

Dated: September 5, 2024.

Vanessa A. Countryman,
Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[SEC File No. 270–392, OMB Control No.
3235–0447]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension: Rule 17f–6

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 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520), the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) is soliciting comments on the collection of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for extension and approval.

Rule 17f–6 (17 CFR 270.17f–6) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a) permits registered investment companies (“funds”) to maintain assets (*i.e.*, margin) with futures commission merchants (“FCMs”) in connection with commodity transactions effected on both domestic and foreign exchanges. Before the rule was adopted, funds generally were required to maintain these assets in special accounts with a custodian bank.

The rule requires a written contract that contains certain provisions designed to ensure important safeguards and other benefits relating to the custody of fund assets by FCMs. To protect fund assets, the contract must require that FCMs comply with the segregation or secured amount requirements of the Commodity Exchange Act (“CEA”) and the rules under that statute. The contract also must contain a requirement that FCMs obtain an acknowledgment from any clearing organization that the fund’s assets are held on behalf of the FCM’s customers according to CEA provisions.

Because rule 17f–6 does not impose any ongoing obligations on funds or FCMs, Commission staff estimates there are only costs related to new contracts between funds and FCMs. This estimate does not include the time required by an FCM to comply with the rule’s contract requirements because, to the extent that

complying with the contract provisions could be considered “collections of information,” the burden hours for compliance are already included in other PRA submissions.¹ Commission staff estimates that approximately 1,164 series of 151 funds report that futures commission merchants and commodity clearing organizations provide custodial services to the fund.² Based on these estimates, the total annual burden hours associated with rule 17f–6 is 27 hours. The estimated total annual burden hours associated with rule 17f–6 have decreased 1 hour, from 28 to 27 hours and external costs increased from \$11,900 to \$15,534. These changes in burden hours and external costs reflect changes in the number of affected entities and in the external cost associated with the information collection requirements. These changes reflect revised estimates.

These estimates are made solely for the purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act, and are not derived from a comprehensive or even a representative survey or study of the costs of Commission rules and forms.

Compliance with the collection of information requirements of the rule is necessary to obtain the benefit of relying on the rule. 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 control number.

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 shall 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

¹ The rule requires a contract with the FCM to contain two provisions requiring the FCM to comply with existing requirements under the CEA and rules adopted thereunder; thus, to the extent these provisions could be considered collections of information, the hours required for compliance would be included in the collection of information burden hours submitted by the CFTC for its rules.

² This estimate is based on the average number of funds that reported on Form N–CEN from April 2021–March 2024, in response to sub-items C.12.6. and D.14.6; money market funds are excluded from this estimate because exchange-traded futures contracts or commodity options are not eligible securities for money market funds; the number of series and funds that reported on Form N–CEN in response these sub-items were: 1,112 series of 150 funds for the period April 2021–March 2022; 1,180 series of 152 funds for the period April 2022–March 2023; and 1,210 series of 151 funds for the period April 2023–March 2024 (for filings received through June 30, 2024).

through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted by November 8, 2024.

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: Austin Gerig, Director/Chief Data Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Oluwaseun Ajayi, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549 or send an email to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov.

Dated: September 3, 2024.

Vanessa A. Countryman,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–20200 Filed 9–6–24; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–100892; File No. SR–LTSE–
2024–04]

Self-Regulatory Organizations: Long-Term Stock Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Establish Fees for Industry Members Related to Reasonably Budgeted Costs of the National Market System Plan Governing the Consolidated Audit Trail for the Period From July 16, 2024 Through December 31, 2024

September 3, 2024.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”) ¹ and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on August 28, 2024, Long-Term Stock Exchange, Inc. (“LTSE” or the “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by the self-regulatory organization. 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

The Exchange is filing with the Commission a proposed rule change to amend the Fee Schedule to establish fees for Industry Members ³ related to

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

³ An “Industry Member” is defined as “a member of a national securities exchange or a member of a