mechanism—that appeal to a broader range of downstream Distributors, the Program advances the Exchange's goal of maximizing the reach and utility of its consolidated market data throughout the national market system. Extending the Program to Extranet Service Providers, which do not perform this transformative function, would undermine the Program's core purpose and would not serve the policy goal of broadening distribution of market data products in readily accessible, value-added formats.

The Exchange has created programs to address the distinct needs and business models of different categories of market participants, and the proposed Data Vendor Program is a natural extension of this approach. In addition to the Small Retail Broker programs described above, the Exchange also offers fee waivers for eligible Internal Distributors of the EDGX Depth Data Feed, which are intended to incentivize new Internal Distributors to integrate data feeds into their systems. The differentiation between Data Vendors and other categories of market participants reflects the distinct roles these entities play and the distinct incentive structures appropriate to each and does not constitute unfair discrimination.

#### 18-Month and Integration Requirements

The Exchange further believes it is not unfairly discriminatory to limit the Program to Data Vendors that have not received the Applicable Feed for which they seek a waiver during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date, and that have integrated, or are actively in the process of integrating,<sup>19</sup> the Applicable Feed and making it commercially available to subscribers. The 18-month limitation is designed to ensure that the fee waivers serve their intended purpose of reducing the upfront cost barriers for new market

participants. This approach is directly consistent with the analogous frameworks the Exchange has adopted in prior programs—including the Internal Distributor Waiver for the EDGX Depth Data Feed, which similarly limits fee relief to distributors that have not received the relevant feed in the prior 18 months. The integration and commercial availability requirement is likewise reasonable because it ensures that the waiver is directed to Data Vendors that are undertaking the build-out necessary to distribute the Applicable Feed to subscribers, while not requiring full integration or commercial availability before the waiver begins. The Exchange therefore believes that these objective limitations are reasonable and appropriate, prevent the Program from operating as a permanent subsidy for established distributors, and are not unfairly discriminatory.

The Exchange also believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,<sup>20</sup> which requires that Exchange rules provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its Trading Permit Holders and other persons using its facilities. The proposed fee waivers represent a reasonable and equitable allocation of charges. The fee waivers for External Distribution Fees are limited in duration—12 months for Cboe One Summary, 24 months for Cboe One Premium, 24 months for EDGX Summary Depth, and 12 months for EDGX Top—and are available only to Data Vendors that have not received the Applicable Feed for which they seek a waiver during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date and that have integrated, or are actively in the process of integrating, the Applicable Feed and making it commercially available to subscribers. This time-limited structure ensures that the waivers serve their intended purpose of incentivizing new market entry and build-out of data feeds. The 18-month lookback requirement further ensures the equitable allocation of fees by limiting the Program to new feeds for Data Vendors, and the integration and commercial availability requirement ensures that the waiver is tied to actual build-out and distribution activity. The Exchange notes that this same 18-month standard is consistent with the requirements applied in its other fee waiver programs.

The clarification that External Distributors of both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium shall only be

<sup>19</sup> The Exchange notes that no specific step is required for this, only that Data Vendor is working to integrate the Applicable Feed into its system.

<sup>20</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

responsible for paying the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium does not alter the economic substance of the Exchange's existing fee structure and does not impose any new or increased fees on market participants. Rather, it expressly codifies the Exchange's existing application of the user fee offset provisions—under which an External Distributor disseminating both products is assessed only the Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fee—thereby ensuring that all market participants have a clear and equitable understanding of their fee obligations. The Exchange therefore believes the proposed rule change provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable fees among persons using its facilities.

Lastly, the Exchange believes that the limitations regarding the waiver structure for both Cboe One Premium and Cboe One Summary equitably allocate fees. With respect to the Cboe One Summary waiver, only Data Vendors that (i) have not received Cboe One Summary during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date, (ii) are integrating or actively in the process of integrating Cboe One Summary and making it commercially available to subscribers, and (iii) are not receiving Cboe One Premium are eligible for the Summary Waiver Period. The Exchange believes that this is reasonable, as a firm that subscribes to Cboe One Premium already may elect to receive (without incurring an additional External Distribution Fee) Cboe One Summary Feed. For this reason, there is no need to provide a separate Summary Waiver Period while a firm receives Cboe One Premium, because that firm may receive the Cboe One Summary Feed without paying an additional External Distribution Fee that the proposed program seeks to waive.

Next, the Exchange notes that if a Data Vendor currently receives Cboe One Summary and elects to receive Cboe One Premium under the proposed program, so long as the Data Vendor has not received the Cboe One Premium Feed during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date and satisfies the integration and commercial availability requirement with respect to Cboe One Premium, the Data Vendor may receive the Premium Waiver Period. During that period, the Data Vendor's existing Cboe One Summary<sup>21</sup> subscription will be covered

under the Premium Waiver, and no separate External Distribution Fee will be assessed for Cboe One Summary. This is because the Cboe One Summary External Distribution Fee is subsumed within the Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fee—accordingly, there is no separate Cboe One Summary fee to waive for a firm receiving Cboe One Premium. The Exchange believes this treatment is reasonable because it avoids providing overlapping or duplicative waiver relief while still incentivizing an existing Summary subscriber to build out Cboe One Premium.

Lastly, if a Data Vendor has not received either Cboe One Summary or Cboe One Premium during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date and elects to build out both Cboe One feeds simultaneously, the Data Vendor will not receive separate Summary and Premium waivers. Instead, because the Cboe One Summary External Distribution Fee is subsumed within the Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fee, the Data Vendor will receive only the Premium Waiver Period, and no separate Summary Waiver Period will apply while it receives Cboe One Premium.

With respect to EDGX Summary Depth and EDGX Top, the Exchange believes that the applicable waiver periods also equitably allocate fees. The 24-month Summary Depth Waiver Period is reasonable because integrating a depth-of-book product may require a more substantial build-out by a Data Vendor, while the 12-month Top Waiver Period is reasonable because EDGX Top provides top-of-book and last sale information and generally should require a less extensive integration effort. In each case, the waiver is available only if the Data Vendor satisfies the 18-month lookback and integration or active-integration requirements for the applicable feed.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder, including, in particular, the requirements of Sections 6(b)(4)<sup>22</sup> and 6(b)(5)<sup>23</sup> of the Act.

#### *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 Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change imposes any burden on intramarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed Data Vendor Program is available to all External Distributors that satisfy the objective, clearly defined criteria set forth in the proposed definition of "Data Vendor" and the Program's waiver eligibility standards. Any External Distributor that, as part of its primary business objective, solicits unaffiliated third-party Distributors to redistribute a transformed Market Data Product, does not maintain a brokerage relationship with Users in connection with the applicable Market Data Product, is not an Extranet Service Provider, has not received the Applicable Feed for which it seeks a waiver during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date, and has integrated or is actively integrating the Applicable Feed and making it commercially available to subscribers may qualify for the Program on equal terms. Because eligibility is determined by objective, verifiable criteria rather than by subjective or discretionary determinations, no External Distributor is advantaged or disadvantaged relative to any other similarly situated participant.

To the extent that certain External Distributors—such as retail broker-dealers or Extranet Service Providers—do not qualify for the Data Vendor Program, this does not impose a burden on intramarket competition. As described above, retail broker-dealers and Extranet Service Providers are not similarly situated to Data Vendors. Retail broker-dealers distribute market data to their own brokerage customers as an ancillary feature of their core business of providing trade execution and account management services, and their data distribution needs are more appropriately addressed by the Exchange's existing Small Retail Broker Distribution Program and Small Retail Broker Hosted Solutions Program. Extranet Service Providers, by contrast, transmit data in its original form without transformation, and therefore do not serve the same function in the data distribution ecosystem as Data Vendors, which aggregate, transform, and redistribute data to downstream Distributors. Designing a fee program specifically targeted to Data Vendors, rather than applying it uniformly across all categories of External Distributors, does not burden intramarket

<sup>21</sup> For example, if a Data Vendor currently subscribes to Cboe One Summary Feed and is eligible for the proposed program for the Cboe One Premium Feed, no separate External Distribution Fee would be assessed for Cboe One Summary during the Premium Waiver Period because Cboe One Summary is included in the Cboe One

Premium subscription. The Data Vendor would receive the Premium Waiver Period and would not receive a separate Summary Waiver Period during that time.

<sup>22</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

<sup>23</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

competition—it reflects the materially different roles, business models, and barriers of these distinct categories of participants.

Similarly, limiting the Data Vendor Program to External Distributors and not extending it to Internal Distributors does not impose a burden on intramarket competition. Internal Distributors receive and use market data solely within their own legal entities and do not redistribute data to third parties outside their organizations. They are therefore not participants in the same competitive market for external data redistribution that the Program is designed to promote, and their needs are separately addressed through the Exchange's existing Internal Distributor programs—including the New Internal Distributor Waiver for the EDGX Depth Data Feed. The proposed Program is specifically designed to incentivize external redistribution of the Applicable Feeds, a purpose that has no meaningful application to Internal Distributors and that creates no competitive disadvantage for them.

The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change imposes any burden on intermarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. To the contrary, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change will enhance intermarket competition by incentivizing a broader class of market participants to subscribe to and redistribute the Exchange's market data products, thereby increasing the Exchange's ability to compete with other national securities exchanges and data vendors for the business of Data Vendors and their downstream Distributor clients.

The market for equity market data is highly competitive. Numerous national securities exchanges offer products that compete directly with the Cboe One Summary Feed, Cboe One Premium Feed, EDGX Summary Depth Data Feed, and EDGX Top Data Feed. Market participants can obtain comprehensive market data from numerous sources, including competing exchanges (such as NYSE and Nasdaq), the consolidated tape (SIP), and alternative trading systems. Prospective Data Vendors evaluating whether to build out the Applicable Feeds must weigh the upfront costs of connectivity, software development, integration, and commercial launch against the commercial opportunity presented by the Exchange's data products. The Data Vendor Program is designed to make the Exchange's market data offering competitively priced relative to alternative options, encouraging Data

Vendors to enter the Exchange's data distribution chain and thereby expanding the availability and reach of the Exchange's market data throughout the national market system.

Far from burdening intermarket competition, the proposed rule change is a direct response to competitive market forces. The Exchange's decision to offer targeted fee waivers to new Data Vendors reflects its recognition that it must compete aggressively for the participation of data redistribution firms, and that reducing the upfront cost of entry is a legitimate and necessary competitive tool in the market for exchange data products. The Commission has recognized that exchanges operate in a competitive environment with respect to market data, and that exchange fee programs designed to attract new participants and expand market data distribution are consistent with the Act's goals of promoting competition and efficiency in the national market system.

The proposed clarification that External Distributors of both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium are only responsible for paying the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium similarly does not impose any burden on intermarket competition. This change does not alter the economic substance of the Exchange's existing fee structure and does not impose any new fees on any market participant. It simply makes explicit the Exchange's existing application of the user fee offset provisions, reducing potential confusion and ensuring that all market participants have a clear and consistent understanding of their fee obligations. Regulatory clarity of this nature promotes, rather than burdens, competition by enabling market participants to make fully informed decisions about their participation in the Exchange's market data programs.

With respect to the Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium feeds specifically, the Exchange notes that the proposed Data Vendor Program does not impose any burden on competition arising from differential pricing between Cboe One and the applicable underlying equities feeds.<sup>24</sup> The Exchange notes that historically, its pricing for Cboe One products has been based on the sum of the External Distribution Fees for the four underlying equities feeds.<sup>25</sup> As

<sup>24</sup> For Cboe One Summary, the four equities feeds are BZX Top, BYX Top, EDGA Top and EDGX Top. For Cboe One Premium, the four equities feeds are BZX Summary Depth, BYX Summary Depth, EDGA Summary Depth and EDGX Summary Depth.

<sup>25</sup> For example, under the Small Retail Broker Distribution Program, the discounted External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Summary is \$3,500

an initial matter, not all underlying equities feeds are offered under this Program. The proposed Data Vendor Program applies only to the following feeds: EDGX Top, EDGX Summary Depth, BZX Summary Depth, Cboe One Premium, and Cboe One Summary. A Data Vendor may choose to receive a waiver for Cboe One Summary or Cboe One Premium, or for EDGX Top, or for EDGX Summary Depth, or for BZX Summary Depth, or any combination thereof, subject to the applicable eligibility requirements. However, the proposed Program does not offer fee waivers for BZX Top, BYX Top, or EDGA Top data feeds, nor does it offer fee waivers for BYX Summary Depth or EDGA Summary Depth. Accordingly, the applicable underlying equities feeds do not "sum" to the applicable Cboe One feed under this proposed Program.<sup>26</sup>

Even setting aside the foregoing, the Exchange does not believe that pricing the Cboe One Summary or Cboe One Premium feeds differently from the underlying equities feeds imposes any burden on competition. To date, the Exchange is not aware of any distributor that purchases the underlying equities feeds (either the Top or Summary Depth Feeds) for the purpose of creating its own consolidated product comparable to Cboe One Summary or Cboe One Premium. This demonstrates that the practical market concern underlying any perceived burden—that distributors might be disadvantaged by differential pricing on Cboe One that is not extended to the underlying feeds—does not correspond to actual market behavior.

Moreover, Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium are distinct, independent data products—they are not merely consolidations of data from the four underlying equities feeds. In addition to consolidating top-of-book

per month, which equals the sum of the External Distribution Fees for the four underlying Top feeds: BZX Top (\$2,500), BYX Top (\$250), EDGA Top (\$0), and EDGX Top (\$750). See Cboe BZX, BYX, EDGA, and EDGX U.S. Equities Exchange Fee Schedules. Because the proposed Data Vendor Program does not offer fee waivers for BZX Top, BYX Top, EDGA Top, BYX Summary Depth, or EDGA Summary Depth, the External Distribution Fee for each of those feeds would remain in effect for any Data Vendor receiving those feeds, while the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Summary (\$0 during the Summary Waiver Period) or Cboe One Premium (\$0 during the Premium Waiver Period) would be waived. This results in a pricing differential between the sum of the underlying equities feeds and the Cboe One feeds under this Program.

<sup>26</sup> For example, the External Distribution Fee is \$0 for Cboe One Summary under the proposed Program, but the sum of the four underlying equities feeds under the proposed Program is \$2,750 (\$0 EDGX Top + \$2,500 BZX Top + \$250 BYX Top + \$0 EDGA Top).

data from BZX, BYX, EDGX, and EDGA, Cboe One Summary includes supplementary data elements not found in the individual underlying feeds, including data derived from the Securities Information Processor (“SIP”) containing information on the national cumulative volume. This additional content makes Cboe One a distinct product with independent utility. Market participants subscribe to the underlying equities feeds and Cboe One for fundamentally different purposes. For example, a subscriber may be interested only in top-of-book data from a single exchange, such as EDGX, for trading, routing or compliance purposes. Such a subscriber has no need for a consolidated product. Conversely, subscribers seeking a comprehensive, cross-exchange view of Cboe liquidity choose Cboe One precisely because it offers consolidated data with additional enhancements. These distinct use cases support differentiated pricing treatment.

Data Vendors may, in theory, choose to purchase each of the four underlying equities feeds and create their own consolidated product. However, this option is not economically viable in practice. Cboe One offers a pre-consolidated feed with additional information—including cumulative volume from the SIP—that is not available in the underlying feeds. Even before considering any fee waivers or discounts, the time, effort, and technical resources required for a data vendor to acquire the four underlying feeds, integrate them, and supplement them with additional data sources would exceed the cost of simply subscribing to Cboe One. The proposed Program therefore does not place distributors at a competitive disadvantage because self-consolidation is not a realistic market alternative.

Section 6(b)(8) of the Exchange Act requires that exchange rules not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. Cboe One Summary, Cboe One Premium, and the applicable underlying equities feeds are separate products serving different market needs. Just as the Commission has permitted exchanges to offer different fees for depth-of-book data versus top-of-book data, the Exchange should have discretion to price its consolidated summary product differently from its component feeds.

Finally, the proposed Data Vendor Program is pro-competitive. By reducing the cost of consolidated and top-of-book data products for qualifying Data Vendors, the Exchange enables broader distribution of comprehensive market information to downstream distributors

and, ultimately, to retail and institutional investors. Wider access to market data promotes informed investment decisions, enhances market efficiency, and supports the Exchange Act’s goals of investor protection and fair and efficient markets. The Exchange does not view external distributors as competitors for its real-time feed offerings; rather, distributors serve as essential conduits that expand delivery of Cboe real-time market data to end users who do not have the technical capability or commercial need to connect directly to Cboe’s individual market data feeds. This is particularly important for the retail community, as retail investors typically access market data through vendors rather than purchasing it directly from exchanges. By offering the proposed Data Vendor Program, the Exchange enables distributors to deliver competitively priced, comprehensive market data to a broader audience, thereby enhancing—not burdening—competition in the market data landscape.

For the foregoing reasons, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change imposes any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

#### *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 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<sup>27</sup> and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4<sup>28</sup> 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 (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include file number SR-CboeEDGX-2026-049 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-CboeEDGX-2026-049. 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 website (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the filing will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-CboeEDGX-2026-049 and should be submitted on or before August 19, 2026.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>29</sup>

**Sherry R. Haywood,**  
*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15252 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8011-01-P**

## **SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**[Release No. 34-105990; File No. SR-CboeBZX-2026-060]**

### **Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Introduce a Data Vendor Program**

July 24, 2026.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

<sup>27</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>28</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f).

<sup>29</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

(“Act”),<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on July 15, 2026, Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “BZX”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

### **I. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change**

Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “BZX”) proposes to introduce a Data Vendor Program, which includes introducing a new defined term of Data Vendor, along with other clarifying changes. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Commission’s website (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>), the Exchange’s website ([https://www.cboe.com/us/equities/regulation/rule\\_filings/bzx/](https://www.cboe.com/us/equities/regulation/rule_filings/bzx/)), and at the principal office of the Exchange.

### **II. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change**

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

#### **A. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change**

##### **1. Purpose**

The purpose of this proposed rule change is to (i) introduce a definition of Data Vendor; (ii) codify the existing definition (as defined in the Exchange’s applicable North American Market Data Policies) of Extranet Service Provider; (iii) codify an existing practice that permits an External Distributor of both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium to be liable only for the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium; and (iv) create a program for

Data Vendors in order to incentivize Data Vendors to build out the applicable feeds and make them commercially available to subscribers.<sup>3</sup> The proposed program will provide fee waivers (as described below) for External Distribution Fees for Data Vendors for the Cboe One Summary Feed, Cboe One Premium Feed, and BZX Summary Depth Feed.

#### **Proposed Definitions**

In connection with this proposed program, the Exchange first proposes to adopt a definition for a specific category of participants. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to establish the term “Data Vendor” to mean “an External Distributor that (i) is actively engaged, as part of its primary business objective, in the solicitation of unaffiliated third-party Distributors to redistribute a transformed Market Data Product; (ii) does not maintain a brokerage relationship with Users in connection with the receipt or use of the applicable Market Data Product; and (iii) is not an Extranet Service Provider.” As part of this new definition, and as further described below, the Exchange proposes to codify the existing definition of Extranet Service Provider within the Cboe Global North American Market Data Policies to be within its Fee Schedule.

The Exchange has also established objective, verifiable criteria for determining eligibility as a Data Vendor. The following criteria, which will be reflected in the Exchange’s Fee Schedule, must be satisfied: (1) the External Distributor must identify itself as a Data Vendor in publicly available marketing materials; (2) the External Distributor must transform the applicable Market Data Product before redistribution, which may include aggregation across multiple data sources, normalization into a consistent format, enrichment with reference data or analytics, or repackaging into a proprietary delivery mechanism (e.g., terminal, API, or proprietary feed); (3) the External Distributor must redistribute the applicable transformed Market Data Product to downstream Distributors as part of a paid commercial offering; (4) the External Distributor must not maintain a brokerage relationship with any User to whom it distributes the applicable Market Data Product; (5) the External Distributor must not be an Extranet Service Provider; and (6) the External

Distributor must be actively engaged in the solicitation of unaffiliated third-party Distributors to subscribe to and redistribute the applicable transformed Market Data Product. Upon request, the External Distributor must provide a written attestation certifying compliance with the foregoing criteria. The Exchange may request supporting documentation, including but not limited to Distributor subscriber lists, revenue breakdowns by recipient type, and descriptions of the transformations applied to the Market Data Product. These objective eligibility criteria ensure that the Data Vendor Program is equitably applied to all similarly situated market participants.

