

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of FOIA Services, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-2736.

Extension:

Rules 17h-1T and 17h-2T, SEC File No. 270-359, OMB Control No. 3235-0410.

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 Rules 17h-1T and 17h-2T (17 CFR 240.17h-1T and 17 CFR 240.17h-2T), 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 17h-1T requires a covered broker-dealer to maintain and preserve records and other information concerning certain entities that are associated with the broker-dealer. This requirement extends to the financial and securities activities of the holding company, affiliates and subsidiaries of the broker-dealer that are reasonably likely to have a material impact on the financial or operational condition of the broker-dealer. Rule 17h-2T requires a covered broker-dealer to file with the Commission quarterly reports and a cumulative year-end report concerning the information required to be maintained and preserved under Rule 17h-1T.

The collection of information required by Rules 17h-1T and 17h-2T, collectively referred to as the "risk assessment rules", is necessary to enable the Commission to monitor the activities of a broker-dealer affiliate whose business activities are reasonably likely to have a material impact on the financial and operational condition of the broker-dealer. Without this information, the Commission would be unable to assess the potentially damaging impact of the affiliate's activities on the broker-dealer.

There are currently 285 respondents that must comply with Rules 17h-1T and 17h-2T. Each of these 285 respondents are estimated to require 10 hours per year to maintain the records required under Rule 17h-1T, for an aggregate estimated annual burden of 2,850 hours (285 respondents × 10 hours). In addition, each of these 285

respondents must make five annual responses under Rule 17h-2T. These five responses are estimated to require 14 hours per respondent per year for an aggregate estimated annual burden of 3,990 hours (285 respondents × 14 hours).

In addition, new respondents must draft an organizational chart required under Rule 17h-1T and establish a system for complying with the risk assessment rules. The staff estimates that drafting the required organizational chart requires one hour and establishing a system for complying with the risk assessment rules requires three hours. Based on the reduction in the number of filers in recent years, the staff estimates there will be zero new respondents, and thus, a corresponding estimated burden of zero hours for new respondents. Thus, the total compliance burden per year is approximately 6,840 burden hours (2,850 hours + 3,990 hours).

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information under the PRA unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Please direct your written comments to: Charles Riddle, Acting Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Candace Kenner, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, or send an email to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov.

Dated: October 19, 2018.

Eduardo A. Aleman,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2018-23199 Filed 10-23-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: US Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of FOIA Services, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-2736

Extension:

Rules 3a68-2 and 3a68-4(c)
SEC File No. 270-641, OMB Control No. 3235-0685

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") is soliciting comments on the existing collection of information provided for Rules 3a68-2 and 3a68-4(c). The SEC plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") for extension and approval.

Rule 3a68-2 creates a process for interested persons to request a joint interpretation by the SEC and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") (together with the SEC, the "Commissions") regarding whether a particular instrument (or class of instruments) is a swap, a security-based swap, or both (*i.e.*, a mixed swap). Under Rule 3a68-2, a person provides to the Commissions a copy of all material information regarding the terms of, and a statement of the economic characteristics and purpose of, each relevant agreement, contract, or transaction (or class thereof), along with that person's determination as to whether each such agreement, contract, or transaction (or class thereof) should be characterized as a swap, security-based swap, or both (*i.e.*, a mixed swap). The Commissions also may request the submitting person to provide additional information.

The SEC expects 25 requests pursuant to Rule 3a68-2 per year. The SEC estimates the total paperwork burden associated with preparing and submitting each request would be 20 hours to retrieve, review, and submit the information associated with the submission. This 20 hour burden is divided between the SEC and the CFTC, with 10 hours per response regarding reporting to the SEC and 10 hours of response regarding third party disclosure to the CFTC.¹ The SEC estimates this would result in an

¹ The burdens imposed by the CFTC are included in this collection of information.

aggregate annual burden of 500 hours (25 requests × 20 hours/request).

The SEC estimates that the total costs resulting from a submission under Rule 3a68–2 would be approximately \$12,000 for outside attorneys to retrieve, review, and submit the information associated with the submission. The SEC estimates this would result in aggregate costs each year of \$300,000 (25 requests × 30 hours/request × \$400).

