

information, or personally identifiable information be submitted in response to this RFI. Please note that the United States Government will not pay for response preparation, or for the use of any information contained in the response.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Said Jahanmir, amnpo@nist.gov, 202-819-5296.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act 2015 (Pub. L. 113-235), incorporating the Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act of 2014, revised 42 U.S.C. 6622 to direct NSTC to develop and to update, in coordination with the National Economic Council, a strategic plan to improve government coordination and to provide long-term guidance for Federal programs and activities in support of United States manufacturing competitiveness, including advanced manufacturing research and development (R&D). The current National Strategic Plan for Advanced Manufacturing (“Plan”) was released on October 5, 2018 (<https://www.manufacturing.gov/news/announcements/2018/10/strategy-american-leadership-advanced-manufacturing>).

Advanced manufacturing is a family of activities that (1) depend on the use and coordination of information, automation, computation, software, sensing, and networking, and/or (2) make use of cutting-edge materials and emerging capabilities enabled by the physical and biological sciences, for example: Nanotechnology, chemistry, and biology. It involves both new ways to manufacture existing products, and the manufacture of new products emerging from new advanced technologies.

NSTC has commenced the development of an updated Plan to be released in 2022. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 6622, OSTP is soliciting public input through this RFI to obtain recommendations from a wide range of stakeholders, including representatives from diverse manufacturing companies, academia, other relevant organizations and institutions, and the general public. The public input provided in response to this RFI will inform OSTP and NSTC as they work with Federal agencies and other stakeholders to develop an updated revised Plan.

Questions To Inform Development of the Plan

OSTP seeks responses to the following questions to improve government coordination and to provide

long-term guidance for Federal programs and activities in support of United States manufacturing competitiveness, including advanced manufacturing R&D.

1. Which emerging science and technology areas will be key to the next generation of advanced manufacturing for global competitiveness, sustainability, and environmental challenges?

2. What should be the near-term and long-term technology development R&D priorities for advanced manufacturing, the anticipated timeframe for achieving the objectives, and the metrics in assessing progress toward the objectives?

3. What are examples of technological, market, or business challenges that may best be addressed by public-private partnerships, and are likely to attract both participation and primary funding from industry?

4. How can Federal agencies and federally funded R&D centers supporting advanced manufacturing R&D facilitate the transfer of research results, intellectual property, and technology into commercialization and manufacturing for the benefit of society and ensure sustainability, national security, and economic security?

5. How would you assess the state of the domestic advanced manufacturing workforce in the U.S.? How can Federal agencies and federally funded R&D centers develop, align, and strengthen all levels of advanced manufacturing education, training, and certification programs to ensure a high-quality, equitable, diverse, and inclusive workforce that meets the needs of the sector and drives new advanced manufacturing jobs into the future?

6. How can the Federal government assist in the development of regional public-private partnerships to achieve greater distribution of advanced manufacturing clusters or technology hubs, particularly in underserved regions of the country? What outreach and engagement strategies are most useful in promoting development in underserved regions of the country?

7. How do we assess the adequacy of the domestic advanced manufacturing supply chain and industrial base? How can Federal agencies assist small and medium sized manufacturing companies to adopt advanced technologies and to develop a robust and resilient manufacturing supply chain? What steps can these agencies take to promote the development and diffusion of technology that augments worker skills (rather than substituting for them), and ensures that manufacturing jobs are good jobs?

8. Are there useful models (at the international, national, state and/or local level) that should be expanded?

9. The current Strategy for American Leadership in Advanced Manufacturing (<https://www.manufacturing.gov/news/announcements/2018/10/strategy-american-leadership-advanced-manufacturing>) has three top-level goals, each with objectives and priorities: (1) Develop and transition new manufacturing technologies; (2) Educate, train, and connect the manufacturing workforce; and (3) Expand the capabilities of the domestic manufacturing supply chains. Are these goals appropriate for the next 4–5 years? Are there additional top-level goals to consider?

10. Is there any additional information related to advanced manufacturing in the United States, not requested above, that you believe should be considered?

Dated: September 30, 2021.

Stacy Murphy,
Operations Manager.

[FR Doc. 2021-21644 Filed 10-4-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3270-FI-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[SEC File No. 270-237, OMB Control No. 3235-0226]

Submission for OMB Review; 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 10f-3

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget a request for extension and approval of the collections of information discussed below.

Section 10(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a) (the “Act”) prohibits a registered investment company (“fund”) from purchasing any security during an underwriting or selling syndicate if the fund has certain affiliated relationships with a principal underwriter for the security. Congress enacted this provision in 1940 to protect funds and their shareholders by preventing underwriters from “dumping”

unmarketable securities on affiliated funds.

Rule 10f-3 (17 CFR 270.10f-3) under the Act permits a fund to engage in a securities transaction that otherwise would violate Section 10(f) if, among other things: (i) The fund's directors have approved procedures for purchases made in reliance on the rule, regularly review fund purchases to determine whether they comply with these procedures, and approve necessary changes to the procedures; and (ii) a written record of each transaction effected under the rule is maintained for six years, the first two of which in an easily accessible place. The written record must state: (i) From whom the securities were acquired; (ii) the identity of the underwriting syndicate's members; (iii) the terms of the transactions; and (iv) the information or materials on which the fund's board of directors has determined that the purchases were made in compliance with procedures established by the board.