#### **External Distributor**

To begin, “Data Vendor” is intended to only encompass External Distributors and not Internal Distributors. An External Distributor is defined as a Distributor that receives the Exchange Market Data product and then distributes that data to a third party or one or more Users outside the Distributor’s own entity.<sup>4</sup> The Exchange seeks to adopt this program in order to encourage broader redistribution of this data. As such, the Exchange limits this to External Distributors as the intent of this program is to have data distributed outside one’s own entity.

#### **Primary Business Is To Redistribute to Distributors**

To be eligible as a Data Vendor, an External Distributor must be taking in data for the primary business purpose of selling access to the applicable feed as a service in its own right, not merely redistributing data in incidental support of broader business functions such as trade execution, account management, or brokerage services. The Exchange notes that, as part of its business, a Data Vendor may redistribute a market data product to Users, but the primary purpose must be to redistribute data to Distributors. The Exchange will assess whether an External Distributor’s primary business purpose satisfies this criterion based on the External Distributor’s publicly available marketing materials. If the Exchange were to modify this requirement to permit a primary business purpose of redistribution to either Distributors or Users, it would unintentionally include firms that may redistribute only to Users and that are not traditionally considered data vendors (e.g., a media outlet or a bank).

<sup>3</sup> The Exchange initially submitted the proposed rule change on July 1, 2026 (SR–CboeBZX–2026–059). On July 15, 2026, the Exchange withdrew that filing and submitted this filing.

<sup>4</sup> See BZX Equities Fee Schedule.

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

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

### Transformed Market Data Product

To be eligible, the Exchange requires that the Data Vendor not simply pass through data in its original form. Transformation may include aggregation across multiple sources, normalization into a consistent format, enrichment with derived analytics, or repackaging into a proprietary delivery mechanism (e.g., terminal, API, feed), or any other value-added processing that distinguishes the output from the original source data.

### No Brokerage Relationship With Users

Next, the Exchange proposes that the definition of Data Vendor include a stipulation that a Data Vendor must not maintain a brokerage relationship with Users who receive the market data product. The Exchange already has programs aimed at retail brokers, for example, both the Small Retail Broker Program and the Small Retail Broker Hosted Solutions Program.<sup>5</sup> This proposed program is intended to encourage Data Vendors specifically to take in the applicable feeds and distribute them. A Data Vendor's service model is different from a retail broker's, as a Data Vendor's business model is built around providing data to firms and Users alike, whereas a retail broker's business model is focused on connecting Users to markets in order to trade and may include providing market data as part of its offering to its Users. As the Exchange already has programs specifically for retail brokers, the Exchange does not believe it would be appropriate to include retail brokers here. The Exchange notes that if a Data Vendor that is currently receiving a fee waiver under this Program subsequently commences a brokerage relationship with its Users, it will no longer satisfy the definition of Data Vendor and will cease to be eligible for the Program. In such case, the External Distributor would be assessed the standard External Distribution Fee for the applicable feed as of the date it no longer satisfies the definition of Data Vendor.

### Not an Extranet Service Provider

As noted above, the Exchange proposes also to define Extranet Service Provider when it introduces the definition of Data Vendor into its Fee Schedule. Today, this term already exists in the Cboe Global Markets North American Data Policies.<sup>6</sup> The Exchange proposes to codify this definition in its Fee Schedule because the proposed definition of Data Vendor directly references this defined term.

Specifically, the Exchange proposes to codify that an Extranet Service Provider is "an entity that has entered into a Cboe Global Markets Global Data Agreement and Transmits an Exchange Market Data Product, via an extranet operated by such entity, to data recipients. 'Transmit' means to direct an Exchange Market Data Product to one or more data recipients without modification of the content, format, or other characteristics of the Exchange Market Data Product." An Extranet Service Provider is not authorized to use or process an Exchange Market Data Product for any purpose.

### Applicable Data Feeds

By way of background, the Exchange offers the Cboe One Premium Data Feed, which is a data feed that disseminates, on a real-time basis, the aggregate best bid and offer ("BBO") of all displayed orders for securities traded on the Exchange and its affiliated equities exchanges and enables recipients to receive aggregated two-sided quotations from BZX and its affiliated equities exchanges for up to twelve (12) price levels (and, for a limited time, up to five (5) price levels).<sup>7</sup> The Cboe One Premium Data Feed is created using the data from the Exchange and each of its affiliated equities exchanges' Summary Depth data feeds (allowing for up to 48 total price levels).

The Exchange also offers the Cboe One Summary Data Feed, which disseminates, on a real-time basis, the aggregate BBO of all displayed orders for securities traded on BZX and its affiliated equities exchanges and also contains individual last sale information for BZX and its affiliated equities exchanges.<sup>8</sup>

The Exchange also offers the BZX Summary Depth Data Feed, which is a data feed that offers aggregated two-sided quotations for up to 12 price levels for all displayed orders entered into the System.

### External Distribution Fees for Cboe One Premium and Cboe One Summary

The proposed rule change also clarifies that External Distributors of

both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium shall only be responsible for paying the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium. The current fee schedule provides that "Cboe One Summary User Fees can be applied to Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fees." Under the Exchange's existing application of this provision, an External Distributor receiving both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium is assessed only the Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fee,<sup>9</sup> and User Fees for both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium may be applied to offset that fee.

The Exchange is now proposing to make this treatment explicit by adding clarifying language to the fee schedule stating that External Distributors of both feeds are only responsible for paying the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium. This amendment does not alter the economic substance of the Exchange's existing fee structure, nor does it impose any new or increased fees on market participants. Rather, it reduces potential ambiguity by expressly codifying the Exchange's existing application of the user fee offset provisions. The Exchange believes this clarification will promote transparency and reduce confusion among External Distributors regarding their fee obligations under the Cboe One market data product offerings.

### Impact of Proposed Program

As noted above, the proposed program would waive External Distribution Fees for Data Vendors of the Cboe One Summary Feed, the Cboe One Premium Feed, and the BZX Summary Depth Feed (each, an "Applicable Feed") that satisfy certain eligibility requirements. A Data Vendor must not have received the Applicable

<sup>9</sup> To better illustrate this concept, consider the following examples. Example 1: If a firm subscribes to only Cboe One Summary, its User costs will be used to offset the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Summary. In the event the firm's User costs total \$2,000, the firm will pay \$2,000 in User fees and \$3,000 (\$5,000 – \$2,000) for its External Distribution Fee. Example 2: If a firm subscribes only to Cboe One Premium, its User costs will be used to offset the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium. In the event a firm's User costs total \$10,000, the firm will pay \$10,000 in User fees and \$2,500 (\$12,500 – \$10,000) for its External Distribution Fee. Example 3: If a firm subscribes to both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium, only the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium is assessed and this fee may be offset by both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium User fees. In the event a firm's User costs are \$2,000 for Cboe One Summary and \$10,000 for Cboe One Premium, the firm will pay a total of \$12,000 in User fees (\$10,000 + \$2,000) and it will pay \$500 for its External Distribution Fee (\$12,500 – (\$10,000 + \$2,000)).

<sup>5</sup> See BZX Equities Fee Schedule.

<sup>6</sup> See Market\_Data\_Policies.pdf

<sup>7</sup> BZX filed to increase the levels of the Cboe One Premium Data Feed from five (5) levels to twelve (12) levels. To help in this transition, it is currently supporting both the five and twelve level feeds; however, as stated in its rule, BZX shall sunset the five (5) level feed of Cboe One Premium by December 31, 2026 (with the date to be announced via Exchange Notice). See Rule 11.22(i).

<sup>8</sup> The Cboe One Summary Feed is distinguishable from the Cboe One Premium Feed in that it does not provide depth of book data. In contrast, the Cboe One Premium Feed contains all the available data in the Cboe One Summary Feed and also provides depth of book data.

Feed for which it seeks the waiver during the 18 months<sup>10</sup> preceding the waiver application date, and must integrate, or be actively in the process of integrating, the Applicable Feed and making it commercially available to its subscribers. The Data Vendor need not have fully integrated the Applicable Feed or made it commercially available before the waiver begins. For a qualifying Data Vendor, the applicable waiver commences on the date it first receives the Applicable Feed, and, if that date occurs mid-month, that partial month counts as the first month of the waiver period. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to waive the External Distribution Fee of \$5,000 per month for Cboe One Summary for 12 months (the “Summary Waiver Period”), except that a Data Vendor is not eligible for a Summary Waiver Period if it is receiving Cboe One Premium because Cboe One Summary is included in the Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fee as noted herein. To clarify, because a Data Vendor receiving Cboe One Premium pays only the Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fee (and no separate fee is assessed for Cboe One Summary), there is no separate Cboe One Summary External Distribution Fee to waive for such a firm.<sup>11</sup> The Exchange proposes to waive the External Distribution Fee of \$12,500 per month for Cboe One Premium for 24 months (the “Premium Waiver Period”).

If an eligible Data Vendor already receives Cboe One Summary, it may still receive the Premium Waiver Period if it has not received Cboe One Premium during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date and satisfies the integration and commercial availability requirement with respect to Cboe One Premium. During the Premium Waiver Period, the Data Vendor’s Cboe One Summary subscription would be covered under the Premium Waiver, and no separate External Distribution Fee would be assessed for Cboe One Summary. Similarly, an eligible Data Vendor that builds out both Cboe One feeds simultaneously would receive only the Premium Waiver Period.

Lastly, for eligible Data Vendors, the Exchange also proposes to waive the External Distribution Fee of \$5,000 per month for BZX Summary Depth for 24

months (the “Summary Depth Waiver Period”).

## 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”) and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.<sup>12</sup> Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)<sup>13</sup> requirements that the rules of an exchange be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)<sup>14</sup> requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

In particular, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change promotes just and equitable principles of trade by establishing a clear, objective, and transparent definition of “Data Vendor” that properly captures the characteristics distinguishing Data Vendors from other categories of External Distributors. The proposed definition sets forth specific, verifiable criteria—namely, that a Data Vendor must (i) be an External Distributor; (ii) be actively engaged, as part of its primary business objective, in the solicitation of unaffiliated third-party Distributors to redistribute a transformed Market Data Product; (iii) not maintain a brokerage relationship with Users; and (iv) not be an Extranet Service Provider. By establishing objective eligibility criteria, the proposed rule change ensures that similarly situated market participants are treated consistently and that the benefits of the Data Vendor Program are available to all External Distributors that meet the defined qualifications.

The Exchange further believes that the codification of the existing Extranet Service Provider definition within the Fee Schedule promotes just and equitable principles of trade. Because

the proposed Data Vendor definition directly references the term “Extranet Service Provider,” market participants seeking to understand their eligibility for the Program should not be required to consult the Cboe Global Markets North American Data Policies to determine how that term applies. By incorporating both defined terms into the Fee Schedule itself, the Exchange ensures that participants have access to the complete framework.

The Exchange further believes that the proposed rule change removes impediments to and perfects the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system. The Data Vendor Program is designed to incentivize Data Vendors to integrate the Applicable Feeds, make them commercially available to subscribers, and redistribute them by providing fee waivers for External Distribution Fees for the Cboe One Summary Feed, Cboe One Premium Feed, and BZX Summary Depth Feed. By waiving the External Distribution Fee of \$5,000 per month for Cboe One Summary for the Summary Waiver Period, waiving the External Distribution Fee of \$12,500 per month for Cboe One Premium for the Premium Waiver Period, and waiving the External Distribution Fee of \$5,000 per month for BZX Summary Depth for the Summary Depth Waiver Period, the Exchange encourages broader redistribution of its market data products. Broader distribution of market data enhances price transparency and supports informed decision-making across the national market system, which in turn perfects the mechanism of a free and open market by ensuring that market participants have access to comprehensive, competitive data offerings.

By allowing the waiver to begin while an eligible Data Vendor is actively integrating the Applicable Feed and working to make it commercially available, the Program lowers barriers to entry during the build-out period and incentivizes a broader set of market participants to enter the Exchange’s market data distribution chain, thereby expanding the availability of market data throughout the national market system.

The proposed rule change also protects investors and the public interest. By encouraging Data Vendors to take in, transform, and redistribute market data feeds, the proposed program promotes greater availability of enriched market data products to downstream Distributors and Users. The transformation requirement—which may include aggregation across multiple sources, normalization into a consistent

<sup>10</sup> The Exchange notes that this same 18-month requirement is the standard for its other fee waiver programs. See BZX Equities Fee Schedule.

<sup>11</sup> As noted above, a firm that subscribes to both Cboe One Premium and Cboe One Summary is only charged the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium. Accordingly, an eligible Data Vendor that builds out to both feeds simultaneously receives only the Premium Waiver Period.

<sup>12</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>13</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

<sup>14</sup> *Id.*

format, enrichment with derived analytics, or repackaging into a proprietary delivery mechanism such as a terminal, API, or feed—is a key element of qualifying as a Data Vendor and ensures that meaningful value is added to the data before redistributing it, thereby increasing the utility and accessibility of market information. To the extent the Program achieves its purpose and results in more widespread redistribution of the Applicable Feeds, market participants may benefit from enhanced access to consolidated, real-time price, last sale, and depth information through the distribution channels developed by Data Vendors.

Additionally, the codification of the existing Extranet Service Provider definition within the Fee Schedule provides additional clarity on the program requirements and codifies the definition that exists already in the Cboe Global Markets North American Market Data Policies. Furthermore, the clarification that External Distributors of both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium are only responsible for paying the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium promotes transparency by expressly codifying a practice that is already reflected in the Exchange's existing application of the fee provision. This reduces potential confusion among market participants regarding their fee obligations.

#### Not Unfairly Discriminatory

The Exchange believes that the proposed Data Vendor Program is consistent with and complementary to its existing programs for other categories of market participants, and that offering a targeted fee waiver program specifically for Data Vendors does not constitute unfair discrimination. The Exchange has a history of establishing differentiated programs that recognize the distinct roles of different market participants. For example, the Small Retail Broker Distribution Program, provides discounted Distribution Fees and Data Consolidation Fees for eligible broker-dealers distributing the applicable feeds to Non-Professional Data Users with whom the broker-dealer has a brokerage relationship.<sup>15</sup> This program is designed to address the specific characteristics and economic needs of small retail broker-dealers. Similarly, the Small Retail Broker Hosted Solutions Program, provides fee waivers for eligible Small Retail Brokers that provide the applicable feeds to other Small Retail Brokers via hosted solutions.<sup>16</sup> This program recognizes

that smaller retail brokers face unique integration challenges and cost constraints when building out hosted data solutions. In addition, the New Internal Distributor Waiver for the BZX Depth Data Feed waives Internal Distribution Fees for three months for Internal Distributors that have not received the BZX Depth Data Feed during the prior 18 months.<sup>17</sup> This program incentivizes new Internal Distributors to integrate the depth-of-book feed into their systems.

The proposed Data Vendor Program is consistent with this approach. Data Vendors occupy a distinct role in the market data distribution ecosystem. Unlike retail brokers, whose primary business is providing trade execution and account management services to Users (with market data distribution as an ancillary feature), Data Vendors are primarily engaged in the business of transforming and redistributing market data to other Distributors. This fundamental difference in business model justifies a distinct program with tailored eligibility criteria and waiver periods. The waiver periods under the proposed Data Vendor Program—12 months for Cboe One Summary and 24 months for Cboe One Premium and BZX Summary Depth—are designed to reflect the relative complexity of integrating each feed. Depth-of-book products such as Cboe One Premium and BZX Summary Depth typically require more extensive technical build-out, including handling of larger data volumes, more complex display and aggregation logic, and more rigorous quality assurance processes. Additionally, BZX Summary Depth and Cboe One Premium are more expensive relative to the top of book of feeds. This means that Data Vendors require additional interest from clients in these products before they can even break even. Accordingly, the Exchange believes a 24-month waiver period for these products is appropriate to provide sufficient time for Data Vendors to complete their build-out. Top-of-book and summary products, in contrast, are generally less complex to integrate, and the Exchange believes a 12-month waiver period is appropriate for Cboe One Summary.

The Exchange does not maintain comparable fee waiver programs for larger broker-dealers that distribute market data to their brokerage customers. The Exchange believes this distinction is appropriate. The Small Retail Broker programs are specifically designed to address the cost constraints faced by smaller broker-dealers in building out market data distribution

capabilities. Larger broker-dealers, by contrast, typically have established data infrastructure and greater resources to absorb market data distribution costs as part of their overall brokerage operations, and, as such, their cost per user is meaningfully lower. The Data Vendor Program is intended to address a different need: incentivizing specialized data redistribution firms to build out the Applicable Feeds and bring on additional downstream Distributors. By encouraging Data Vendors to invest in the transformation and redistribution of the Exchange's market data products, the Program expands the reach and availability of this data throughout the national market system, benefiting end users and promoting competition. The Exchange therefore believes that creating a targeted program for Data Vendors, in addition to its existing programs for Small Retail Brokers and Internal Distributors, among others, is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act and does not constitute unfair discrimination.

The Exchange also believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act in that it is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers. The Data Vendor Program is available to all External Distributors that satisfy the objective criteria set forth in the proposed definition of Data Vendor and, for waiver eligibility, the additional objective criteria regarding the 18-month lookback for prior receipt of the Applicable Feed and integration or active integration of the Applicable Feed for commercial availability. The distinctions drawn by the definition—(i) requiring that a Data Vendor's primary business objective be the solicitation of unaffiliated third-party Distributors, (ii) that it not maintain a brokerage relationship with Users, and (iii) that it not be an Extranet Service Provider—reflect meaningful differences in business models and market functions.

#### External Distributors

The Exchange believes that limiting the Data Vendor Program to External Distributors is not unfairly discriminatory. Internal Distributors and External Distributors occupy fundamentally different roles in the market data distribution ecosystem and are not similarly situated participants. An Internal Distributor receives a market data product and distributes it solely within its own entity, whereas an External Distributor redistributes data outside its entity to Users or other Distributors—and a Data Vendor, as a specialized category of External

<sup>15</sup> See BZX Equities Fee Schedule.

<sup>16</sup> See BZX Equities Fee Schedule.

<sup>17</sup> *Id.*

Distributor, further serves the specific function of soliciting unaffiliated third-party Distributors to redistribute a transformed market data product. The Data Vendor Program is designed precisely to incentivize and expand this type of external redistribution, a purpose that has no meaningful application to Internal Distributors who, by definition, cannot advance the proposed program's goal of broadening the reach of the Exchange's market data to downstream Distributors and end-user investors. Furthermore, the Exchange already offers programs for its Internal Distributors that it does not offer for External Distributors.<sup>18</sup>

#### Primary Business Is To Redistribute to Distributors

To be eligible as a Data Vendor, an External Distributor must be taking in data for the primary business purpose of selling access to the applicable feed as a service in its own right—not merely redistributing data in incidental support of broader business functions such as trade execution, account management, or brokerage services. The Exchange notes that as part of its business, a Data Vendor may redistribute a market data product to Users, but the primary purpose must be the redistribution of data to Distributors. The Exchange will assess whether an External Distributor's primary business purpose satisfies this criterion based on the External Distributor's publicly available marketing materials. This requirement is not unfairly discriminatory because it is directly tied to the purpose of the Program: encouraging entities whose core commercial activity is the transformation and redistribution of market data to build out the Applicable Feeds and bring on additional downstream Distributors, thereby expanding the reach and availability of the Exchange's data products. An entity

that distributes market data only incidentally—as an ancillary feature of a brokerage, execution, or account management business—does not serve this purpose.