Rule 3a68–4(c) establishes a process for persons to request that the Commissions issue a joint order permitting such persons (and any other person or persons that subsequently lists, trades, or clears that class of mixed swap) to comply, as to parallel provisions only, with specified parallel provisions of either the Commodity Exchange Act (“CEA”) or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”), and related rules and regulations (collectively “specified parallel provisions”), instead of being required to comply with parallel provisions of both the CEA and the Exchange Act.

The SEC expects ten requests pursuant to Rule 3a68–4(c) per year. The SEC estimates that nine of these requests will have also been made in a request for a joint interpretation pursuant to Rule 3a68–2, and one will not have been. The SEC estimates the total burden for the one request for which the joint interpretation pursuant to 3a68–2 was not requested would be 30 hours, and the total burden associated with the other nine requests would be 20 hours per request because some of the information required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 3a68–4(c) would have already been submitted pursuant to Rule 3a68–2. The burden in both cases is evenly divided between the SEC and the CFTC.

The SEC estimates that the total costs resulting from a submission under Rule 3a68–4(c) would be approximately \$20,000 for the services of outside attorneys to retrieve, review, and submit the information associated with the submission of the one request for which a request for a joint interpretation pursuant to Rule 3a68–2 was not previously made (1 request × 50 hours/request × \$400). For the nine requests for which a request for a joint interpretation pursuant to Rule 3a68–2 was previously made, the SEC estimates the total costs associated with preparing and submitting a party’s request pursuant to Rule 3a68–4(c) would be \$6,000 less per request because, as discussed above, some of the information required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 3a68–4(c) already would have been submitted pursuant to Rule 3a68–2. The SEC estimates this

would result in an aggregate cost each year of \$126,000 for the services of outside attorneys (9 requests × 35 hours/request × \$400).

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the SEC, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the SEC’s estimates of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (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 collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information under the PRA unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Please direct your written comments to: Charles Riddle, Acting Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Candace Kenner, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, or send an email to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov.

Dated: October 19, 2018.

Eduardo A. Aleman,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2018–23206 Filed 10–23–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of FOIA Services, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549–2736

Extension:

Rule 15c3–4, SEC File No. 270–441, OMB Control No. 3235–0497

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) (“PRA”), the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) is soliciting comments on the collection of information provided for in Rule 15c3–4 (17 CFR 240.15c3–4) 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 15c3–4 requires certain broker-dealers that are registered with the Commission as OTC derivatives dealers, or who compute their net capital charges under Appendix E to Rule 15c3–1 (17 CFR 240.15c3–1) (“ANC firms”), to establish, document, and maintain a system of internal risk management controls. The Rule sets forth the basic elements for an OTC derivatives dealer or an ANC firm to consider and include when establishing, documenting, and reviewing its internal risk management control system, which are designed to, among other things, ensure the integrity of an OTC derivatives dealer’s or an ANC firm’s risk measurement, monitoring, and management process, to clarify accountability at the appropriate organizational level, and to define the permitted scope of the dealer’s activities and level of risk. The Rule also requires that management of an OTC derivatives dealer or an ANC firm must periodically review, in accordance with written procedures, the firm’s business activities for consistency with its risk management guidelines.

The staff estimates that the average amount of time a new OTC derivatives dealer will spend establishing and documenting its risk management control system is 2,000 hours and that, on average, a registered OTC derivatives dealer will spend approximately 200 hours each year to maintain (*e.g.*, reviewing and updating) its risk management control system.¹ Currently, three firms are registered with the Commission as OTC derivatives dealers. The staff estimates that approximately six additional OTC derivatives dealers may become registered within the next three years. Thus, the estimated annualized burden would be 600 hours for the three OTC derivatives dealers currently registered with the Commission to maintain their risk management control systems,² 4,000 hours for the six new OTC derivatives dealers to establish and document their risk management control systems,³ and 1,200 hours for the six new OTC derivatives dealers to maintain their risk management control systems.⁴

¹ This notice does not cover the hour burden associated with ANC firms, because the hour burden for ANC firms is included in the Paperwork Reduction Act collection for Rule 15c3–1, which requires ANC firms to comply with specific provisions of Rule 15c3–4 in Appendix E to Rule 15c3–1. See 17 CFR 240.15c3–1(a)(7)(iii), 17 CFR 240.15c3–1e(a)(1)(ii), and 17 CFR 240.15c3–1e(a)(1)(viii)(C).

² (200 hours × 3 firms) = 600.

³ ((2,000 hours/3 years) × 6 firms) = 4,000.

⁴ (200 hours × 6 firms) = 1,200.