Rule 10f-3 also conditionally allows managed portions of fund portfolios to purchase securities offered in otherwise off-limits primary offerings. To qualify for this exemption, Rule 10f-3 requires that the subadviser that is advising the purchaser be contractually prohibited from providing investment advice to any other portion of the fund's portfolio and consulting with any other of the fund's advisers that is a principal underwriter or affiliated person of a principal underwriter concerning the fund's securities transactions.

These requirements provide a mechanism for fund boards to oversee compliance with the rule. The required recordkeeping facilitates the Commission staff's review of Rule 10f-3 transactions during routine fund inspections and, when necessary, in connection with enforcement actions.

The staff estimates that approximately 953 funds engage in at least one Rule 10f-3 transaction each year, for a total of 953 such transactions.¹ Rule 10f-3 requires that the purchasing fund create a written record of each transaction that includes, among other things, from whom the securities were purchased and the terms of the transaction. The staff estimates that it takes an average fund approximately 30 minutes per transaction and, in the aggregate, approximately 477 hours² for funds to comply with this portion of the rule.

¹ These estimates are based on data from Form N-CEN filings with the Commission.

² This estimate is based on the following calculation: (0.5 hours × 953 = 477 hours).

The funds also must maintain and preserve these transactional records in accordance with the rule's recordkeeping requirement, and the staff estimates that it takes a fund approximately 20 minutes per transaction and, in the aggregate, approximately 318 hours³ annually for the funds to comply with this portion of the rule.

In addition, fund boards must, no less than quarterly, examine each of these transactions to ensure that they comply with the fund's policies and procedures. The information or materials upon which the board relied to come to this determination also must be maintained and the staff estimates that it takes a fund 1 hour per quarter and, in the aggregate, approximately 3,812 hours⁴ annually for the funds to comply with this rule requirement.

The staff estimates that reviewing and revising as needed written procedures for Rule 10f-3 transactions takes, on average for each fund, two hours of a compliance attorney's time per year.⁵ Thus, annually, in the aggregate, the staff estimates that funds spend a total of approximately 1,906 hours⁶ on monitoring and revising Rule 10f-3 procedures.

Based on an analysis of Form N-CEN filings, the staff estimates that approximately 146 new funds enter into subadvisory agreements each year.⁷ The staff estimates that it will require approximately 0.75 hours to draft and execute additional clauses in subadvisory contracts in order for new funds and subadvisers to be able to rely on the exemptions in Rule 10f-3.⁸

³ This estimate is based on the following calculations: (20 minutes × 953 transactions = 19,060 minutes; 19,060 minutes/60 = 318 hours).

⁴ This estimate is based on the following calculation: (1 hour per quarter × 4 quarters × 953 funds = 3,812 hours).

⁵ These averages take into account the fact that in most years, fund attorneys and boards spend little or no time modifying procedures and in other years, they spend significant time doing so.

⁶ This estimate is based on the following calculation: (953 funds × 2 hours = 1,906 hours).

⁷ Based on information in Form N-CEN filings, we estimate that approximately 139 new open-end funds and 7 new closed-end funds, or a total of 146 new funds enter into new subadvisory agreements each year (139 + 7 = 146 new funds). We understand that existing funds may also enter into new subadvisory agreements, but in many cases would benefit from having previously drafted Rule 10f-3 clauses in prior or existing subadvisory contracts.

⁸ Because such clauses are identical to the clauses that a fund would need to insert in their subadvisory contracts to rely on Rules 12d3-1, 17a-10, and 17e-1, and because we believe that funds that use one such rule generally use all of these rules, we apportion this 3 hour time burden equally to all four rules. Therefore, we estimate that the burden allocated to Rule 10f-3 for this contract change would be 0.75 hours (3 hours ÷ 4 rules = 0.75 hours).

Assuming that all 146 funds that enter into new subadvisory contracts each year make the modification to their contract required by the rule, we estimate that the rule's contract modification requirement will result in 110 burden hours annually for new funds.⁹

The staff estimates, therefore, that Rule 10f-3 imposes an information collection burden of 6,623 hours.¹⁰

The collection of information required by Rule 10f-3 is necessary to obtain the benefits of the rule. Responses will not be kept confidential. 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 public may view background documentation for this information collection at the following website: www.reginfo.gov. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to (i) www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain and (ii) David Bottom, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Cynthia Roscoe, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, or by sending an email to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov.

Dated: September 29, 2021.

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2021-21590 Filed 10-4-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[SEC File No. 270-562, OMB Control No. 3235-0624]

Submission for OMB Review; 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:

Regulation R, Rule 701

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

⁹ These estimates are based on the following calculations: (0.75 hours × 146 portfolios = 110 burden hours).

¹⁰ This estimate is based on the following calculation: (477 hours + 318 hours + 3,812 hours + 1,906 hours + 110 hours = 6,623 total burden hours).