#### Transformed Market Data Product

The Exchange believes it is not unfairly discriminatory to require that a Data Vendor transform market data as a condition of eligibility, as transformation is a definitional characteristic that goes to the core of what distinguishes a Data Vendor from other categories of External Distributors and is directly tied to the Program's purpose of incentivizing participants that create new, differentiated distribution channels for the Exchange's consolidated market data. This reasoning is directly analogous to the rationale for excluding Extranet Service Providers—entities that transmit data without modification and therefore cannot create the type of value-added products, whether delivered via terminal, API, or proprietary feed, that the Program is designed to incentivize. Because the transformation requirement ensures that the Program's fee incentives are directed only at entities whose business is built around adding that value, the Exchange believes this criterion is reasonable and does not constitute unfair discrimination.

#### No Brokerage Relationship With Users

The Exchange believes it is not unfairly discriminatory to require that Data Vendors not maintain a brokerage relationship with Users. The Exchange already maintains separate programs specifically for qualifying broker-dealers that distribute market data to their brokerage customers. Specifically, the Exchange offers the Small Retail Broker Distribution Program, which provides discounted Distribution Fees and Data Consolidation Fees for eligible broker-dealers distributing the applicable feeds to Non-Professional Data Users with whom the broker-dealer has a brokerage relationship. The Exchange also offers

the Small Retail Broker Hosted Solutions Program, which provides fee waivers and lower data costs for Small Retail Brokers that provide the applicable feeds to other Small Retail Brokers via hosted solutions. These existing programs are specifically designed to encourage retail brokers to distribute market data, and the eligibility criteria for those programs reflect the characteristics of the retail brokerage business model.

The proposed Data Vendor Program does not displace or reduce the benefits available to retail brokers under those existing programs. Rather, it creates a parallel and complementary framework for a distinct category of participants—Data Vendors—that do not maintain brokerage relationships with Users, and whose primary business purpose is categorically different from that of a retail broker. Just as it would not be appropriate to extend the Small Retail Broker Program to Data Vendors, it is similarly appropriate—and not unfairly discriminatory—not to extend the Data Vendor Program to retail brokers or other participants that maintain brokerage relationships with their Users, whose needs are separately addressed by the Exchange's existing programs.

#### Not an Extranet Service Provider

The Exchange also believes it is not unfairly discriminatory to exclude Extranet Service Providers from the Data Vendor Program. An Extranet Service Provider, as defined, is an entity that transmits a market data product to data recipients without modification of the content, format, or other characteristics of the product. Extranet Service Providers do not transform, enrich, or add value to the data they transmit—they serve as conduits, passing data through in its original form. This is fundamentally distinct from the function of a Data Vendor, which, by definition, must transform the Market Data Product as part of its service offering.

<sup>18</sup> See, e.g., BZX Equities Fee Schedule that describes the New Internal Distributor Waiver for BZX Depth Data Feed.

The Data Vendor Program is specifically premised on the value that transformation adds to the data distribution ecosystem. By enabling Data Vendors to create differentiated products—delivered via a terminal, API, proprietary feed, or other value-added mechanism—that appeal to a broader range of downstream Distributors, the Program advances the Exchange's goal of maximizing the reach and utility of its consolidated market data throughout the national market system. Extending the Program to Extranet Service Providers, which do not perform this transformative function, would undermine the Program's core purpose and would not serve the policy goal of broadening distribution of market data products in readily accessible, value-added formats.

The Exchange has created programs to address the distinct needs and business models of different categories of market participants, and the proposed Data Vendor Program is a natural extension of this approach. In addition to the Small Retail Broker programs described above, the Exchange also offers fee waivers for eligible Internal Distributors of the BZX Depth Data Feed, which are intended to incentivize new Internal Distributors to integrate data feeds into their systems. The differentiation between Data Vendors and other categories of market participants reflects the distinct roles these entities play and the distinct incentive structures appropriate to each and does not constitute unfair discrimination.

#### 18-Month and Integration Requirements

The Exchange further believes it is not unfairly discriminatory to limit the Program to Data Vendors that have not received the Applicable Feed for which they seek a waiver during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date, and that have integrated, or are actively in the process of integrating,<sup>19</sup> the Applicable Feed and making it commercially available to subscribers. The 18-month limitation is designed to ensure that the fee waivers serve their intended purpose of reducing the upfront cost barriers for new market

participants. This approach is directly consistent with the analogous frameworks the Exchange has adopted in prior programs—including the Internal Distributor Waiver for the BZX Depth Data Feed, which similarly limits fee relief to distributors that have not received the relevant feed in the prior 18 months. The integration and commercial availability requirement is likewise reasonable because it ensures that the waiver is directed to Data Vendors that are undertaking the build-out necessary to distribute the Applicable Feed to subscribers, while not requiring full integration or commercial availability before the waiver begins. The Exchange therefore believes that these objective limitations are reasonable and appropriate, prevent the Program from operating as a permanent subsidy for established distributors, and are not unfairly discriminatory.

The Exchange also believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,<sup>20</sup> which requires that Exchange rules provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its Trading Permit Holders and other persons using its facilities. The proposed fee waivers represent a reasonable and equitable allocation of charges. The fee waivers for External Distribution Fees are limited in duration—the Summary Waiver Period for Cboe One Summary, the Premium Waiver Period for Cboe One Premium, and the Summary Depth Waiver Period for BZX Summary Depth—and are available only to Data Vendors that have not received the Applicable Feed for which they seek a waiver during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date and that have integrated, or are actively in the process of integrating, the Applicable Feed and making it commercially available to subscribers. This time-limited structure ensures that the waivers serve their intended purpose of incentivizing new market entry and build-out of data feeds. The 18-month lookback requirement further ensures the equitable allocation of fees by limiting the Program to new feeds for Data

Vendors, and the integration and commercial availability requirement ensures that the waiver is tied to actual build-out and distribution activity. The Exchange notes that this same 18-month standard is consistent with the requirements applied in its other fee waiver programs.

The clarification that External Distributors of both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium shall only be responsible for paying the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium does not alter the economic substance of the Exchange's existing fee structure and does not impose any new or increased fees on market participants. Rather, it expressly codifies the Exchange's existing application of the user fee offset provisions—under which an External Distributor disseminating both products is assessed only the Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fee—thereby ensuring that all market participants have a clear and equitable understanding of their fee obligations. The Exchange therefore believes the proposed rule change provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable fees among persons using its facilities.

Lastly, the Exchange believes that the limitations regarding the waiver structure for both Cboe One Premium and Cboe One Summary equitably allocate fees. With respect to the Cboe One Summary waiver, only Data Vendors that (i) have not received Cboe One Summary during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date, (ii) are integrating or actively in the process of integrating Cboe One Summary and making it commercially available to subscribers, and (iii) are not receiving Cboe One Premium are eligible for the Summary Waiver Period. The Exchange believes that this is reasonable, as a firm that subscribes to Cboe One Premium already may elect to receive (without incurring an additional External Distribution Fee) Cboe One Summary Feed. For this reason, there is no need to provide a separate Summary Waiver Period while a firm receives Cboe One Premium, because that firm may receive the Cboe One Summary Feed without paying an additional External Distribution Fee that the proposed program seeks to waive.

<sup>19</sup> The Exchange notes that no specific step is required for this, only that Data Vendor is working to integrate the Applicable Feed into its system.

<sup>20</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

Next, the Exchange notes that if a Data Vendor currently receives Cboe One Summary and elects to receive Cboe One Premium under the proposed program, so long as the Data Vendor has not received the Cboe One Premium Feed during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date and satisfies the integration and commercial availability requirement with respect to Cboe One Premium, the Data Vendor may receive the Premium Waiver Period. During that period, the Data Vendor's existing Cboe One Summary<sup>21</sup> subscription will be covered under the Premium Waiver, and no separate External Distribution Fee will be assessed for Cboe One Summary. This is because the Cboe One Summary External Distribution Fee is subsumed within the Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fee—accordingly, there is no separate Cboe One Summary fee to waive for a firm receiving Cboe One Premium. The Exchange believes this treatment is reasonable because it avoids providing overlapping or duplicative waiver relief while still incentivizing an existing Summary subscriber to build out Cboe One Premium.

Lastly, if a Data Vendor has not received either Cboe One Summary or Cboe One Premium during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date and elects to build out both Cboe One feeds simultaneously, the Data Vendor will not receive separate Summary and Premium waivers. Instead, because the Cboe One Summary External Distribution Fee is subsumed within the Cboe One Premium External Distribution Fee, the Data Vendor will receive only the Premium Waiver Period, and no separate Summary Waiver Period will apply while it receives Cboe One Premium.

With respect to the BZX Summary Depth waiver, a Data Vendor is eligible for the Summary Depth Waiver Period only if it has not received the BZX Summary Depth Feed during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date and satisfies the integration and commercial availability requirement with respect to BZX Summary Depth. The Exchange believes this treatment is reasonable because it

applies the same objective eligibility standards to BZX Summary Depth while providing a 24-month period intended to facilitate the build-out and commercial launch of that feed.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder, including, in particular, the requirements of Sections 6(b)(4)<sup>22</sup> and 6(b)(5)<sup>23</sup> of the Act.

#### *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 Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change imposes any burden on intramarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed Data Vendor Program is available to all External Distributors that satisfy the objective, clearly defined criteria set forth in the proposed definition of "Data Vendor" and the Program's waiver eligibility standards. Any External Distributor that, as part of its primary business objective, solicits unaffiliated third-party Distributors to redistribute a transformed Market Data Product, does not maintain a brokerage relationship with Users in connection with the applicable Market Data Product, is not an Extranet Service Provider, has not received the Applicable Feed for which it seeks a waiver during the 18 months preceding the waiver application date, and has integrated or is actively integrating the Applicable Feed and making it commercially available to subscribers may qualify for the Program on equal terms. Because eligibility is determined by objective, verifiable criteria rather than by subjective or discretionary determinations, no External Distributor is advantaged or disadvantaged relative to any other similarly situated participant.

To the extent that certain External Distributors—such as retail broker-dealers or Extranet Service Providers—do not qualify for the Data Vendor Program, this does not impose a burden on intramarket competition. As described above, retail broker-dealers and Extranet Service Providers are not similarly situated to Data Vendors. Retail broker-dealers distribute market data to their own brokerage customers as an ancillary feature of their core

business of providing trade execution and account management services, and their data distribution needs are more appropriately addressed by the Exchange's existing Small Retail Broker Distribution Program and Small Retail Broker Hosted Solutions Program. Extranet Service Providers, by contrast, transmit data in its original form without transformation, and therefore do not serve the same function in the data distribution ecosystem as Data Vendors, which aggregate, transform, and redistribute data to downstream Distributors. Designing a fee program specifically targeted to Data Vendors, rather than applying it uniformly across all categories of External Distributors, does not burden intramarket competition—it reflects the materially different roles, business models, and barriers of these distinct categories of participants.

Similarly, limiting the Data Vendor Program to External Distributors and not extending it to Internal Distributors does not impose a burden on intramarket competition. Internal Distributors receive and use market data solely within their own legal entities and do not redistribute data to third parties outside their organizations. They are therefore not participants in the same competitive market for external data redistribution that the Program is designed to promote, and their needs are separately addressed through the Exchange's existing Internal Distributor programs—including the New Internal Distributor Waiver for the BZX Summary Depth Data Feed. The proposed Program is specifically designed to incentivize external redistribution of the Applicable Feeds, a purpose that has no meaningful application to Internal Distributors and that creates no competitive disadvantage for them.

The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change imposes any burden on intermarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. To the contrary, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change will enhance intermarket competition by incentivizing a broader class of market participants to subscribe to and redistribute the Exchange's market data products, thereby increasing the Exchange's ability to compete with other national securities exchanges and data vendors for the business of Data Vendors and their downstream Distributor clients.

<sup>21</sup> For example, if a Data Vendor currently subscribes to Cboe One Summary Feed and is eligible for the proposed program for the Cboe One Premium Feed, no separate External Distribution Fee would be assessed for Cboe One Summary during the Premium Waiver Period because Cboe One Summary is included in the Cboe One Premium subscription. The Data Vendor would receive the Premium Waiver Period and would not receive a separate Summary Waiver Period during that time.

<sup>22</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

<sup>23</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

The market for equity market data is highly competitive. Numerous national securities exchanges offer products that compete directly with the Cboe One Summary Feed, Cboe One Premium Feed, and BZX Summary Depth Feed. Market participants can obtain comprehensive market data from numerous sources, including competing exchanges (such as NYSE and Nasdaq), the consolidated tape (SIP), and alternative trading systems. Prospective Data Vendors evaluating whether to build out the Applicable Feeds must weigh the upfront costs of connectivity, software development, integration, and commercial launch against the commercial opportunity presented by the Exchange's data products. The Data Vendor Program is designed to make the Exchange's market data offering competitively priced relative to alternative options, encouraging Data Vendors to enter the Exchange's market data distribution chain and thereby expanding the availability and reach of the Exchange's market data throughout the national market system.

Far from burdening intermarket competition, the proposed rule change is a direct response to competitive market forces. The Exchange's decision to offer targeted fee waivers to new Data Vendors reflects its recognition that it must compete aggressively for the participation of data redistribution firms, and that reducing the upfront cost of entry is a legitimate and necessary competitive tool in the market for exchange data products. The Commission has recognized that exchanges operate in a competitive environment with respect to market data, and that exchange fee programs designed to attract new participants and expand market data distribution are consistent with the Act's goals of promoting competition and efficiency in the national market system.

The proposed clarification that External Distributors of both Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium are only responsible for paying the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Premium similarly does not impose any burden on intermarket competition. This change does not alter the economic substance of the Exchange's existing fee structure and does not impose any new fees on any market participant. It simply makes explicit the Exchange's existing application of the user fee offset provisions, reducing potential confusion and ensuring that all market participants have a clear and consistent understanding of their fee obligations. Regulatory clarity of this nature promotes, rather than burdens, competition by enabling market

participants to make fully informed decisions about their participation in the Exchange's market data programs.

With respect to the Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium feeds specifically, the Exchange notes that the proposed Data Vendor Program does not impose any burden on competition arising from differential pricing between Cboe One and the applicable underlying equities feeds.<sup>24</sup> The Exchange notes that historically, its pricing for Cboe One products has been based on the sum of the External Distribution Fees for the four underlying equities feeds.<sup>25</sup> As an initial matter, not all underlying equities feeds are offered under this Program. The proposed Data Vendor Program applies only to the following feeds: EDGX Top, EDGX Summary Depth, BZX Summary Depth, Cboe One Premium, and Cboe One Summary. A Data Vendor may choose to receive a waiver for Cboe One Summary or Cboe One Premium, or for EDGX Top, or for EDGX Summary Depth, or for BZX Summary Depth, or any combination thereof, subject to the applicable eligibility requirements. However, the proposed Program does not offer fee waivers for BZX Top, BYX Top, or EDGA Top data feeds, nor does it offer fee waivers for BYX Summary Depth or EDGA Summary Depth. Accordingly, the applicable underlying equities feeds do not "sum" to the applicable Cboe One feed under this proposed Program.<sup>26</sup>

Even setting aside the foregoing, the Exchange does not believe that pricing the Cboe One Summary or Cboe One Premium feeds differently from the underlying equities feeds imposes any

burden on competition. To date, the Exchange is not aware of any distributor that purchases the underlying equities feeds (either the Top or Summary Depth Feeds) for the purpose of creating its own consolidated product comparable to Cboe One Summary or Cboe One Premium. This demonstrates that the practical market concern underlying any perceived burden—that distributors might be disadvantaged by differential pricing on Cboe One that is not extended to the underlying feeds—does not correspond to actual market behavior.

Moreover, Cboe One Summary and Cboe One Premium are distinct, independent data products—they are not merely consolidations of data from the four underlying equities feeds. In addition to consolidating top-of-book data from BZX, BYX, EDGX, and EDGA, Cboe One includes supplementary data elements not found in the individual underlying feeds, including data derived from the Securities Information Processor ("SIP") containing information on the national cumulative volume. This additional content makes Cboe One a distinct product with independent utility. Market participants subscribe to the underlying equities feeds and Cboe One for fundamentally different purposes. For example, a subscriber may be interested only in top-of-book data from a single exchange, such as EDGX, for trading, routing or compliance purposes. Such a subscriber has no need for a consolidated product. Conversely, subscribers seeking a comprehensive, cross-exchange view of Cboe liquidity choose Cboe One precisely because it offers consolidated data with additional enhancements. These distinct use cases support differentiated pricing treatment.

Data Vendors may, in theory, choose to purchase each of the four underlying equities feeds and create their own consolidated product. However, this option is not economically viable in practice. Cboe One offers a pre-consolidated feed with additional information—including cumulative volume from the SIP—that is not available in the underlying feeds. Even before considering any fee waivers or discounts, the time, effort, and technical resources required for a data vendor to acquire the four underlying feeds, integrate them, and supplement them with additional data sources would exceed the cost of simply subscribing to Cboe One. The proposed Program

<sup>24</sup> For Cboe One Summary, the four equities feeds are BZX Top, BYX Top, EDGA Top and EDGX Top. For Cboe One Premium, the four equities feeds are BZX Summary Depth, BYX Summary Depth, EDGA Summary Depth and EDGX Summary Depth.

<sup>25</sup> For example, under the Small Retail Broker Distribution Program, the discounted External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Summary is \$3,500 per month, which equals the sum of the External Distribution Fees for the four underlying Top feeds: BZX Top (\$2,500), BYX Top (\$250), EDGA Top (\$0), and EDGX Top (\$750). See Cboe BZX, BYX, EDGA, and EDGX U.S. Equities Exchange Fee Schedules. Because the proposed Data Vendor Program does not offer fee waivers for BZX Top, BYX Top, EDGA Top, BYX Summary Depth, or EDGA Summary Depth, the External Distribution Fee for each of those feeds would remain in effect for any Data Vendor receiving those feeds, while the External Distribution Fee for Cboe One Summary (\$0 during the Summary Waiver Period) or Cboe One Premium (\$0 during the Premium Waiver Period) would be waived. This results in a pricing differential between the sum of the underlying equities feeds and the Cboe One feeds under this Program.

<sup>26</sup> For example, the External Distribution Fee is \$0 for Cboe One Summary under the proposed Program, but the sum of the four underlying equities feeds under the proposed Program is \$2,750 (\$0 EDGX Top + \$2,500 BZX Top + \$250 BYX Top + \$0 EDGA Top).

therefore does not place distributors at a competitive disadvantage because self-consolidation is not a realistic market alternative.

Section 6(b)(8) of the Exchange Act requires that exchange rules not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. Cboe One Summary, Cboe One Premium, and the applicable underlying equities feeds are separate products serving different market needs. Just as the Commission has permitted exchanges to offer different fees for depth-of-book data versus top-of-book data, the Exchange should have discretion to price its consolidated summary product differently from its component feeds.

Finally, the proposed Data Vendor Program is pro-competitive. By reducing the cost of consolidated and top-of-book data products for qualifying Data Vendors, the Exchange enables broader distribution of comprehensive market information to downstream distributors and, ultimately, to retail and institutional investors. Wider access to market data promotes informed investment decisions, enhances market efficiency, and supports the Exchange Act's goals of investor protection and fair and efficient markets. The Exchange does not view external distributors as competitors for its real-time feed offerings; rather, distributors serve as essential conduits that expand delivery of Cboe real-time market data to end users who do not have the technical capability or commercial need to connect directly to Cboe's individual market data feeds. This is particularly important for the retail community, as retail investors typically access market data through vendors rather than purchasing it directly from exchanges. By offering the proposed Data Vendor Program, the Exchange enables distributors to deliver competitively priced, comprehensive market data to a broader audience, thereby enhancing—not burdening—competition in the market data landscape.

For the foregoing reasons, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change imposes any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

*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 comments on the proposed rule change.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>27</sup> and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4<sup>28</sup> 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 (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include file number SR-CboeBZX-2026-060 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-CboeBZX-2026-060. 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 website (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the filing will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-CboeBZX-2026-060 and should be submitted on or before August 19, 2026.

<sup>27</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>28</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f).

