

SUPPORTING STATEMENT  
FOR THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT INFORMATION COLLECTION  
SUBMISSION FOR SCHEDULE 13E-4F

A. JUSTIFICATION

1. Circumstances Making the Collection of Information Necessary

The disclosure requirements for persons engaging in corporate control transactions are designed to make material information concerning the nature of and the participants to, the transaction known so that security holders have the opportunity to make informed investment decisions. Disclosure of this information is required primarily by the rules adopted under the William's Act amendments to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act") and the proxy rules promulgated under Section 14(a) of the Exchange Act.

Section 13(e) was added to the Exchange Act in 1968 as a part of the William's Act amendments. Section 13(e) makes it unlawful for an issuer which has a class of equity securities registered pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act or which is a closed-end investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, to purchase any equity security issued by it if such purchase is in contravention of any rule or regulation which the Commission, in the public interest or for the protection of investors, may adopt to: (a) define acts or practices which are fraudulent, deceptive or manipulative; and (b) to prescribe means reasonably designed to prevent such acts and practices. In order to facilitate compliance with Section 13(e), the Commission adopted Rule 13e-4 which governs tender offers by issuers of the securities subject to the offer. The rule provides that no issuer subject to Section 13(e) shall purchase any of its equity securities unless a statement with respect to the proposed purchase has been filed by the issuer with the Commission and the substance of the information therein has been sent or given to its security holders. This rule is needed by the Commission to fulfill its statutory responsibility to prescribe rules and regulations necessary for the protection of investors.

Schedule 13E-4F may be used by a foreign private issuer that is incorporated or organized under the laws of Canada to make a cash tender or exchange offer for the foreign private issuer's own securities if less than 40 percent of the securities subject to the tender or exchange offer is held by U.S. holders. The disclosure items of Schedule 13E-4F, which incorporate the disclosure documents filed with one or more Canadian securities commissions, reflect the Commission's experience and best judgment as to the information regarding an issuer and its tender offers that should be required to be disclosed to its shareholders.

Schedule 13E-4F, along with the other forms and schedules under the multi-jurisdictional disclosure system, is designed to facilitate cross-border transactions in securities of Canadian issuers.

2. Purpose and Use of the Information Collection

Schedule 13E-4F is designed to provide investors in the securities of a Canadian foreign private issuer with information concerning a tender offer by the Canadian issuer for its securities, the registered securities and the Canadian issuer. This information is not otherwise readily available in the United States.

3. Consideration Given to Information Technology

Schedule 13E-4F is filed electronically using the Commission's Electronic Data Gathering, Analysis and Retrieval (EDGAR) system.

4. Duplication of Information

We are not aware of any rules that duplicate, overlap or conflict with Schedule 13E-4F.

5. Reducing the Burden on Small Entities

All filings on Schedule 13E-4F are by specified Canadian issuers, including small Canadian issuers. These issuers should have the resources available to prepare the necessary information for the Commission.

6. Consequences of Not Conducting Collection

Issuers considering conducting tender offers for their own securities would find it more difficult and expensive to comply with the Commission's rules and regulations in the absence of a schedule permitting such issuers to provide U.S. investors with the information required in Canada.

7. Special Circumstances

There are no special circumstances.

8. Consultations with Persons Outside the Agency

No comments were received during the 60-day comment period prior to OMB's review of this submission.

9. Payment or Gift to Respondents

No payment or gift to respondents.

10. Confidentiality

Schedule 13E-4F is a public document. The information disclosed pursuant to the forms, schedules and regulations is designed specifically to be used by the public to evaluate transactions and to make investment decisions. However, confidential treatment is available in limited circumstances.

11. Sensitive Questions

No information of a sensitive nature, including social security numbers, will be required under this collection of information. The information collection collects basic Personally Identifiable Information (PII) that may include name, home address, telephone number, zip code, and job title. However, the agency has determined that the information collection does not constitute a system of record for purposes of the Privacy Act. Information is not retrieved by a personal identifier. In accordance with Section 208 of the E-Government Act of 2002, the agency has conducted a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) of the EDGAR system, in connection with this collection of information. The EDGAR PIA, published on January 29, 2016 is provided as a supplemental document and is also available at <https://www.sec.gov/privacy>.

12. Estimate of Respondents Reporting Burden

We estimate that it takes approximately 2 hours to prepare Schedule 13E-4F and that the information is filed by approximately 3 respondents for a total annual reporting burden of 6 hours. We derived our burden hour estimates by estimating the average number of hours it would take an issuer to compile the necessary information and data, prepare and review disclosure, file documents and retain records. In connection with rule amendments to the form, we occasionally receive PRA estimates from public commenters about incremental burdens that are used in our burden estimates. We believe that the actual burdens will likely vary among individual companies based on the size and complexity of their organization and the nature of their operations. For administrative convenience, the presentation of the totals related to the paperwork burden hours have been rounded to the nearest whole number. The estimated burden hours are made solely for the purpose of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

13. Estimate of Total Annualized Cost Burden

We estimate the filer prepares 100% of the reporting burden and there is no additional cost associated with the information collection.

14. Costs to Federal Government

The annual cost of reviewing and processing disclosure documents, including registration statements, post-effective amendments, proxy statements, annual reports and other filings of operating companies amounted to \$102 million in fiscal year 2018, based on the Commission's computation of the value of staff time devoted to this activity and related overhead.

15. Reason for Change in Burden

There is no change burden.

16. Information Collection Planned for Statistical Purposes

The information collection does not employ statistical methods.

17. Approval to Omit OMB Expiration Date

We request authorization to omit the expiration date on the electronic version of the form. Including the expiration date on the electronic version of the form will result in increased costs, because the need to make changes to the form may not follow the application's scheduled version release dates. The OMB control number will be displayed.

18. Exceptions to Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions

There are no exceptions to certification for Paperwork Reduction Act submissions.

B. STATISTICAL METHODS

The information collection does not employ statistical methods.