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>29</sup>

**Sherry R. Haywood,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15253 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-105987; File No. SR-FINRA-2026-002]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.; Order Approving a Proposed Rule Change To Amend FINRA Rules 5110 (Corporate Financing Rule—Underwriting Terms and Arrangements) and 5123 (Private Placements of Securities)

July 24, 2026.

#### I. Introduction

On January 22, 2026, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> a proposed rule change to amend FINRA Rules 5110 (Corporate Financing Rule—Underwriting Terms and Arrangements) and 5123 (Private Placements of Securities).<sup>3</sup> Specifically, the proposed rule change (hereinafter, the "proposed rule change" unless otherwise specified) would, among other things, amend provisions of Rule 5110 to: (1) change the valuation method for securities acquisitions that are considered to be underwriting compensation; (2) add certain securities acquisitions to the existing exclusions from underwriting compensation; (3) treat non-convertible preferred securities the same as non-convertible debt securities; and (4) make other modifications for clarity and to improve the operation of the rule. The proposed amendments to Rule 5123 would expand the available exemptions for sales to accredited investors to include offerings sold to investors meeting the accredited investor categories for certain family offices and for certain entities with assets under management in excess of \$5,000,000, consistent with the Commission's

<sup>29</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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

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

<sup>3</sup> See Exchange Act Release No. 34-104695 (Jan. 27, 2026), 91 FR 4121 (Jan. 30, 2026) (File No. SR-FINRA-2026-002) ("Notice").

addition of those categories to the accredited investor definition.

The proposed rule change was published for public comment in the **Federal Register** on January 30, 2026.<sup>4</sup> The public comment period closed on February 20, 2026. The Commission received comment letters in response to the Notice.<sup>5</sup> On March 12, 2026, FINRA consented to an extension of the time period in which the Commission must approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change to April 30, 2026.<sup>6</sup> On April 28, 2026, the Commission published an order instituting proceedings (“OIP”) to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change.<sup>7</sup> The Commission did not receive comment letters in response to the OIP. This order approves the proposed rule change.

## II. Description of the Proposed Rule Change

### A. Background

FINRA states that the ability of small and large businesses to raise capital is critical to job creation and economic growth, and that, among other things, Rule 5110 has played an important role in the capital raising process and continues to be important to promoting investor protection and market integrity through effective and efficient regulation that facilitates capital markets.<sup>8</sup> In general, FINRA Rule 5110 requires any broker-dealer that is a member of FINRA (“member”) that participates in a public offering to file documents and information with FINRA about the underwriting terms and arrangements.<sup>9</sup> Among other things, the rule contains provisions relating to how underwriting compensation is valued,<sup>10</sup>

and provides examples of payments that are not deemed to be underwriting compensation.<sup>11</sup> FINRA’s Corporate Financing Department reviews this information prior to the commencement of the offering to determine whether the underwriting compensation and other terms and arrangements meet the requirements of applicable FINRA rules.<sup>12</sup>

FINRA states that Rule 5123 plays a critical role in providing information that assists FINRA in the identification of potential trends and rule violations in the private placement market, which is an important source of capital for American businesses, including small and midsize companies.<sup>13</sup> In general, Rule 5123 requires members to file with FINRA any private placement memorandum, term sheet or other offering document, and any retail communication that promotes or recommends a private placement, including any material amended versions thereof, used in connection with a private placement of securities within 15 calendar days of the date of first sale, unless the member can rely on an applicable exemption from the rule.<sup>14</sup> Rule 5123 contains an exemption from filing for offerings sold to certain types of “accredited investors” under Rule 501 of the Securities Act of 1933 (“Securities Act”).<sup>15</sup>

### B. The Proposed Rule Change

FINRA’s proposed rule change would, among other things, amend provisions of Rule 5110 to: (1) change the valuation method for securities acquisitions that are considered to be underwriting compensation; (2) add certain securities acquisitions to the existing exclusions from underwriting compensation; (3) treat non-convertible preferred securities the same as non-convertible debt securities; and (4) make other modifications for clarity and to improve the operation of the rule. The proposed amendments to Rule 5123 would expand the available exemptions for sales to accredited investors under paragraph (b)(1)(j) to include offerings sold to investors meeting the accredited investor categories for certain family offices with assets under management in

excess of \$5,000,000 and certain entities owning investments in excess of \$5,000,000, consistent with the Commission’s addition of those categories to the accredited investor definition.<sup>16</sup>

FINRA stated that the current approach to the valuation of securities that are considered underwriting compensation under Rule 5110 can be complex, creating unnecessary burdens for members and uncertainty regarding whether they are permitted to acquire certain securities or instead would be required to receive a different form of compensation; the proposed rule change would simplify this approach.<sup>17</sup> In addition, FINRA stated that certain transactions under Rule 5110 currently require participating members to request exemptions from FINRA if they do not want to negotiate the receipt of a different form of compensation, which can increase the amount of time and cost for issuers to access capital markets.<sup>18</sup> FINRA stated that the proposed rule change would reduce exemptive requests by replacing existing requirements with more practical and transparent alternatives,<sup>19</sup> as well as align the rule with FINRA’s current practices relating to underwriting compensation.<sup>20</sup> Finally, FINRA stated that the proposed rule change would also expand the exemptions available in Rule 5123 and better align FINRA rules with Commission rules relating to the treatment of institutional accredited investors.<sup>21</sup> This order addresses each proposed rule change in turn.

#### 1. Rule 5110 Proposed Amendments

##### a. Valuation Method for Securities Acquisitions That Are Considered Underwriting Compensation

FINRA stated that when participating members<sup>22</sup> acquire securities that are deemed underwriting compensation,

<sup>16</sup> See Accredited Investor Definition, Securities Exchange Act Release 89669 (Aug. 26, 2020), 85 FR 64234 (Oct. 9, 2020) (“SEC Accredited Investor Definition Release”). The SEC Accredited Investor Definition Release promulgated additional categories of accredited investors, including two additional types of institutional entities under Rule 501(a)(9) and (a)(12). Additionally, the amendments also included natural persons holding professional certifications and designations or other credentials, knowledgeable employees of private funds, and certain family clients. FINRA is not proposing to reflect these other amendments in the proposed rule change.

<sup>17</sup> See Notice at 4125.

<sup>18</sup> See *id.*

<sup>19</sup> See *id.*

<sup>20</sup> See *id.* at 4124.

<sup>21</sup> See *id.* at 4125.

<sup>22</sup> The term “participating member” means any FINRA member that is participating in a public offering, any affiliate or associated person of the member, and any immediate family, but does not include the issuer. See Rule 5110(j)(15).

<sup>4</sup> See *id.*

<sup>5</sup> The comment letters are available at <https://www.sec.gov/rules-regulations/public-comments/sr-fnra-2026-002>.

<sup>6</sup> See letter from Joseph Savage, Vice President and Associate General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, FINRA (Mar. 12, 2026), <https://www.finra.org/sites/default/files/2026-03/SR-FINRA-2026-002-Extension-1.pdf>.

<sup>7</sup> See Exchange Act Release No. 34–105296 (Apr. 23, 2026), 91 FR 22902 (Apr. 28, 2026) (File No. SR–FINRA–2026–002).

<sup>8</sup> See Notice at 4122.

<sup>9</sup> See FINRA Rule 5110. FINRA stated that the following are examples of public offerings that are routinely filed: (1) initial public offerings (“IPOs”); (2) follow-on offerings; (3) shelf offerings; (4) rights offerings; (5) offerings by direct participation programs as defined in FINRA Rule 2310(a)(4) (Direct Participation Programs); (6) exchange offers; (7) offerings pursuant to SEC Regulation A; and (8) offerings by closed-end funds. See Notice at 4122 n.3.

<sup>10</sup> See Rule 5110(c).

<sup>11</sup> See Rule 5110.01(b).

<sup>12</sup> See Notice at 4122. A member may proceed with a public offering only if FINRA has provided an opinion that it has no objection to the proposed underwriting terms and arrangements. See Rule 5110(a)(1)(C)(ii).

<sup>13</sup> See Notice at 4122.

<sup>14</sup> See Rule 5123.

<sup>15</sup> See Rule 5123(b)(1)(j) (exempting offerings sold by the member or person associated with the member to, among others, accredited investors described in Securities Act Rule 501(a)(1), (2), (3), or (7)).

FINRA rules require members to base the value of those securities on either the public offering price per security or the market price per security on the date of acquisition if a “bona fide public market” exists for that security.<sup>23</sup> The proposed rule change would amend Rule 5110(c)(2) and (3) by replacing the “bona fide public market” valuation method with a valuation method based on the closing market price of the security traded on a U.S. registered national securities exchange or a “designated offshore securities market” as defined under Securities Act Rule 902(b) on the date of the acquisition.<sup>24</sup>

FINRA stated that members have experienced challenges determining whether a security had a “bona fide public market” on the acquisition date, based on the definition of that phrase under FINRA rules.<sup>25</sup> According to FINRA, when a security does not have a public offering price, and does not have a “bona fide public market,” it cannot be valued under the rule and is therefore considered indeterminate compensation, which is prohibited.<sup>26</sup> In those cases, FINRA stated that participating members must either negotiate a different form of compensation or request an exemption from FINRA.<sup>27</sup> According to FINRA, the proposed rule change would replace the “bona fide public market” valuation method with a more predictable valuation method, as the new method would be based on readily available market data (the closing market price of the security traded on a U.S. registered national securities exchange or a “designated offshore securities market”) instead of requiring a calculation that included average daily trading volume and public float.<sup>28</sup> FINRA also stated that, by continuing to ensure that securities are valued fairly, the proposed rule change will maintain important protections for issuers and investors participating in offerings.<sup>29</sup>

#### b. Exclusions From Underwriting Compensation for Certain Securities Acquisitions

Currently, Rule 5110 provides for certain exclusions from underwriting compensation.<sup>30</sup> The proposed rule change would expand the exclusions to include: (1) debt-for-equity exchanges;<sup>31</sup> (2) capital investments for direct participation programs (“DPPs”)<sup>32</sup> and unlisted real estate investment trusts (“REITs”);<sup>33</sup> and (3) non-convertible preferred securities.<sup>34</sup>

FINRA stated that the proposed rule change would facilitate capital formation by providing consistent and predictable regulatory treatment of common financing strategies employed by issuers,<sup>35</sup> and would also benefit issuers through the capital investments made in exchange for non-convertible preferred securities from affiliates of members that participate in public offerings.<sup>36</sup>

Under current Rule 5110, transactions involving capital investments made by affiliates of underwriters in DPPs and unlisted REITs, as well as securities acquired by affiliates of underwriters in connection with debt-for-equity exchange transactions, are deemed underwriting compensation.<sup>37</sup> FINRA stated that these transactions currently require participating members to request an exemption from the provisions of Rule 5110.<sup>38</sup> According to FINRA, the proposed changes would reduce compliance costs for participating members by reducing the time and expense incurred by members seeking such exemptions, and may also create new financing opportunities for members.<sup>39</sup> FINRA also stated that participating members that acquire non-convertible preferred securities in connection with a public offering at a fair price will benefit from being provided additional flexibility and clarity regarding the regulatory requirements of these types of debt securities under Rule 5110.<sup>40</sup>

In addition, FINRA stated that these proposed exclusions are narrowly tailored and based on exemptive relief previously provided by FINRA, which

has worked well in the past for both issuers and investors.<sup>41</sup> According to FINRA, the proposed rule change also would not decrease FINRA’s ability to oversee underwriting terms and arrangements.<sup>42</sup> Finally, FINRA stated that the proposed rule change would reduce the administrative and operational burdens for members and FINRA, promote regulatory efficiency, and enhance market functioning while maintaining issuer and investor protection.<sup>43</sup>

Each proposed amendment is discussed below.

#### i. Debt-for-Equity Exchanges

Currently, Rule 5110 does not provide an exclusion from underwriting compensation for securities acquired by affiliates of underwriters in connection with debt-for-equity exchange transactions.<sup>44</sup> A debt-for-equity exchange is comprised of a series of transactions in which a lender acquires equity securities of the issuer, often referred to as exchange shares, in return for a cash loan.<sup>45</sup> The exchange shares are subsequently or concurrently registered and offered by underwriters in a public offering, and the offering proceeds are used, in whole or in part, as repayment of the loan.<sup>46</sup> When the lender is an affiliate of an underwriter, the lender falls within the definition of participating member, and the equity securities acquired by the affiliated lender for making the loan fall within the definition of underwriting compensation.<sup>47</sup> FINRA stated that debt-for-equity exchanges currently require participating members to request an exemption from the provisions of Rule 5110.<sup>48</sup>

The proposed rule change would add new Rule 5110.01(b)(23) to provide an exclusion from underwriting compensation for securities acquired by participating members in connection with debt-for-equity exchange transactions if the following conditions are met:<sup>49</sup>

- the debt-for-equity exchange is structured to provide economic and tax benefits to the issuer and not the lender or affiliated member;<sup>50</sup>

<sup>23</sup> See Rule 5110(c). The definition of “bona fide public market” requires that the securities be traded on a national securities exchange and relies on SEC Regulation M’s definitions of average daily trading volume and public float. See Rule 5121(f)(3).

<sup>24</sup> See Notice at 4122–23.

<sup>25</sup> See *id.* at 4123; see also *supra* note 23.

<sup>26</sup> See Notice at 4123; see also Rule 5110(g)(1) (stating that “[t]he following terms and arrangements are prohibited: (1) receipt of any underwriting compensation, including in the form of securities, for which a value cannot be determined”).

<sup>27</sup> See Notice at 4126.

<sup>28</sup> See *id.* at 4123.

<sup>29</sup> See *id.* at 4124–25.

<sup>30</sup> See generally Rule 5110.

<sup>31</sup> See proposed Rule 5110.01(b)(23).

<sup>32</sup> See Rule 2310(a)(4); see also proposed Rule 5110.01(b)(24).

<sup>33</sup> See Rule 2231(d)(4); see also proposed Rule 5110.01(b)(24).

<sup>34</sup> See proposed Rule 5110(a)(4), 5110(c)(5), 5110(e), and 5110.06.

<sup>35</sup> See Notice at 4124.

<sup>36</sup> See *id.*

<sup>37</sup> See *id.* at 4126.

<sup>38</sup> See *id.* at 4124 n.26, 4125.

<sup>39</sup> See *id.* at 4126.

<sup>40</sup> See *id.*

<sup>41</sup> See *id.* at 4125.

<sup>42</sup> See *id.*

<sup>43</sup> See *id.*

<sup>44</sup> See Rule 5110.01.

<sup>45</sup> See Notice at 4123.

<sup>46</sup> See *id.*

<sup>47</sup> See *id.*

<sup>48</sup> See *id.* at 4124 n.26, 4125.

<sup>49</sup> FINRA stated that the proposed rule change is consistent with past exemptions that have been granted for certain transactions. See *id.* at 4123.

<sup>50</sup> See proposed Rule 5110.01(23)(A).

- the affiliated member subsequently offered all of the equity securities the lender acquired in a firm commitment offering following the debt exchange;<sup>51</sup>
- the parties determined the terms of the debt exchange and the subsequent equity issued through arms' length negotiations based on the market price of the equity;<sup>52</sup> and
- the affiliated member negotiated customary compensation for the subsequent equity offering.<sup>53</sup>

## ii. Capital Investments for DPPs and REITs

Currently, Rule 5110 does not provide an exclusion from underwriting compensation for capital investments in exchange for an equity stake made by affiliates of underwriters concurrently with or in advance of a public offering.<sup>54</sup> FINRA stated that these types of capital investments currently require participating members to request an exemption from the provisions of Rule 5110.<sup>55</sup> The proposed rule change would add new Rule 5110.01(b)(24) to provide an exclusion from underwriting compensation for securities acquired before or during the distribution of an offering by a participating member in the issuer or an affiliated entity in connection with DPPs and unlisted REITs, if the following conditions are met:

- the acquisition of securities is disclosed in the prospectus;<sup>56</sup>
- the securities offered to the public and the securities acquired in the capitalization transaction are valued and priced on a net asset value ("NAV") basis;<sup>57</sup>
- the offering for which the participating member is engaged is an offering subject the requirements of Rule 2310 (Direct Participation Programs);<sup>58</sup> and
- the securities acquired are restricted for a period of 180 days following the commencement of sales.<sup>59</sup>

## iii. Non-Convertible Preferred Securities

Currently, Rule 5110 provides that non-convertible or non-exchangeable debt securities and derivative instruments acquired by any participating member in a transaction related to a public offering at a fair price<sup>60</sup> are considered underwriting compensation but have no compensation value.<sup>61</sup> However, at present, Rule 5110 does not offer parallel treatment of non-convertible preferred securities.<sup>62</sup> Because both non-convertible debt and non-convertible preferred securities cannot be converted to common stock and provide predetermined payments to holders, resulting in fixed sources of income, FINRA stated that it views them as equivalent for purposes of the Rule 5110 exclusion and, accordingly, the proposed rule change would treat them in a comparable manner as long as non-convertible preferred securities are acquired at a fair price.<sup>63</sup>

## c. Additional Modifications to Rule 5110

The proposed rule change would make other modifications to Rule 5110 that FINRA believes would improve the operation of the rule. First, Rule 5110 permits termination fees or the receipt of compensation in the form of rights of first refusal in connection with a public offering that is terminated when specific requirements are met that protect the issuer.<sup>64</sup> FINRA stated that, increasingly, members negotiate payments often described as "tail fees" in engagement letters that are similar to the terms and requirements for termination fees or rights of first refusal.<sup>65</sup> Because tail fees provide compensation in the event of a subsequent financing from investors introduced by a member following the termination of an agreement, FINRA believes these payments are comparable

to termination fees for purposes of Rule 5110.<sup>66</sup> The proposed rule change would amend Rule 5110(g)(5)(B) to clarify that the same requirements that apply to termination fees would also apply to tail fees.<sup>67</sup> If these requirements are not met, tail fees would constitute unreasonable arrangements under Rule 5110.<sup>68</sup>

Second, the proposed rule change would also amend Rule 5110 to make non-substantive, technical changes.<sup>69</sup>

## 2. Rule 5123 Proposed Amendments

The proposed rule change would expand the filing exemption under Rule 5123 for sales to accredited investors to include offerings sold to investors meeting two additional accredited investor categories, consistent with the Commission's addition of those categories to the accredited investor definition. As stated above, in August 2020, the Commission adopted amendments to the definition of "accredited investor" under Rule 501.<sup>70</sup> These changes included adding to the definition of accredited investor:

- any entity, of a type not listed in paragraphs (a)(1), (2), (3), (7), or (8) of Rule 501, not formed for the specific purpose of acquiring the securities offered, owning investments in excess of \$5,000,000;<sup>71</sup> and
- any "family office" with assets under management in excess of \$5,000,000, that is not formed for the specific purpose of acquiring the securities offered and its prospective investment is directed by a person who has such knowledge and experience in financial and business matters that such family office is capable of evaluating the merits and risks of the prospective investment.<sup>72</sup>

The proposed rule change would amend Rule 5123(b)(1) to include these same two categories of entities to the filing exemption under Rule 5123.<sup>73</sup>

FINRA stated that adding the two categories discussed to the existing exemption would establish consistency

<sup>51</sup> See proposed Rule 5110.01(23)(B). FINRA stated that typically, lenders and affiliated members coordinate to satisfy this condition. However, even if they do not coordinate, the affiliated member can satisfy the condition with the subsequent offering. See Notice at 4123 n.14.

<sup>52</sup> See proposed Rule 5110.01(23)(C).

<sup>53</sup> See proposed Rule 5110.01(23)(D).

<sup>54</sup> See Rule 5110.01. FINRA stated that such investments are common in DPP and REIT offerings to provide the initial or subsequent equity capital or financing needed by an issuer. See Notice at 4123.

<sup>55</sup> See Notice at 4124 n.26, 4125.

<sup>56</sup> See proposed Rule 5110.01(24)(A).

<sup>57</sup> See proposed Rule 5110.01(24)(B).

Capitalization transactions occurring before the issuer has material assets would be deemed to occur at or above NAV. See Notice at 4123 n.16.

<sup>58</sup> See proposed Rule 5110.01(24)(C).

<sup>59</sup> See proposed Rule 5110.01(24)(D).

<sup>60</sup> See Rule 5110.06(b).

<sup>61</sup> See Rules 5110(c)(5) and 5110.06. As noted above, per Rule 5110, compensation that cannot be valued is generally prohibited. See Rule 5110(g)(1); see also *supra* note 26. However, FINRA stated that, under the exclusion for non-convertible or non-exchangeable debt securities and derivative instruments, treating these transactions as compensation without value permits the participating member to receive the securities (as long as they are received at a fair price) while still allowing FINRA the ability to review the transactions to determine whether they were, indeed, received at a fair price. If they were not received at a fair price, the value of underwriting compensation that is attributed to these securities is the difference between their fair price and their actual price. See Notice at 4123 n.18.

<sup>62</sup> See *id.*

<sup>63</sup> See Notice at 4123–24; see also *supra* note 60.

<sup>64</sup> See Rule 5110(g)(5)(B).

<sup>65</sup> See Notice at 4124.

<sup>66</sup> See *id.*

<sup>67</sup> See *id.* at 4124 n.19; see also proposed Rule 5110(g)(5)(B).

<sup>68</sup> See Notice at 4124.

<sup>69</sup> The proposed rule change would add language to various cross-references throughout the rule in order to clarify that the cross-references are related to the same rule. See, e.g., proposed Rule 5110(g); 5110(j)(11); 5110(j)(19); 5110(j)(21); 5110.01(a)(13); 5110.03; 5110.04; and 5110.07. In addition, the proposed rule change would also change the wording of the definition of "immediate family" to replace "the spouse or child" with "the spouse or children." See proposed Rule 5110(j)(8)(A).

<sup>70</sup> See SEC Accredited Investor Definition Release, *supra* note 16.

<sup>71</sup> See 17 CFR 230.501(a)(9).

<sup>72</sup> See 17 CFR 230.501(a)(12).

<sup>73</sup> See Notice at 4124.

with the purpose of Rule 5123, and would not diminish investor protection.<sup>74</sup> FINRA stated that it believes that these two categories of investors possess a level of sophistication and expertise that is similar to the institutional accredited investors currently exempted under Rule 5123, and that these categories of investors generally do not need the additional protections and oversight provided through the filing requirements.<sup>75</sup> FINRA stated that the two categories covered by the proposed rule change have a similar financial threshold to qualified purchasers, currently covered in another exemption from Rule 5123's filing requirements.<sup>76</sup>

### III. Discussion and Commission Findings

After careful review of the proposed rule change and comment letters received, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities association.<sup>77</sup> As discussed in more detail below, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 15A(b)(6) of the Exchange Act, which requires, among other things, that FINRA rules be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.<sup>78</sup>

#### A. Rule 5110 Proposed Amendments

##### 1. Valuation Method for Securities Acquisitions Considered Underwriting Compensation

As noted above, FINRA stated that when participating members acquire securities in a public offering that are deemed underwriting compensation, the value of those securities must currently be based on either the public offering price per security or the price paid per security on the date of acquisition if a "bona fide public market" exists for the security. The proposed rule change would amend Rule 5110(c)(2) and (3) by replacing the "bona fide public market"

valuation method with a valuation method based on the closing market price of a security traded on a U.S. registered national securities exchange or a "designated offshore securities market" on the date of acquisition.<sup>79</sup>

Commenters supported the proposed rule change.<sup>80</sup> The proposed rule change is reasonably designed to update and simplify the valuation method for underwriting compensation in a manner that promotes capital formation while maintaining protections for issuers and investors. As discussed above, FINRA stated that requiring the use of the "bona fide public market" valuation method under the current rule is not always workable and can be overly complex.<sup>81</sup> When participating members cannot use the public offering price, and also cannot determine whether there is a "bona fide public market," FINRA stated that participating members must either negotiate a different form of compensation or request an exemption from FINRA, which can be time consuming and expensive.<sup>82</sup> Replacing the current system of valuation with a valuation method based on readily available market data allows for more predictability and certainty to participating members. In addition, the proposed method of calculation will maintain protections for issuers and investors participating in offerings by continuing to ensure that these securities are valued in a fair manner.<sup>83</sup> For these reasons, the proposed rule change is reasonably designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

##### 2. Exclusions From Underwriting Compensation for Certain Securities Acquisitions

Currently, Rule 5110 provides for certain exclusions from underwriting compensation.<sup>84</sup> The proposed rule change would expand the categories of exclusions from underwriting compensation for certain types of investments by participating members in anticipation of, or concurrently with, a public offering. FINRA's proposed

amendments cover: (1) debt-for-equity exchanges; (2) capital investments for DPPs and unlisted REITs; and (3) non-convertible preferred securities. Commenters supported the proposed rule change.<sup>85</sup> Each proposed amendment is discussed below.

#### a. Debt-for-Equity Exchanges

First, as noted above, Rule 5110 currently does not provide an exclusion from underwriting compensation for securities acquired by affiliates of underwriters in connection with debt-for-equity exchange transactions.<sup>86</sup> The proposed rule change would add new Rule 5110.01(b)(23) to provide an exclusion from underwriting compensation for securities acquired by affiliated members of underwriters in connection with debt-for-equity exchange transactions if certain conditions are met. FINRA stated that these conditions codify those factors and factual circumstances it has consistently considered when granting exemptions to the current rule.<sup>87</sup> FINRA also stated that the exclusion from underwriting compensation has worked well for both issuers and investors under the current exemptive relief process.<sup>88</sup>

The proposed rule change is reasonably designed to codify an exclusion from underwriting compensation that FINRA believes has worked well for both issuers and investors based on FINRA's experience with the current exemptive relief process.<sup>89</sup> By codifying the factors and factual circumstances that FINRA believes are appropriate, and has used, to grant exemptions to securities acquisitions in connection with debt-for-equity exchange transactions from being deemed underwriting compensation, the proposed rule change will promote clarity and efficiency by eliminating the need for the exemptive request process when certain conditions are met. For these reasons, the proposed rule change is reasonably designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and

<sup>74</sup> See *id.*

<sup>75</sup> See *id.*

<sup>76</sup> See *id.*; see also Rule 5123(b)(1)(B). "Qualified purchasers" are defined under the Investment Company Act to include natural persons or certain companies that own not less than \$5,000,000 in investments. See *id.*; see also Investment Company Act Section 2(a)(51).

<sup>77</sup> In approving this rule change, the Commission has considered the rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

<sup>78</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78o-3(b)(6).

<sup>79</sup> See Notice at 4122-23.

<sup>80</sup> See generally letter from Anya Coverman, President and CEO, Institute for Portfolio Alternatives (Feb. 20, 2026); letter from Joseph P. Corcoran, Managing Director & Associate General Counsel, Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (Feb. 20, 2026).

<sup>81</sup> See *supra* note 17 and accompanying text.

<sup>82</sup> See Notice at 4126.

<sup>83</sup> See *id.* at 4124-25.

<sup>84</sup> See generally Rule 5110.

<sup>85</sup> See *supra* note 80 and accompanying text.

<sup>86</sup> See *supra* note 44 and accompanying text.

<sup>87</sup> See Notice at 4125 n.27 (The proposed rule "codifies the factors and factual circumstances FINRA has consistently considered when granting these exemptions."). However, members can still request exemptive relief if they do not meet the conditions in the proposed rule change. See *id.* at 4123 n.15 ("Member firms intending to participate in transactions that do not align with the terms of this Supplementary Material may, as with any transaction subject to Rule 5110, request exemptive relief pursuant to FINRA Rule 5110(i) and the Rule 9600 Series.").

<sup>88</sup> See *id.* at 4125.

<sup>89</sup> See *id.*

equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

#### b. Capital Investments for DPPs and REITs

Second, as noted above, Rule 5110 currently does not provide an exclusion from underwriting compensation for securities acquisitions in connection with a capital investment concurrently with or in anticipation of a public offering.<sup>90</sup> The proposed rule change would add new Rule 5110.01(b)(24) to provide an exclusion from underwriting compensation for securities acquired before or during the distribution of an offering by a participating member in the issuer or an affiliated entity in connection with DPPs and unlisted REITs as defined in Rule 2231(d), if certain conditions are met.<sup>91</sup>

Similar to the proposed rule change for debt-for-equity exchanges, FINRA stated that proposed Rule 5110.01(b)(24) would codify the factors and factual circumstances FINRA has consistently considered to grant exemptions related to DPPs and unlisted REITs.<sup>92</sup> FINRA also stated that the exclusion from underwriting compensation has worked well for both issuers and investors under the current exemptive relief process.<sup>93</sup>

The proposed rule change is reasonably designed to codify an exclusion from underwriting compensation that FINRA believes has worked well for both issuers and investors based on FINRA's experience with the current exemptive relief process.<sup>94</sup> By codifying the factors and factual circumstances that FINRA believes are appropriate, and has used, to grant exemptions regarding DPPs and unlisted REITs, the proposed rule change will promote clarity and efficiency by making clear the factors and factual circumstances FINRA considers appropriate for excluding underwriting compensation for certain securities associated with DPPs and unlisted REITs, and by doing so eliminate the need for the exemptive request process in certain circumstances. For these reasons, the proposed rule change is reasonably designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

#### c. Non-Convertible Preferred Securities

Third, as noted above, Rule 5110 currently provides that non-convertible or non-exchangeable debt securities and derivative instruments—but not non-convertible preferred securities—acquired by any participating member in a transaction related to a public offering at a fair price are considered underwriting compensation but have no compensation value.<sup>95</sup> The proposed rule change would treat non-convertible preferred securities in the same manner as non-convertible or non-exchangeable debt securities and derivative instruments so long as they are acquired at a fair price. This outcome reflects FINRA's current treatment of these securities as equivalent for purposes of Rule 5110.<sup>96</sup>

The proposed parallel treatment of non-convertible preferred securities with non-convertible or non-exchangeable debt securities and derivative instruments is reasonable in light of their shared characteristics and FINRA's current treatment of them as equivalent for purposes of Rule 5110. In particular, as discussed above, both non-convertible debt and non-convertible preferred securities cannot be converted to common stock and provide predetermined payments to holders, resulting in fixed sources of income.<sup>97</sup> In addition, FINRA will maintain the ability to oversee underwriting terms and arrangements because participating members would continue to be required to file documents and information in connection with certain public offerings.<sup>98</sup> For these reasons, the proposed rule change is reasonably designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

#### 3. Additional Modifications to Rule 5110

As noted above, the proposed rule change would make other modifications to Rule 5110 that FINRA believes would improve the operation of the rule. Specifically, the proposed rule change will add tail fees to the types of termination fees that are allowed as underwriting compensation, if specific requirements are met.<sup>99</sup> Commenters supported the proposed rule change.<sup>100</sup>

The proposed rule change to add tail fees to the types of termination fees that are permitted as underwriting compensation is reasonably designed to provide a limited expansion of the types of termination fees allowed as underwriting compensation under Rule 5110. Specifically, like other termination fees, tail fees provide compensation in the event of subsequent financing from investors introduced by a member following the termination of an agreement. In addition, tail fees, like other termination fees, will be prohibited unless certain conditions are met, such as the elimination of any obligation to pay tail fees if an issuer exercises its right to terminate for cause; that the amount of any tail fee must be reasonable in relation to the underwriting services contemplated in the agreement; and that the issuer shall not be responsible for paying the tail fee unless the transaction is consummated within two years of the date the engagement is terminated by the issuer.<sup>101</sup> For these reasons, the proposed rule change is reasonably designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

#### B. Rule 5123 Proposed Amendments

As noted above, the proposed rule change would expand the filing exemption under Rule 5123 for sales to accredited investors to include offerings sold to investors meeting two additional accredited investor categories, consistent with the Commission's addition of those categories to the accredited investor definition.<sup>102</sup> Specifically, the proposed rule change would amend Rule 5123(b)(1) to include two types of categories of "accredited investor": certain entities not formed for the specific purpose of acquiring the securities offered, owning investments in excess of \$5,000,000;<sup>103</sup> and certain "family offices" with assets under management in excess of \$5,000,000.<sup>104</sup> Commenters supported the proposed rule change.<sup>105</sup>

The proposed rule change to add these two categories of investors to the filing exemption under Rule 5123 is reasonably designed to expand the exemption—consistent with the SEC's amended "accredited investor" definition—without materially impacting investor protection.

<sup>90</sup> See *supra* note 54 and accompanying text.

<sup>91</sup> See proposed Rule 5110.01(b)(24).

<sup>92</sup> See Notice at 4125 n.27.

<sup>93</sup> See *id.* at 4125.

<sup>94</sup> See *id.*

<sup>95</sup> See *supra* notes 61–62 and accompanying text.

<sup>96</sup> See Notice at 4123–24.

<sup>97</sup> See *supra* note 63 and accompanying text.

<sup>98</sup> See *supra* note 42 and accompanying text; see also Notice at 4122.

<sup>99</sup> See *supra* note 66–67 and accompanying text.

<sup>100</sup> See *supra* note 80 and accompanying text.

<sup>101</sup> See proposed Rule 5110(g)(5).

<sup>102</sup> See also *supra* note 73 and accompanying text.

<sup>103</sup> See *supra* note 71 and accompanying text.

<sup>104</sup> See *supra* note 72 and accompanying text.

<sup>105</sup> See *supra* note 80 and accompanying text.

Specifically, the proposed rule change would include two categories of investors that FINRA believes possess a level of sophistication and expertise similar to the institutional accredited investors currently exempted under Rule 5123, and who FINRA has determined generally do not need the additional protections and oversight provided through the filing requirements.<sup>106</sup> For these reasons, the proposed rule change is reasonably designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

#### IV. Conclusion

For the reasons set forth above, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 15A(b)(6) of the Exchange Act, which requires, among other things, that FINRA rules be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, protect investors and the public interest.<sup>107</sup>

*It is therefore ordered*, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Exchange Act,<sup>108</sup> that the proposed rule change (SR-FINRA-2026-022) be, and hereby is, approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>109</sup>

**Sherry R. Haywood,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15242 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8011-01-P**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-105991; File No. SR-FINRA-2026-009]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.; Order Approving a Proposed Rule Change To Amend the FINRA Rule 6700 Series (Trade Reporting and Compliance Engine) (TRACE) To Expand the Scope of the Non-Member Affiliate—Principal Transaction Indicator to Also Include Member Affiliates

July 24, 2026.

#### I. Introduction

On April 22, 2026, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (“FINRA”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”),<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> a proposed rule change to amend the FINRA Rule 6700 Series to expand the scope of the non-member affiliate—principal transaction indicator to also include member affiliates. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on May 6, 2026.<sup>3</sup> On June 10, 2026, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Exchange Act,<sup>4</sup> the Commission designated a longer period within which to approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change.<sup>5</sup> This order approves the proposed rule change.

#### II. Summary of the Proposed Rule Change

As FINRA states in the Notice, in 2015 FINRA adopted rules related to the reporting of TRACE-Eligible Securities,<sup>6</sup>

which established the non-member affiliate—principal transaction indicator and required members to identify in TRACE reports transactions between the member and its non-member affiliate, where the member also engaged in a same-day, same-price transaction in the same security with another contra-party.<sup>7</sup> As explained by FINRA, this non-member affiliate—principal transaction indicator allows FINRA to suppress from dissemination inter-affiliate transactions that do not provide pricing information different from the disseminated transaction between the member and the other contra-party, thereby improving transparency and addressing concerns regarding potential investor confusion as to the level of trading activity in TRACE-Eligible Securities.<sup>8</sup>

As described in more detail in the Notice, FINRA proposes to expand the use of the non-member affiliate—principal transaction indicator to also include transactions between member affiliates trading as principal where the transaction with the member affiliate occurs within the same trading day, at the same price, and in the same TRACE-Eligible Security as a transaction executed by one of the members with another contra-party.<sup>9</sup> To reflect this expanded use, the indicator would also be re-designated as the Affiliate—Principal Transaction indicator.<sup>10</sup>

To effectuate this change, FINRA proposes to modify several existing rules in its rulebook, including FINRA Rule 6710 (Definitions), FINRA Rule 6730 (Transaction Reporting), and FINRA Rule 6750 (Dissemination of Transaction Information).

FINRA proposes to modify the definition of “Non-member Affiliate” in FINRA Rule 6710(ee) by re-titling it “Affiliate” and removing language limiting the definition to a “non-member” entity. As proposed, FINRA Rule 6710(ee) will define “Affiliate” to mean an entity that controls, is controlled by or is under common control with a member. The rule would continue to state that for the purposes of this definition, “control,” along with any derivative thereof, means legal, beneficial, or equitable ownership, directly or indirectly, of 25 percent or

Instrument as defined in paragraph (o). *See* Notice, *supra* note 3, at 24625 n.3.

<sup>7</sup> *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 74482 (Mar. 11, 2015), 80 FR 13940 (Mar. 17, 2015).

<sup>8</sup> *See* Notice, *supra* note 3, at 24625.

<sup>9</sup> *See* Notice, *supra* note 3, at 24626.

<sup>10</sup> *See id.* *See also* proposed FINRA Rule 24628. FINRA provides examples in the Notice to illustrate the expanded scope of the Affiliate—Principal Transaction indicator. *See* Notice, *supra* note 3, at 24626–28.

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

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

<sup>3</sup> *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 105352 (May 1, 2026), 91 FR 24625 (“Notice”). Comments received on the proposed rule change are available at: <https://www.sec.gov/rules-regulations/public-comments/sr-finra-2026-009>.

<sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

<sup>5</sup> *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 105648, 91 FR 36019 (June 15, 2026).

<sup>6</sup> “TRACE-Eligible Security” means a debt security that is United States (U.S.) dollar-denominated and is: (1) issued by a U.S. or foreign private issuer, and, if a “restricted security” as defined in Securities Act Rule 144(a)(3), sold pursuant to Securities Act Rule 144A; (2) issued or guaranteed by an Agency as defined in paragraph (k) or a Government-Sponsored Enterprise as defined in paragraph (n); (3) a U.S. Treasury Security as defined in paragraph (p); or (4) a Foreign Sovereign Debt Security as defined in paragraph (kk). “TRACE-Eligible Security” does not include a debt security that is a Money Market

<sup>106</sup> *See supra* note 75 and accompanying text.

<sup>107</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78o-3(b)(6).

<sup>108</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

<sup>109</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

more of the capital stock (or other ownership interest, if not a corporation) of any entity ordinarily having voting rights, and that the term “common control” means the same natural person or entity controls two or more entities.

In conjunction with this change, FINRA proposes to update references to “non-member affiliate” to “Affiliate” in existing FINRA Rule 6370, Supplementary Material .02, and FINRA Rule 6750(d)(1). The updates to FINRA Rule 6370, Supplementary Material .02 would require members, for the purposes of compliance with paragraphs (c)(6) and (d)(4)(E) of FINRA Rule 6370, to identify those entities that would meet the definition of “Affiliate” at least annually. In addition, where the member has undergone an organizational or operational restructuring that may impact its Affiliate relationships, it must promptly review and update, as necessary, its identification of Affiliates for purposes of the rule. Proposed FINRA Rule 6750(d)(1) would state that FINRA will not disseminate information on a transaction in a TRACE-Eligible Security that is identified with the Affiliate—Principal Transaction indicator pursuant to Rule 6730(d)(4)(E).

FINRA also proposes to update FINRA Rule 6730(d)(4)(E), replacing existing language limited to the non-member Affiliate—Principal Transaction indicator with language stating how to report the proposed Affiliate—Principal Transaction Indicator. As proposed, FINRA Rule 6730(d)(4)(E) would state that:

(i) If a member and an Affiliate transact in a principal capacity in a TRACE-Eligible Security, and the member reasonably believes that the member (or its member Affiliate, in the case of member Affiliates, as further described in subparagraph (ii)) will engage (or has already engaged) in a transaction in the same security within the same day, at the same price, with another contra-party, select the Affiliate—Principal Transaction indicator.<sup>11</sup>

(ii) In a transaction between member Affiliates, to select the Affiliate—

Principal Transaction indicator, both members must share a reasonable belief that the member or its member Affiliate will engage (or has already engaged) in a transaction in the same security within the same day, at the same price, with another contra-party, and each member must append the Affiliate—Principal Transaction indicator.<sup>12</sup>

(iii) If a member has engaged in a same day, same price transaction in the same security with both a member Affiliate and a non-member Affiliate and neither member Affiliate engages in a same-security, same-day, same-price transaction with an unaffiliated contra-party, the member must only append the Affiliate—Principal Transaction indicator to either the trade report with its member Affiliate (consistent with paragraph (d)(4)(E)(ii) of this Rule), or to the trade report for its transaction with its non-member Affiliate. If the member appends the Affiliate—Principal Transaction indicator to the trade report for the transaction with its non-member Affiliate, neither the member nor its member Affiliate may append the Affiliate—Principal Transaction indicator to the trade report for the member-to-member transaction.<sup>13</sup>

(iv) A member is not required to correct a prior trade report with its Affiliate solely for the purpose of appending the Affiliate—Principal Transaction indicator if the member did not reasonably believe that it (or its member Affiliate, in the case of member Affiliates) would engage (or had already engaged) in a same-day, same-price transaction in the same security with another contra-party at the time of the prior trade report. If, however, a member appends the Affiliate—Principal Transaction indicator to a trade report reflecting a transaction with an Affiliate and, ultimately, the member or its member Affiliate does not engage in a same day, same price transaction in the same security with another contra-party, the member must correct the prior

trade report to exclude the Affiliate—Principal Transaction indicator.<sup>14</sup>

FINRA states that it undertook an “economic impact assessment” to analyze the potential economic impacts of the proposed rule change, including anticipated costs, benefits, and distributional and competitive effects relative to the current baseline, and the alternatives considered in assessing how best to meet its regulatory objective.<sup>15</sup> In this analysis, FINRA conducted an analysis using TRACE data from January 2025 through December 2025 to estimate the percentage of trades that could be subject to the proposed rule change across TRACE-Eligible Securities.<sup>16</sup> In addition, FINRA received feedback in response to Regulatory Notice 25–04 (March 2025), including commenters raising concerns regarding the dissemination of certain transactions between affiliated members that are similar to the concerns raised in 2014 regarding transactions between members and non-member affiliates.<sup>17</sup> FINRA provided these comments, as well as a summary of these comments and its responses in its filing with the Commission.<sup>18</sup>

### III. Discussion and Commission Findings

After carefully reviewing the proposed rule change and the comment letters received, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities association.<sup>19</sup> In particular, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 15A(b)(6) of the Exchange Act,<sup>20</sup> which requires, among other things, that the association’s rules be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

<sup>14</sup> FINRA states that proposed Rule 6730(d)(4)(E)(iv) seeks to adopt with respect to member affiliates the same obligations for correcting trade reports as are currently in place regarding a member’s trade with a non-member affiliate. *See Notice, supra* note 3, at 24628 n.16.

<sup>15</sup> *See Notice, supra* note 3, at 24629–30.

<sup>16</sup> *See id.*

<sup>17</sup> Comments received by FINRA are available on FINRA’s website in the public comment file for Regulatory Notice 25–04, available at: <https://www.finra.org/rules-guidance/notices/25-04#comments>.

<sup>18</sup> *See Notice, supra* note 3, at 24630.

<sup>19</sup> In approving this proposed rule change, the Commission has considered the proposed rule’s impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. *See* 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

<sup>20</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78o–3(b)(6).

<sup>11</sup> FINRA states that it understands that members may have multiple member affiliates (and in some cases, multiple desks at each entity, including those separated by information barriers) that transact in the same securities with each other as with other contra-parties. *See Notice, supra* note 3, at 24626 n.10. FINRA states that with the inclusion of the “reasonable belief” language, the proposed rule does not require members to seek to identify incidental or unforeseeable trades between it and its affiliates occurring on the same day and at the same price as a transaction with another counterparty unless those trades are systemically identifiable by each TRACE-reporting affiliate contra-party in the normal course of business. *See id.*

<sup>12</sup> FINRA states that because the Affiliate—Principal Transaction indicator would be a matching field in TRACE, either both member affiliates must append, or they both must not append, the indicator when reporting (as contra-parties to each other) their respective qualifying transaction(s) to TRACE. *See Notice, supra* note 3, at 24626. FINRA states that in the event only one member affiliate appends the Affiliate—Principal Transaction indicator to its TRACE report, TRACE would still suppress from dissemination the sell-side trade report, but both members would receive a report of a mismatch for that trade on their TRACE Match Status Reports. *See Notice, supra* note 3, at 24626 n.9.

<sup>13</sup> FINRA states that this provision addresses the concern that all legs of an inter-affiliate transaction may be suppressed from dissemination. *See Notice, supra* note 3, at 24626.

The Commission received four comment letters that were broadly supportive of the proposed rule change.<sup>21</sup> One of these commenters states, among other things, that the transactions covered by the proposed rule change between FINRA member affiliates are not economically distinct and do not provide meaningful pricing and volume information, and so the proposed rule change would enhance the efficiency of the fixed income markets by increasing the accuracy of the volume information disseminated under the TRACE rules.<sup>22</sup> Another commenter states that the proposed rule change would improve the accuracy and usefulness of TRACE data by suppressing dissemination of transactions that are economically duplicative and do not contribute meaningful information to the market.<sup>23</sup>

One commenter states that FINRA should not penalize good faith errors with respect to the Affiliate—Principal Transaction indicator in a situation where a FINRA member trades at the same price and on the same day with both a member affiliate and a non-member affiliate.<sup>24</sup> Instead, the commenter states that FINRA should instead should focus on pattern-and-practice issues and instances of intentionally misleading actions.<sup>25</sup> In a response letter, FINRA states that, consistent with FINRA's historical approach to trade reporting oversight, in evaluating compliance with the expansion of the Affiliate—Principal Transaction indicator, FINRA will work with its members to swiftly identify and rectify potential issues.<sup>26</sup>

Three commenters request both adequate time for FINRA members to complete any necessary systems or reporting modifications necessary if the proposed rule change were adopted, and the ability for firms to elect to use the expanded Affiliate—Principal Transaction indicator in advance of any

formal compliance deadline.<sup>27</sup> In the FINRA Response Letter, FINRA states that it intends to publish a Regulatory Notice establishing an implementation date of no less than 12 months from any approval of the proposed rule change, to provide firms with sufficient time for systems and process changes, but that FINRA also intends to make the Affiliate—Principal Transaction indicator available for voluntary use prior to the implementation date for firms that opt to report the indicator earlier.<sup>28</sup>

One commenter requests FINRA incorporate the scenarios provided in the Notice through updates to current TRACE FAQs.<sup>29</sup> The commenter also requests FINRA update certain FAQs related to fact patterns under the non-member affiliate framework, in particular how the indicator applies when affiliate and non-affiliate quantities do not match cleanly or involve multiple trades.<sup>30</sup> FINRA states that it agrees and intends to incorporate the scenarios provided in the proposed rule change into the TRACE FAQs to provide its members with illustrative examples regarding the circumstances under which members append the indicator and where member affiliate transactions would be suppressed from dissemination.<sup>31</sup> FINRA also states that it will continue to engage with its members to consider whether additional interpretive guidance would be appropriate.<sup>32</sup>

One commenter requests guidance related to TRACE reporting more broadly, specifically scenarios that involve trading by non-FINRA member covered depository institutions.<sup>33</sup> While FINRA states that this request is outside for the scope of the proposed rule change, FINRA states that it “is happy to engage with members on the need for clarifications in this and other areas and will consider further updates to the FAQs, as appropriate.”<sup>34</sup>

As discussed above, the proposed rule change expands the use of the current

non-member affiliate—principal transaction indicator to also include transactions between FINRA member affiliates trading as principal where the transaction with the FINRA member affiliate occurs within the same trading day, at the same price, and in the same TRACE-Eligible Security as a transaction executed by one of the members with another contra-party. The expanded Affiliate—Principal Transaction indicator would improve post-trade transparency by enabling FINRA to identify and suppress from public dissemination transaction data that offers no new pricing information, thus reducing potential investor confusion as to the level of trading activity in TRACE-Eligible Securities. The proposed changes to FINRA rules appear reasonably designed to effectuate this goal and are therefore consistent with Section 15A(b)(6)<sup>35</sup> of the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities association.

#### IV. Consultation With the Treasury Department

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(6) of the Act,<sup>36</sup> the Commission has considered the sufficiency and appropriateness of existing laws and rules applicable to government securities brokers, government securities dealers, and their associated persons in approving the proposed rule change. Pursuant to Section 19(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>37</sup> the Commission consulted with and considered the views of the Treasury Department in determining whether to approve the proposed rule change. The Treasury Department did not object to the proposed rule change.

#### V. Conclusion

*It is therefore ordered*, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Exchange Act,<sup>38</sup> that the proposed rule change (SR–FINRA–2026–009) be, and hereby is, approved.

<sup>21</sup> See Letters to Vanessa Countryman, Secretary, Commission, from Scott Pintoff, General Counsel, MarketAxess Holdings Inc., dated May 27, 2026 (“MarketAxess Letter”); from Howard Meyerson, Managing Director, Financial Information Forum, dated May 27, 2026 (“FIF Letter”), at 2; from Joanna Mallers, Secretary, PTG, dated May 27, 2026 (“PTG Letter”), at 1; Christopher B. Killian, Managing Director, Securitization and Credit, SIFMA, dated May 27, 2026 (“SIFMA Letter”), at 1–2.

<sup>22</sup> See MarketAxess Letter, at 2.

<sup>23</sup> See PTG Letter, at 2.

<sup>24</sup> See SIFMA Letter, at 2.

<sup>25</sup> See *id.* at 3.

<sup>26</sup> See Letter to Vanessa Countryman, Secretary, Commission, from Racquel L. Russell, Senior Vice President, Director of Capital Markets Policy, FINRA, dated June 18, 2026 (“FINRA Response Letter”), at 3.

<sup>27</sup> See PTG Letter, at 2; FIF Letter at 3; SIFMA Letter, at 3 (stating that FINRA should provide at least 12 months for member firms to implement this rule change but should also allow for early adoption).

<sup>28</sup> See FINRA Response Letter at 3.

<sup>29</sup> See FIF Letter, at 2.

<sup>30</sup> See *id.* at 2. The commenter also requests that FINRA update the FAQs to also address the scenario where there are multiple transactions between affiliates, applying the same principles (for example a scenario where multiple transactions with an affiliate should be suppressed because of a single disseminated transaction with a non-affiliate). *Id.* at 2–3.

<sup>31</sup> See FINRA Response Letter, at 4.

<sup>32</sup> See *id.*

<sup>33</sup> See FIF Letter, at 3.

<sup>34</sup> See FINRA Response Letter, at 2 n.3.

<sup>35</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78o–3(b)(6).

<sup>36</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(6).

<sup>37</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(5) (providing that the Commission “shall consult with and consider the views of the Secretary of the Treasury prior to approving a proposed rule filed by a registered securities association that primarily concerns conduct related to transactions in government securities, except where the Commission determines that an emergency exists requiring expeditious or summary action and publishes its reasons therefor”).

<sup>38</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>39</sup>

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–15251 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

## SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

### Escalate Capital V, LP, License No. 30002139; Notice Seeking Exemption Under Section 312 of the Small Business Investment Act, Conflicts of Interest

Notice is hereby given that Escalate Capital V, LP, 6300 Bridgepoint Parkway, Bldg. 1, Suite 489, Austin, TX 78730, Federal Licensees under the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as amended (“the Act”), in connection with financings of a small business, has sought an exemption under Section 312 of the Act and 13 CFR 107.730, *Financings which Constitute Conflicts of Interest* of the Code of Federal Regulations.

The financing is brought within the purview of 13 CFR 107.730(a) of the regulations because Escalate Capital V, LP (“Licensee”) proposes to provide financing to Vivo Care, Inc. 6300 Bridgepoint Parkway, Building 1, Suite 480, Austin, TX 78730, to support its acquisition in Onpoint Healthcare Partners, Inc. through a stock-for-stock merger in which Vivo Care, Inc. will be the surviving entity and Onpoint Healthcare Partners, Inc. merges into Vivo Care Inc. Escalate Capital IV, LP is an Associate of the Licensee by way of Common Control, and has a greater than ten percent ownership interest in Vivo Care, Inc. Therefore, this transaction is considered a financing which constitutes a conflict of interest.

Notice is hereby given that any interested person may submit written comments on the transaction, within fifteen days of the date of this publication, to the Associate Administrator for Investment, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 Third Street SW, Washington, DC 20416.

Paul Salgado,

Director, Investment Portfolio Management, Office of Investment and Innovation.

[FR Doc. 2026–15279 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8026–09–P

## SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

### Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Small Business Administration.

ACTION: 30-Day notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Small Business Administration (SBA) is seeking approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the information collection described below. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act and OMB procedures, SBA is publishing this notice to allow all interested members of the public an additional 30 days to provide comments on the proposed collection of information.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before August 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for this information collection request should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection request by selecting “Small Business Administration”; “Currently Under Review,” then select the “Only Show ICR for Public Comment” checkbox. This information collection can be identified by title and/or OMB Control Number.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** You may obtain a copy of the information collection and supporting documents from the Interim Agency Clearance Officer at [Shauniece.Carter@sba.gov](mailto:Shauniece.Carter@sba.gov); (202) 921–2198, or from [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Disaster Loan Program is an SBA financing program authorized under the Small Business Act of 1953, 15 U.S.C. 636 *et seq.* SBA provides low-interest disaster loans to help businesses and homeowners recover from declared disasters. SBA’s information collection approved under OMB Control Number 3245–0432 supports the ongoing administration of the Disaster Loan Program and currently includes SBA Form 3520, Builder’s Certification. There are no revisions to this collection.

### Solicitation of Public Comments

Comments may be submitted on (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the agency to properly perform its functions; (b) whether the burden estimates are accurate; (c) whether there are ways to minimize the burden, including through the use of automated techniques or other forms of information technology; and (d) whether there are ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information.

OMB Control 3245–0432.

Title: Builder’s Certification.

Description of Respondents: Builders delayed over 60 days awaiting local permits.

Form Number: SBA Form 3520.

Total Estimated Annual Responses:

628.

Total Estimated Annual Hour Burden: 314.

Shauniece Carter,

Interim Agency Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2026–15278 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8026–09–P

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 13084]

### 30-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Petition To Classify Special Immigrant Under INA 203(b)(4) as an Employee or Former Employee of the U.S. Government Abroad, or the Surviving Spouse or Child of an Employee of the U.S. Government Abroad

**ACTION:** Notice of request for public comment and submission to OMB of proposed collection of information.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of State has submitted the information collection described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we are requesting comments on this collection from all interested individuals and organizations. The purpose of this Notice is to allow 30 days for public comment.

**DATES:** Submit comments up to August 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function. If you have difficulty accessing supporting documents, please email [PRA\\_BurdenComments@state.gov](mailto:PRA_BurdenComments@state.gov).

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

- Title of Information Collection: Petition to Classify Special Immigrant Under INA 203(b)(4) as an Employee or Former Employee of the U.S. Government Abroad, or the Surviving Spouse or Child of an Employee of the U.S. Government Abroad.

- OMB Control Number: 1405–0082.

- Type of Request: Extension of a Currently Approved Collection.

<sup>39</sup> 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

- *Originating Office:* Consular Affairs, Visa Office.

- *Form Number:* DS-1884.

- *Respondents:* Employees or Former Employees of the U.S. Government Abroad, or the Surviving Spouse or Child of an Employee of the U.S. Government Abroad.

- *Estimated Number of Respondents:* 3,000.

- *Estimated Number of Responses:* 3,000.

- *Average Time per Response:* 15 minutes.

- *Total Estimated Burden Time:* 750 hours.

- *Frequency:* Once per Application.

- *Obligation to Respond:* Required to Obtain or Retain a Benefit.

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department.
- Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.

- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that comments submitted in response to this Notice are public record. Before including any detailed personal information, you should be aware that your comments as submitted, including your personal information, will be available for public review.

#### Abstract of Proposed Collection

The DS-1884, "Petition to Classify Special Immigrant Under INA 203(b)(4) as an Employee or Former Employee of the U.S. Government Abroad, or the Surviving Spouse or Child of an Employee of the U.S. Government Abroad," solicits information from aliens claiming employment-based immigrant visa preference under section 203(b)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality Act based on qualification as a special immigrant described in section 101(a)(27)(D) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. The DS-1884 form is used to file an immigrant visa petition by an eligible alien employee or qualifying former alien employee of the U.S. government abroad who performed faithful service for at least 15 years in exceptional circumstances; or the surviving spouse or child of an alien employee of the U.S. government abroad who performed faithful service for at

least 15 years or was killed in the line of duty. The DS-1884 petition solicits information that will assist the consular officer in ensuring that the alien is statutorily qualified to receive such status.

#### Methodology

The applicant can obtain a paper copy of the petition from consular posts abroad, or retrieve an electronic copy from <https://eforms.state.gov/>. The completed form can be submitted in person at the consular section in the applicant's resident location, or via mail or email with the consular section. Individuals may file the petition at an alternative consular section if a consular officer finds that emergent or humanitarian circumstances warrant such an action.

Stuart R. Wilson,

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 2026-15268 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-06-P

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 13061]

### 60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery

**ACTION:** Notice of request for public comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of State is seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the information collection described below. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we are requesting comments on this collection from all interested individuals and organizations. The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

**DATES:** The Department will accept comments from the public up to September 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Web:* Persons with access to the internet may comment on this notice by going to [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov). You can search for the document by entering "Docket Number: DOS-2026-0793" in the Search field. Then click the "Comment Now" button and complete the comment form.

- *Email:* [informationcollections@state.gov](mailto:informationcollections@state.gov).

You must include the DS form number (if applicable), information

collection title, and the OMB control number in any correspondence.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

- *Title of Information Collection:* Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery.

- *OMB Control Number:* 1405-0193.

- *Type of Request:* Extension of a Currently Approved Collection.

- *Originating Office:* Office of Directives Management, A/GIS/DIR.

- *Form Number:* Various public surveys.

- *Respondents:* Individuals responding to Department of State customer service evaluation requests.

- *Estimated Number of Respondents:* 2,000,000.

- *Estimated Number of Responses:* 2,000,000.

- *Average Time per Response:* 3.5 minutes.

- *Total Estimated Burden Time:* 116,667 annual hours.

- *Frequency:* Once per request.

- *Obligation to Respond:* Voluntary. We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department.

- Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.

- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that comments submitted in response to this Notice are public record. Before including any detailed personal information, you should be aware that your comments as submitted, including your personal information, will be available for public review.

#### Abstract of Proposed Collection

The information collection activity will garner qualitative customer feedback in an efficient, timely manner, in accordance with the Administration's commitment to improving service delivery. This qualitative feedback will provide insights into customer perceptions, experiences, and expectations, provide an early warning of issues with service, or focus attention on areas where communication, training or changes in operations might improve delivery of products or services. These collections will allow for ongoing, collaborative, and actionable

communications between the Agency and its customers. It will also allow feedback to contribute directly to the improvement of program management.

Feedback collected under this generic clearance will provide useful information, but it will not yield data that can be used for quantitative information collections that are designed to yield reliably actionable results, such as monitoring trends over time or documenting program performance. Such data uses require more rigorous designs that address: the target population to which generalizations will be made, the sampling frame, the sample design (including stratification and clustering), the precision requirements or power calculations that justify the proposed sample size, the expected response rate, methods for assessing potential non-response bias, the protocols for data collection, and any testing procedures that were or will be undertaken prior fielding the study. Depending on the degree of influence the results are likely to have, such collections may still be eligible for submission for other generic mechanisms that are designed to yield quantitative results.

#### Methodology

Respondents will fill out a brief customer survey after completing their interaction with a Department Program Office or Embassy. Surveys are designed to gather feedback on the customer's experiences.

**Alden F. Fahy,**

*Acting Director, Office of Privacy and Organizational Policy, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15314 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4710-24-P**

#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 13069]

#### Notice of Determinations; Culturally Significant Object Being Imported for Exhibition—Determinations: “Mary Cassatt: After Impressionism” Exhibition

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of the following determinations: I hereby determine that a certain object being imported from abroad pursuant to an agreement with its foreign owner or custodian for temporary display in the exhibition “Mary Cassatt: After Impressionism” at The Art Institute of Chicago, in Chicago, Illinois, and at possible additional exhibitions or venues yet to be determined, is of cultural significance, and, further, that its temporary exhibition or display

within the United States as aforementioned is in the national interest. I have ordered that Public Notice of these determinations be published in the **Federal Register**. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Reed Liriano, Program Coordinator, Office of the Legal Adviser, U.S. Department of State (telephone: 202-632-6471; email: [section2459@state.gov](mailto:section2459@state.gov)). The mailing address is U.S. Department of State, L/PD, 2200 C Street NW (SA-5), Suite 5H03, Washington, DC 20522-0505.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The foregoing determinations were made pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Act of October 19, 1965 (79 Stat. 985; 22 U.S.C. 2459), Executive Order 12047 of March 27, 1978, the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 (112 Stat. 2681, *et seq.*; 22 U.S.C. 6501 note, *et seq.*), Delegation of Authority No. 234 of October 1, 1999, Delegation of Authority No. 236-3 of August 28, 2000, and Delegation of Authority No. 523 of December 22, 2021.

**Sherry C. Keneson-Hall,**

*Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15236 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4710-05-P**

#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 13085]

#### 30-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Annual Brokering Report

**ACTION:** Notice of request for public comment and submission to OMB of proposed collection of information.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of State has submitted the information collection described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 we are requesting comments on this collection from all interested individuals and organizations. The purpose of this Notice is to allow 30 days for public comment.

**DATES:** Submit comments up to August 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open

for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Direct requests for additional information regarding the collection listed in this notice, including requests for copies of the proposed collection instrument and supporting documents, to Tonya Bush, who may be reached at [BushTL@state.gov](mailto:BushTL@state.gov) or (202) 472 8334.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

- *Title of Information Collection:* Annual Brokering Report.
- *OMB Control Number:* 1405-0141.
- *Type of Request:* Extension of a Currently Approved Collection.
- *Originating Office:* Defense Trade Controls Management (DTCM).
- *Form Number:* No Form.
- *Respondents:* Respondents are any person/s who engages in the United States in the business of manufacturing or exporting or temporarily importing defense articles.
- *Estimated Number of Respondents:* 1,142.
- *Estimated Number of Responses:* 1,142.
- *Average Time per Response:* 2 hours.
- *Total Estimated Burden Time:* 2,284 hours.
- *Frequency:* Annually.
- *Obligation to Respond:* Required to Obtain or Retain Benefit.

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department.
- Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that comments submitted in response to this Notice are public record. Before including any detailed personal information, you should be aware that your comments as submitted, including your personal information, will be available for public review.

#### Abstract of Proposed Collection

In accordance with part 129 of the ITAR, U.S. and foreign persons required to register as a broker shall provide annually a report to DDTC enumerating and describing brokering activities, including all persons who participated

in the activities, the quantity, description, and U.S. dollar value of the defense articles or defense services, the type and U.S. dollar value and source of any consideration received, and the DDTC number for the approval or the exemptions claimed. This information is currently used in the review of munitions export and brokering license applications and to ensure compliance with defense trade statutes and regulations. As appropriate, such information may be shared with other U.S. Government entities.

#### Methodology

Brokering Reports are submitted annually with Statement of Registration renewals.

Applicants are referred to ITAR part 129 for guidance on information to submit regarding proposed brokering activity.

**Michael J. Vaccaro,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary, Directorate of Defense Trade Controls, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15269 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4710-25-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Transit Administration

#### Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Bus Safety, Accessibility, and Innovation Research Program

**AGENCY:** Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice of funding opportunity (NOFO).

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announces the opportunity to apply for \$10 million in competitive funds for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Bus Safety, Accessibility, and Innovation Research Program.

**DATES:** Complete proposals must be submitted electronically through the [GRANTS.GOV](https://www.grants.gov) "APPLY" function by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time September 28, 2026.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Email Marcel Belanger, Office of Research, Demonstration, and Innovation, at [Marcel.Belanger@dot.gov](mailto:Marcel.Belanger@dot.gov), or (202) 366-6140.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The full text of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) can be found on FTA's website at <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/notices> and in the "FIND" module of [GRANTS.GOV](https://www.grants.gov). The funding opportunity ID is FTA-2026-004-TRI.

Mail and fax submissions will not be accepted.

**Authority:** 49 U.S.C. 5312; 49 CFR 1.91.

**Matthew B. Cahill,**

*Acting Deputy Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15316 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-57-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation Advisory Board; Meeting Notice

**AGENCY:** Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the virtual public meeting of the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (GLS) Advisory Board.

**DATES:** The virtual public meeting will be held on:

- Wednesday, September 9, 2026, from 10 a.m.–12 p.m. EDT.
- Requests to participate in the meeting must be received by August 26, 2026.
- Requests for accommodations for a disability must be received by August 26, 2026.
- If you wish to speak during the meeting, you must submit a written copy of your remarks to GLS by August 19, 2026.
- Requests to submit written materials to be reviewed during the meeting must be received by GLS no later than August 19, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held virtually. Details on how to participate will be forwarded to those who RSVP.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sylvonica Madlock, Executive Officer, Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Suite W98-300, Washington, DC 20590; (202) 870-6335.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463; 5 U.S.C. App. 2), notice is hereby given of meetings of the GLS Advisory Board. The agenda for each meeting is the same and will be as follows:

1. Opening Remarks
2. Consideration of Minutes of Past Meeting
3. Quarterly Report
4. Old and New Business
5. Closing Discussion
6. Adjournment

## Public Participation

Attendance at the meeting is open to the interested public. With the approval of the Administrator, members of the public may present oral statements during the meeting. Persons wishing further information should contact the person listed under the heading, **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. There will be three (3) minutes allotted for oral comments from members of the public joining the meeting. To accommodate as many speakers as possible, the time for each commenter may be limited. Individuals wishing to reserve speaking time during the meeting must submit a request at the time of registration, as well as the name, address, and organizational affiliation of the proposed speaker. If the number of registrants requesting to make statements is greater than can be reasonably accommodated during the meeting, GLS will conduct a lottery to determine the speakers. Speakers are requested to submit a written copy of their prepared remarks for inclusion in the meeting records and for circulation to GLS Advisory Board members. All prepared remarks submitted will be accepted and considered as part of the meeting's record. Any member of the public may submit a written statement after the meeting deadline, and it will be presented to the committee.

The U.S. Department of Transportation is committed to providing equal access to this meeting for all participants. If you need alternative formats or services because of a disability, such as sign language, interpretation, or other ancillary aids, please contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. Any member of the public may present a written statement to the Advisory Board at any time.

**Donna O'Berry,**

*Chief Counsel.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15241 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-61-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Financial Crimes Enforcement Network

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Renewal; Comment Request; Renewal Without Change of the Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery**

**AGENCY:** Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, FinCEN invites comments on a renewal, without change, of a generic clearance for the collection of qualitative feedback on agency service delivery. This request for comments is being made pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Written comments are welcome and must be received on or before September 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Federal E-rulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Refer to docket number FINCEN–2026–0199 and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number 1506–0062.

- *Mail:* Regulatory and Strategic Affairs Division, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, P.O. Box 39, Vienna, VA 22183. Refer to docket number FINCEN–2026–0199 and OMB control number 1506–0062.

Please submit comments by one method only. Comments will be reviewed consistent with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) and applicable OMB regulations and guidance. Do not include any personally identifiable information (such as name, address, or other contact information) or confidential business information that you do not want publicly disclosed. All comments are public records; they are publicly displayed exactly as received, and will not be deleted, modified, or redacted. Comments may be submitted anonymously.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** FinCEN's Regulatory Support Section at [www.fincen.gov/contact](http://www.fincen.gov/contact).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### I. Statutory and Regulatory Provisions

#### a. Bank Secrecy Act

The legislative framework generally referred to as the Bank Secrecy Act (BSA) consists of the Currency and Foreign Transactions Reporting Act of 1970,<sup>1</sup> as amended by the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001 (USA PATRIOT Act),<sup>2</sup> and other legislation, including the Anti-Money

Laundering Act of 2020 (AML Act).<sup>3</sup> The BSA is codified at 12 U.S.C. 1829b and 1951–1960, and 31 U.S.C. 5311–5314 and 5316–5336, and includes notes thereto, with implementing regulations at 31 CFR chapter X.

The BSA authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury (Secretary) to, *inter alia*, require financial institutions to keep records and file reports that are determined to have a high degree of usefulness in criminal, tax, and regulatory matters, risk assessments or proceedings, or in intelligence or counter-intelligence activities, including analysis, to protect against terrorism, and to implement anti-money laundering/countering the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) programs and compliance procedures.<sup>4</sup> The Secretary has delegated to the Director of FinCEN the authority to administer the BSA.<sup>5</sup>

#### b. Generic Clearances

A “generic clearance” is an umbrella approval that allows an agency to obtain expedited OMB approval for multiple, similar information collections, rather than seeking full approval for each collection individually.<sup>6</sup> This streamlined process is generally limited to information collections that are voluntary, low-burden, and uncontroversial. Before an agency may use a generic clearance, however, it must obtain OMB approval of its initial generic clearance plan through the standard notice and comment process. FinCEN first completed that process in March 2011.<sup>7</sup>

After the initial generic clearance, an agency need not seek further public

comment on each specific information collection that falls within the generic clearance plan. Instead, the agency need only obtain OMB approval for each covered collection, subject to the terms of the agency's initial generic clearance plan. The OMB review period for such collections is typically brief, taking approximately five business days instead of the otherwise standard 60-day review period.

Once approved by OMB, a generic clearance plan may remain in place for up to three years, the maximum allowed under the PRA. Each information collection covered under a generic clearance plan is included in the PRA public docket on [www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov) prior to use.

FinCEN's generic clearance plan and the corresponding PRA public docket are covered by OMB control number 1506–0062.<sup>8</sup> FinCEN conducts surveys under the generic clearance plan to collect qualitative customer and stakeholder feedback, in furtherance of its commitment to improving service delivery. For each information collection covered under FinCEN's generic clearance plan, FinCEN certifies the following:

1. The collection is voluntary.
2. The collection is low-burden for respondents and low-cost for the Federal Government.
3. The collection is non-controversial and does not raise issues of concern to other Federal agencies.
4. The results are not intended to be disseminated to the public.
5. Information gathered will not be used for the purpose of substantially informing influential policy decisions.
6. The collection is targeted to the solicitation of opinions from respondents who have experience with the program or may have experience with the program in the future.

### II. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA)<sup>9</sup>

*Title:* Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery.

*OMB Control Number:* 1506–0062.

*Form Number:* Not applicable.

*Abstract:* FinCEN is issuing this notice to renew, without change, its capability to solicit feedback from the public with respect to timeliness, appropriateness, accuracy of information, courtesy, efficiency of service delivery, and resolution of issues with service delivery. Responses

<sup>8</sup> See the historical information collections under 1506–0062 at <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/Forward?SearchTarget=PRA&textfield=1506-0062&Image61.x=19&Image61.y=11>.

<sup>9</sup> See 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A).

<sup>1</sup> Title II of Public Law 91–508, 84 Stat. 1118 (Oct. 26, 1970).

<sup>2</sup> Public Law 107–56, 115 Stat. 272 (Oct. 26, 2001).

<sup>3</sup> The AML Act was enacted as Division F, sections 6001–6511, of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, Public Law 116–283, 134 Stat. 3388 (2021).

<sup>4</sup> See 31 U.S.C. 5311(1)–(2).

<sup>5</sup> Treasury Order 180–01 (Jan. 14, 2020); see also 31 U.S.C. 310(b)(2)(I) (providing that the Director of FinCEN shall “[a]dminister the requirements of subchapter II of chapter 53 of this title, chapter 2 of title I of Public Law 91–508, and section 21 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, to the extent delegated such authority by the Secretary.”).

<sup>6</sup> See Off. of Mgmt. & Budget, Exec. Off. of the President, *Paperwork Reduction Act—Generic Clearances* (May 28, 2010), [https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/omb/assets/inforeg/PRA\\_Gen\\_ICRs\\_5-28-2010.pdf](https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/omb/assets/inforeg/PRA_Gen_ICRs_5-28-2010.pdf); see also Off. of Mgmt. & Budget, Exec. Off. of the President, *Flexibilities Under the Paperwork Reduction Act for Compliance with Information Collection Requirements* (July 22, 2016), [https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/omb/inforeg/pr\\_flexibilities\\_memo\\_7\\_22\\_16\\_finall.pdf](https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/omb/inforeg/pr_flexibilities_memo_7_22_16_finall.pdf).

<sup>7</sup> See Off. of Mgmt. & Budget, Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; *Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery*, 75 FR 80542 (Dec. 22, 2010); see also Department of the Treasury, *Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request*, 76 FR 13018 (Mar. 9, 2011).

will inform efforts to improve or maintain the quality of service offered to the public. If this information is not collected, vital feedback from customers and stakeholders would be unavailable.

**Affected Public:** Business or other for-profit institutions; non-profit institutions; and certain Federal, state, and local law enforcement and regulatory agencies.

**Type of Review:** Renewal without change of currently approved information collections.

**Frequency:** As required, though generally once per year, per survey.

**Estimated Number of Potential Respondents:** 39,534 respondents, on average.<sup>10</sup>

**Estimated Number of Expected Respondents:** 5,217 respondents, on average.<sup>11</sup>

**Estimated Number of Responses:** 5,217 responses, on average.<sup>12</sup>

**Estimated Total Annual Reporting Burden:** 1,496 hours, on average.<sup>13</sup>

**Estimated Total Three-Year Reporting Burden:** 4,489 hours.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>10</sup> FinCEN anticipates it will send an average of approximately 39,534 survey invitations to businesses or other for-profit institutions; non-profit institutions; and certain Federal, state, and local law enforcement and regulatory agencies each year over the three-year period requested for approval under this OMB control number. The estimated number of potential respondents is based on a conservative assessment of the total number of surveys expected to be sent as informed by historical survey activity. From 2023 to 2025, FinCEN distributed approximately 118,601 survey invitations, averaging approximately 39,534 survey invitations annually. Because some institutions may receive multiple invitations within a given year, the number of survey invitations may not represent the number of unique entities solicited, but rather reflects an upper-bound value of the expected number of potential respondents.

<sup>11</sup> In the three years of survey administration between 2023 and 2025, FinCEN received approximately 15,651 completed surveys, averaging approximately 5,217 completed surveys annually. The estimated number of future respondents is based on a conservative assessment of historical response rates. Because some institutions may have completed multiple invitations within a given year, the number of completed surveys modestly exceeds the number of unique institutions that participated in the activities.

<sup>12</sup> FinCEN anticipates sending surveys to approximately 39,534 respondents annually. Based on survey results from 2023 to 2025, FinCEN estimates receiving 5,217 responses annually. Over the three-year period requested for approval of this OMB control number, this equates to an estimated 15,651 responses.

<sup>13</sup> FinCEN anticipates the respective surveys covered by this control number would require an average of eight (8) to 27 minutes to complete, respectively, or approximately 17.21 minutes, on average, as weighted by the distribution of responses received by survey type in the three-year period between 2023 and 2025. Given an estimated 5,217 expected responses each year, FinCEN conservatively estimates a respondent burden of approximate 1,496 hours annually (17.21 minutes per response × 5,217 responses, converted to hours).

<sup>14</sup> Over the three-year period requested for approval of this OMB control number, the total

Under the PRA, FinCEN as a Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor—and a person is not required to respond to—a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number.

*General Request for Comments:*

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized or included in a request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (4) ways to minimize the burden imposed on respondents by the collection of information, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (5) estimates of capital or start-up costs, cost of operation and maintenance, and cost involved in purchasing services.

### III. Additional Requests for Comment

As it continues to implement the AML Act, FinCEN will further assess the PRA burden associated with BSA requirements. To inform that assessment, FinCEN requests comments in response to the following additional questions:

1. Do FinCEN estimates accurately represent the average time spent on survey responses? If not, please provide data or anecdotal evidence that would support revisions.

2. FinCEN estimates of time burden do not include incremental time necessary to access and submit survey responses. Should additional time be assigned to these activities?

3. Are there additional or different questions that should be included in the surveys, or alternative ways of administering them or otherwise soliciting the desired information, that would improve the balance between the value of the information collected and the burden on respondents?

**Jimmy L. Kirby,**

*Deputy Director, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15318 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810–02–P**

respondent burden is estimated at approximate 4,489 hours (1,496 hours annually × 3 years).

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–NEW]

### Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: Healthcare Advancement and Partnerships (HAP) Recognition Application

**AGENCY:** Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), will submit the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden, and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

**DATES:** Comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent by August 28, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** To submit comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection, please type the following link into your browser: [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain), select “Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments,” then search the list for the information collection by Title or “OMB Control No. 2900–NEW.”

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** VA PRA information: Dorothy Glasgow, 202–461–1084, [VAPRA@va.gov](mailto:VAPRA@va.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Healthcare Advancement and Partnerships (HAP) Recognition Application.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900–NEW.  
<https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRASearch>.

*Type of Review:* New collection.  
*Abstract:* Section 129 of Public Law 118–210, the Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act (Dole Act), requires the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to establish a process to recognize organizations and individuals that assist Veterans, family members, or caregivers with navigating available VHA programs and services, but do not receive compensation or charge a fee for rendered services. The process VA has developed for recognizing such organizations and individuals includes an electronic information collection instrument (application) through which

organizations and individuals can provide standardized details for VA to review.

The information collected is reviewed by staff in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) National Center for Healthcare Advancement and Partnerships (HAP) to determine if the organization or individual requesting recognition meets the Department's criteria for recognition. VA has created a HAP Application that is completed through an online system.

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. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published at 91 FR 27138, May 13, 2026.

*Affected Public:* Private Sector.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 135 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden per*

*Respondent:* 45 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* One time.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 180.

(Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*)

**Shunda Willis,**

*Alternate, VA PRA Clearance Officer, Office of Information Technology, Data Governance Analytics Department of Veterans Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2026-15313 Filed 7-28-26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[Docket No. VA-2026-VACO-0001]

### Implementation of Section 403 of the Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.  
**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is announcing its implementation plan for section 403 of the Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act, which authorizes VA to provide food, shelter, transportation, and other items to homeless Veterans when necessary.

**DATES:** This notice is effective July 29, 2026.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Steven Tillman, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420; [HCHVNPO@va.gov](mailto:HCHVNPO@va.gov) (202) 461-0056. This is not a toll-free telephone number.  
**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** VA furnishes assistance to homeless

Veterans and Veterans at risk for homelessness through multiple programs, including but not limited to: Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem (GPD); Housing and Urban Development (HUD)—VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH); and Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF). Assistance under some of these programs is furnished by VA predominantly through non-VA third parties by way of grant funding, where funding announcements, grant agreements, and VA regulations establish criteria for awarding grant funds, among other requirements. See, for example, VA regulations at title 38 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) parts 61 and 62.

On January 2, 2025, the President signed into law the Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act (the Act; Pub. L. 118-210).

Section 403(a) of the Act provides that during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of the Act and ending on the termination date specified in section 403(d) (September 30, 2027), VA may provide to a covered Veteran, as the Secretary determines necessary: (1) food, shelter, clothing, blankets, and hygiene items required for the safety and survival of the Veteran; (2) transportation required to support the stability and health of the Veteran for appointments with service providers, the conduct of housing and employment searches, and the obtaining of food and supplies; and (3) tablets, smartphones, disposable phones and other technology, and related service plans required to support the stability and health of the Veteran through the maintenance of contact with service providers, prospective landlords, and family members.

This notice establishes VA's implementation plan for section 403(a) of the Act; it describes covered Veterans that may receive assistance, the types of assistance that VA may provide, and how VA will determine whether assistance is necessary. This notice provides information on how VA will implement section 403(a) of the Act and is not a solicitation for public comment or a request for information regarding VA's implementation of section 403(a) of the Act. Therefore, responses to this notice may not be used to inform VA's implementation of section 403 of the Act, and VA will not address such responses.

#### Scope of Section 403(a) of the Act

The assistance under section 403(a) of the Act is time-limited, as VA cannot provide this assistance after September 30, 2027. The provision of assistance is

limited to the items and services described in section 403(a) and will be provided "to a covered Veteran." VA interprets section 403(a) of the Act to be a time-limited authority that is framed in the context of VA directly providing assistance to homeless Veterans through VA Medical Centers (VAMC). Section 403(a) gives the Secretary discretion to exercise this authority ("the Secretary . . . may provide"), and section 403(c) requires VA to submit reports to Congress, "disaggregated by each . . . medical center." VA also interprets section 403(a) of the Act to further restrict the provision of assistance to homeless Veterans only as the Secretary may determine to be "necessary" for each covered Veteran, making the provision of assistance dependent on case-by-case determinations of need as assessed through VA staff at VAMCs. VA staff will furnish services to covered homeless veterans who may use this assistance differently in terms of type or frequency.

VA is publishing this notice as a statement of general policy or interpretation of general applicability formulated and adopted by the agency as required by 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(1)(D). VA will use this notice, as well as other internal guidance, to assist VA staff in providing to covered homeless Veterans the assistance authorized by section 403(a) of the Act. VA clinical staff will assess the needs of covered homeless Veterans on a case-by-case basis in real time.

#### Covered Veterans Who May Receive Assistance Under Section 403 of the Act

Section 403(e) of the Act defines the term "covered Veteran" to include two populations: first, it includes a "homeless Veteran, as such term is defined in section 2002 of title 38, United States Code" (U.S.C.). 38 U.S.C. 2002 defines the term "homeless Veteran" to mean a Veteran (as defined in 38 U.S.C. 101(2)) who is homeless (as that term is defined in section 103(a) or (b) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302). The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act generally defines homeless as meaning the lack of a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, a residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, and a shelter designed to provide temporary living arrangements; it also includes individuals or families who will imminently lose housing, have no adequate residence identified, and lack the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent

housing. The definition also generally includes individuals or families who are experiencing trauma or a lack of safety related to domestic violence or similar threats.

Section 403(e)(2) defines the second type of covered Veterans as “a Veteran participating in the program carried out under section 8(o)(19) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(19)),” which authorizes a collaborative program between the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and VA, known as HUD–VASH, designed to combine HUD Housing Choice Voucher rental assistance for homeless Veterans administered by public housing agencies with case management and supportive services provided through VA. We note for awareness that HUD–VASH uses a broader definition of “Veteran,” set forth at 38 U.S.C. 2002(b), which applies notwithstanding the definition of “Veteran” in 38 U.S.C. 101(2), and which means a person who served in the active military, naval, air, or space service, regardless of length of service, and who was discharged or released therefrom, except for persons who received a dishonorable discharge from the Armed Forces or who were discharged or dismissed from the Armed Forces by reason of the sentence of a general court-martial. See 42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(19)(D).

VA currently identifies homeless Veterans in a manner consistent with the criteria described above and will ensure these same Veterans are identified as able to receive services under section 403(a) of the Act, if such services are determined to be needed as outlined further in this notice.

### Types of Assistance

Section 403(a) of the Act provides that VA may furnish, as it determines necessary, the following assistance to covered Veterans: (1) food, shelter, clothing, blankets, and hygiene items required for the safety and survival of the Veteran; (2) transportation required to support the stability and health of the Veteran for appointments with service providers, the conduct of housing and employment searches, and the obtainment of food and supplies; and (3) tablets, smartphones, disposable phones and other technology, and related service plans required to support the stability and health of the veteran through the maintenance of contact with service providers, prospective landlords, and family members.

This notice does not include an exhaustive list of the specific items or services that comprise the assistance available within each of the noted

categories above, as this would not allow VA to deliver necessary assistance to covered Veterans. VA will issue more specific guidance on assistance available under section 403(a) of the Act in separate guidance for VAMCs. This guidance may establish certain parameters (including recommended restrictions) to ensure that only necessary assistance is provided, and that the provision of assistance is also consistent with relevant Federal statutes, regulations, and policies. We note that, to the extent a clinician determined that a Veteran was in need of assistance, that the assistance was available under section 403(a), and that certain parameters in guidance would create a barrier or impediment to the provision of that assistance, VA may make an exception to the parameter to ensure that the Veteran receives necessary assistance; however, VA cannot make an exception for any assistance expressly barred in statute or regulation. The following descriptions provide a non-exhaustive list of examples of assistance VA may provide under section 403(a) of the Act:

A. *Food assistance:* Food assistance may include direct purchase of meals, groceries, or meal delivery services. This may include payments for ready-to-eat meals as sourced from local restaurants or catering services, or prepared on-site at VAMCs, and distributed through VAMCs, mobile food units, or community homeless shelters. Basic grocery items may be purchased and distributed through food pantries, or vouchers provided as redeemable at grocery stores. Meal delivery services may include purchases through commercial meal delivery companies. VA may issue guidance that could include limitations on the types of grocery items that could be obtained (for instance, standard items versus gourmet items) and reasonable limitations on tip payments for delivery of ready-to-eat meals.

B. *Shelter assistance:* Shelter assistance may include the provision of housing vouchers, rental assistance, and utility payments. VA’s provision of shelter assistance under section 403(a) of the Act may be made only to the extent it is not a duplication of shelter assistance or housing payments or benefits provided for the same time period by another Federal housing subsidy or benefits program (such as HUD–VASH, VA’s SSVF, or VA’s Homeless GPD programs), as a duplication of assistance would not be necessary. As noted below, VA may apply certain criteria from VA’s SSVF program (38 CFR part 62) to some shelter assistance payments under

section 403(a) of the Act (for instance, limitations on the number of rental assistance or utility payments to be made within a certain timeframe). These criteria from VA’s SSVF program may be appropriate to apply to shelter assistance under section 403(a) of the Act because VA intends to use the authority under section 403 of the Act in the same manner as the temporary financial assistance provided by SSVF, to help Veterans remain in or obtain housing. We note that shelter assistance under section 403 of the Act could be provided to a veteran who may have already exhausted available SSVF assistance.

In making a determination as to whether the provision of shelter assistance under section 403(a) of the Act is necessary, the clinician must assess whether the Veteran would become homeless (for example, is at risk for homelessness, will imminently lose housing, has no adequate residence identified, or lacks the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing) or continue to experience homelessness without the assistance. The criteria below will aid the clinician in ensuring that shelter assistance is used only as necessary to help the Veteran remain in or obtain housing, and only for as long as necessary. To the extent a clinician may determine that any of the SSVF criteria (such as restrictions on payments within certain timeframes) create a barrier or impediment to the provision of assistance available under section 403(a), VA may make an exception to ensure that the Veteran receives the necessary assistance. As noted earlier, though, VA cannot make an exception for any assistance expressly barred in statute or regulation. VA’s provision of shelter assistance under section 403(a) of the Act will also require a covered Veteran to develop, with the assistance of VA, a reasonable plan to ensure future housing stability. In addition, VA may require a covered Veteran to share in the cost of some of the payments VA makes as shelter assistance.

1. Shelter assistance can include payment of security deposits or utility deposits once every two years (from the time VA first pays such a deposit) to help the covered Veteran remain in or obtain housing. Payments for fees associated with rental applications can be made towards securing housing, as well as costs associated with obtaining necessary documentation such as but not limited to birth certificates, and State identification/driver’s license. Assistance with utilities may be for payments currently due or in arrears and is available only if a covered

Veteran, a legal representative of the covered Veteran, or a household member of the covered Veteran has an account in their name with the utility company, or if they can provide proof of responsibility for making the payments, such as canceled checks or receipts in their name. Rental and utility assistance is only provided if it permits a covered Veteran to remain in or obtain housing. To the extent that a clinician determines that a security deposit or utility deposit payment more than once every two years is necessary, such as if a VA social worker determined that a Veteran needed to change rental units for safety reasons, VA may make an exception to the limitation on security deposits and utility deposit payments to ensure that the Veteran receives the necessary assistance.

2. Shelter assistance can include payment of moving costs. Payments may include reasonable expenses such as truck rental, hiring a moving company, or short-term storage fees (for a maximum of three months, or until the participant secures permanent housing).

3. Shelter assistance can include payments for rental assistance for a maximum of 10 months within a 2-year period, starting from the date that VA first covers these costs. Assistance with rent may be for rental payments currently due or in arrears, and for the payment of penalties or fees incurred and required to be paid under an existing lease. Rental assistance is only provided if it permits a covered veteran to remain in or obtain housing. To the extent that a clinician determines that payment of rental assistance for more than 10 months within a 2-year period is necessary, such as if a VA social worker determined that additional assistance was required to permit a Veteran to remain in their current housing, VA may make an exception to the limitation on payments for rental assistance.

4. Shelter assistance can include payments for utility assistance for a maximum of 10 months within a 2-year period, starting from the date that VA first covers these costs. Assistance with utilities may be for utility payments currently due or in arrears and is available only if a covered veteran, a legal representative of the covered Veteran, or a household member of the covered Veteran has an account in their name with the utility company, or if they can provide proof of responsibility for making the payments, such as canceled checks or receipts in their name. Utility assistance is only provided if it permits a covered Veteran to remain in or obtain housing. Similar to rental assistance, if a clinician

determined that payment of utility assistance for more than 10 months within a 2-year period was necessary, such as if a VA social worker determined that a particularly cold winter season or higher electricity pricing required additional payments for heating, VA may make an exception to the limitation on payments for utility assistance.

5. Shelter assistance can include payments for items needed for daily living such as essential furniture (for example, bed, tables, and chairs), bedding, cookware necessary for meal preparation (for examples, kitchenware pots, pans, utensils), small household appliances necessary for meal preparation (for example, microwave, coffee makers, and toasters), and household cleaning supplies.

6. Shelter assistance can include vouchers or payments for stays in hotels or motels.

*C. Personal items:* Personal items may include clothing, blankets, and hygiene items required for the safety of the covered Veteran. VA's provision of personal items can include clothing items (for example, socks, underwear, pants, shirts, footwear, coats, gloves, and hats), items required for warmth for covered veterans who may be sleeping outdoors (such as, blankets and quilts, sleeping bags, tents), and hygiene items. VA's provision of personal items will be dependent on a case-by-case determination of a covered Veteran's needs.

*D. Transportation:* In making a determination as to whether the provision of transportation assistance is necessary, the clinician must assess whether the Veteran would be unable to travel to appointments with service providers, conduct housing or employment searches, or obtain food and supplies without transportation assistance. VA may provide transportation assistance to eligible Veterans if the clinician determines such assistance is necessary to travel to appointments with service providers, conduct housing or employment searches, or obtain food and supplies, and only as long as necessary. Transportation assistance may include vouchers for public transportation or purchase of rideshare services to allow covered Veterans to travel to and from medical and mental health appointments, housing searches, employment opportunities, court appointments or meetings related to legal services, emergency housing or interim housing placements, and to obtain food and other supplies. VA's provision of transportation assistance

will be dependent on a case-by-case determination of a Veteran's needs.

*E. Technology:* In making a determination as to whether the provision of assistance for technology is necessary, the clinician must assess whether the Veteran would be unable to maintain contact with service providers, prospective landlords, and family members without the assistance. VA may provide assistance for technology to eligible Veterans if the clinician determines such assistance is necessary to maintain contact with service providers, prospective landlords, and family members, and only as long as necessary. VA's provision of smartphones or other technology can include payments for devices and related service plans to support the stability and health of the veteran, such as through the maintenance of contact with service providers, prospective landlords, and family members. VA's provision of smart phones or other technology will be dependent on a case-by-case determination of a veteran's needs.

VA will provide assistance to covered veterans through VAMCs. Funding may only be used to directly purchase or pay for supplies or services in the provision of assistance under section 403(a) of the Act; such funding may not be provided to covered veterans or other parties to be spent on VA's behalf.

The provision of certain items or services that comprise assistance as described above may also be accompanied by certain administrative requirements, such as signing a user agreement or some similar documentation. For instance, VA's provision of durable goods (versus consumable goods) will require a covered veteran to review and sign a VHA Homeless Program Durable Goods User Agreement. Similarly, VA's provision of a smartphone or other technology (to include any related service plan) will require a covered veteran to sign a VHA Homeless Programs Smartphone User Agreement. These are standard administrative requirements consistent with other VA authorities.

#### **Determination of Need**

VA may only provide assistance under section 403(a) of the Act to a covered veteran when VA determines the assistance is necessary. VA will determine whether assistance is necessary based on a clinician's evaluation of the covered Veteran's needs and circumstances. This evaluation is specific to each veteran and will consider, on a case-by-case basis, whether the assistance will

enhance the safety, survival, well-being, or living conditions of the covered veteran, consistent with the language of section 403(a)(1)–(3). This includes, but is not limited to, considering whether the assistance will prevent or lessen: the loss of housing; the continuation of homelessness; the spread of infection; hunger; hypothermia; poor hygiene; unemployment; missed health care and service appointments; social isolation; and the exacerbation of physical and mental health symptoms.

In the context of VA's homeless Veterans programs, VA clinical staff (primarily social workers) conduct comprehensive assessments to determine the needs of homeless veterans by identifying biopsychosocial functioning during an initial intake interview. The assessment covers key areas such as housing status, health care needs (both physical and mental), financial and employment status, legal issues, and basic living necessities like food and personal items.

This same process for assessment will occur when VA is determining whether veterans meet the definition of covered Veteran and are in need of the assistance provided under section 403 of the Act, and more specifically whether the assistance will prevent or lessen: the loss of housing; the continuation of homelessness; the spread of infection; hunger;

hypothermia; poor hygiene; unemployment; missed health care and service appointments; social isolation; the exacerbation of physical and mental health symptoms. Clinicians will also use the criteria above regarding the provision of assistance for shelter, personal items, transportation, and technology as part of this assessment. This assessment will continue to inform the level and types of assistance needed under section 403 of the Act. As stated previously in this notice, to the extent a clinician determined that a veteran was in need of assistance, that the assistance was available under section 403(a), and that certain parameters in guidance would create a barrier or impediment to the provision of that assistance, the clinician may make an exception to the parameter to ensure that the veteran receives necessary assistance. VA cannot make an exception for any assistance expressly barred in statute or regulation.

The following is an example of the type of assessment that a VA clinician might conduct to determine the need for assistance under section 403(a). An unsheltered Veteran who is engaged through homeless street outreach services is connected to a VA social worker, who determines that the unsheltered Veteran has been homeless for 6 months, is struggling with inadequate food, has worn-out clothing,

and has no means of transportation. Based on an assessment, the VA social worker determines the unsheltered veteran is a covered Veteran for the purposes of section 403 of the Act and needs assistance with shelter, food, clothing, and transportation. The VA social worker arranges for admission to a VA contract residential services program. The VA social worker also uses assistance authorized under section 403 of the Act to provide transportation to the residential services program through a contracted transportation network company (a rideshare service). In addition, the VA social worker purchases a prepared meal, and a package of non-perishable food items, new shoes, and weather appropriate clothing for the covered Veteran.

#### Signing Authority

Douglas A. Collins, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, approved this document on July 21, 2026, and authorized the undersigned to sign and submit the document to the Office of the Federal Register for publication electronically as an official document of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**Gabriela DeCuir,**

*Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer,  
Department of Veterans Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2026–15301 Filed 7–28–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**



# FEDERAL REGISTER

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Wednesday,

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July 29, 2026

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Part II

## The President

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Executive Order 14416—Restoring Trust in the Smithsonian Institution



# Presidential Documents

Title 3—

Executive Order 14416 of July 24, 2026

The President

## Restoring Trust in the Smithsonian Institution

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered:

**Section 1. Policy.** On March 27, 2025, I issued Executive Order 14253 (Restoring Truth and Sanity to American History). Pursuant to that order, the Domestic Policy Council recently completed a months-long review of the Smithsonian Institution and its National Museum of American History (Museum) and issued its findings in the report entitled *Saving America's Story: How Ideological Capture at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History Erases Our Heritage* (Report).

The Report demonstrates that the Smithsonian leadership does not present American history as a shared national inheritance to be taught and celebrated, but instead views American history as a “prime tool” to advance ideas of social justice and the radical transformation of our society. The Report also overwhelmingly demonstrates that current leadership of both the Smithsonian Institution and the Museum cannot be trusted to tell America's story with honesty and gratitude.

It is therefore the policy of my Administration to take all available steps to ensure that the issues identified in the Report are addressed and to restore trust in the Smithsonian Institution.

**Sec. 2. Restoring Trust in the Smithsonian Institution.** The Secretary of the Interior, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Administrator of General Services, and the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy shall identify and utilize any and all available authorities to promote the policy of this order and to restore trust in the Smithsonian Institution, including any mechanisms available to encourage correction of the issues identified in the Report and compliance with any applicable statutes, regulations, executive actions, and funding or contract conditions.

**Sec. 3. Warning Visitors About the Ideological Capture at the National Museum of American History.** (a) The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service (NPS) and in coordination with the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy, shall install temporary signage along the NPS-maintained sidewalks and walkways used by the public to access the Museum, informing visitors of the findings of the Report and of the policy set forth in section 1 of this order. Such signage shall notify visitors that the Museum exhibits should be renovated consistent with the findings in the Report and direct visitors to locations and resources for accurate information regarding America's history.

(b) Because the Museum has failed to appropriately honor the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence during this 250th anniversary year of the founding of our country, the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the NPS and in coordination with the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy, shall install temporary exhibits or signage on NPS-maintained sidewalks, walkways, and land used by the public that corrects inaccurate information presented in the Museum.

**Sec. 4. General Provisions.** (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

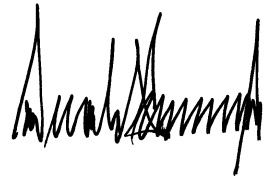
- (i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or

(ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

(d) The costs for publication of this order shall be borne by the Department of the Interior.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name, possibly "Donald Trump", written in a cursive, slanted style.

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
*July 24, 2026.*



# FEDERAL REGISTER

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July 29, 2026

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## Part III

## The President

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Notice of July 28, 2026—Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Brazil



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# Presidential Documents

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Title 3—

Notice of July 28, 2026

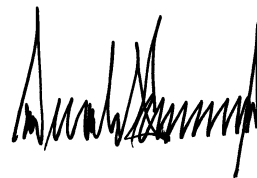
The President

## Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Brazil

On July 30, 2025, by Executive Order 14323, I declared a national emergency with respect to Brazil pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*) to deal with the unusual and extraordinary threat, which has its source in whole or substantial part outside the United States, to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States constituted by the policies, practices, and actions of the Government of Brazil that interfere with the economy of the United States, infringe on the free expression rights of United States persons, violate human rights, and undermine the interest the United States has in protecting its citizens and companies. Members of the Government of Brazil are also politically persecuting a former President of Brazil, his family, and his followers, which is contributing to the deliberate breakdown in the rule of law in Brazil, to politically motivated intimidation in that country, and to human rights abuses.

Certain activities, such as the Brazil Supreme Court's censorship and imprisonment of those exercising free expression and censorship of online content, continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat, which has its source in whole or substantial part outside the United States, to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. For this reason, the national emergency declared in Executive Order 14323 of July 30, 2025, must continue in effect beyond July 30, 2026. Therefore, in accordance with section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)), I am continuing for 1 year the national emergency with respect to Brazil declared in Executive Order 14323.

This notice shall be published in the *Federal Register* and transmitted to the Congress.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Donald Trump", located in the upper right quadrant of the page.

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
*July 28, 2026.*

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