

**Week of May 30, 2005—Tentative***Wednesday, June 1, 2005*

9:30 a.m.

Discussion of Security Issues  
(Closed—Ex. 1).

*Thursday, June 2, 2005*

9:30 a.m.

Briefing on Office of International  
Programs (OIP) Programs,  
Performance, and Plans (Public  
Meeting). (Contact: Margie Doane,  
(301) 415-2344).

This meeting will be Web cast live at  
the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov>.

1:30 p.m.

Discussion of Management Issues  
(Closed—Ex. 2&9).

\*The schedule for Commission  
meetings if subject to change on short  
notice. To verify the status of meetings  
call (recording)—(301) 415-1292.  
Contact person for more information:  
Dave Gamberoni, (301) 415-1651.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** “Discussion of  
Security Issues (Closed—Ex. 1),”  
originally scheduled for Thursday, April  
21, 2005 at 1:30 p.m. was not held.

The NRC Commission Meeting  
Schedule can be found on the Internet  
at: [http://www.nrc.gov/what-we-do/  
policy-making/schedule.html](http://www.nrc.gov/what-we-do/policy-making/schedule.html).

The NRC provides reasonable  
accommodation to individuals with  
disabilities where appropriate. If you  
need a reasonable accommodation to  
participate in these public meetings, or  
need this meeting notice or the  
transcript or other information from the  
public meetings in another format (*e.g.*  
braille, large print), please notify the  
NRC's Disability Program Coordinator,  
August Spector, at (301) 415-7080,  
TDD: (301) 415-2100, or by e-mail at  
[aks@nrc.gov](mailto:aks@nrc.gov). Determinations on  
requests for reasonable accommodation  
will be made on a case-by-case basis.

This notice is distributed by mail to  
several hundred subscribers; if you no  
longer wish to receive it, or would like  
to be added to the distribution, please  
contact the Office of the Secretary,  
Washington, DC 20555 (301) 415-1969).  
In addition, distribution of this meeting  
notice over the Internet system is  
available. If you are interested in  
receiving this Commission meeting  
schedule electronically, please send an  
electronic message to [dkw@nrc.gov](mailto:dkw@nrc.gov).

Dated: April 21, 2005.

**Dave Gamberoni,**

*Office of the Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 05-8493 Filed 4-25-05; 9:23 am]

**BILLING CODE 7590-01-M**

**POSTAL SERVICE****Customized Postage**

**AGENCY:** Postal Service.

**ACTION:** Notice of authorization of  
market test for Customized Postage.

**SUMMARY:** The Postal Service™ provides notice of its intention to resume testing of the concept of Customized Postage for a period of one year commencing 20 calendar days from the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. PC Postage® is a method of providing evidence of prepayment of United States postage using a personal computer and printer and Internet access to an authorized PC Postage provider infrastructure approved by the Postal Service under 39 CFR part 501. Like postage meters, PC Postage services facilitate customer access to postage payment and use of the mail. PC Postage and postage meter products that print digitally generated barcode indicia contain human readable and machine readable elements that facilitate mail processing and counterfeit detection due to identification enabling characteristics. The typical indicia design consists of two elements: a postage block and a distinctly separate block typically called an “ad plate.” The historical use of ad plates consists of printed advertising messages authorized, enabled, and controlled by a Postal Service approved postage meter or PC Postage provider. Customized Postage differs from conventional PC Postage in two respects: First, it utilizes the “ad plate” area to print a digital, graphic image. The image may be one selected from a “library” of images provided by the authorized PC Postage provider or a customer supplied image that meets acceptance criteria established by the PC Postage provider; and, second, instead of the customer printing the selected image on a personal computer the images are printed by the Customized Postage provider under controlled conditions and the finished product is mailed to the customer. With respect to postage meter ad plates the Postal Service will require evaluation and approval of any process established by an authorized provider which results in the printing of a graphic “ad plate.”

**DATES:** This notice is effective April 27, 2005.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Manager of Postage Technology  
Management, at 703-292-3691 or by fax  
at 703-292-4073.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In July 2004, the Postal Service authorized a limited market test of the first exemplar

of Customized Postage. The test was  
concluded on September 30, 2004.

The Postal Service is interested in  
obtaining additional knowledge  
regarding the market for Customized  
Postage, and, therefore, is authorizing an  
additional market test of Customized  
Postage concepts. By this notice, the  
Postal Service invites interested parties  
to submit proposed concepts for  
consideration.

While each concept will be evaluated  
on its own merits, particular conditions  
may be required and agreed to by the  
Postal Service and the Customized  
Postage provider regarding the testing of  
that concept. The following conditions  
will be applied in common to all  
concepts:

1. The provider must be an authorized  
PC Postage provider, authorized postage  
meter manufacturer or distributor, or a  
company affiliated with an authorized  
postage provider under conditions  
respecting postage revenue security  
approved by the Postal Service in  
accordance with 39 CFR part 501.1 and  
subject to all procedures and regulations  
set forth throughout 39 CFR Chapter  
501.

2. The Customized Postage indicia  
and other printed matter must meet all  
Postal Service requirements respecting  
placement on a mail piece, readability,  
avoidance of interference with and  
facilitation of mail processing, and  
identification of fraudulent indicia, as  
well as all Postal Service regulations  
pertaining to PC Postage products and  
services.

3. The provider must maintain an  
image control process which prevents  
the distribution of images that could  
harm the public image of the Postal  
Service in accordance with 39 CFR  
501.6(g) and 501.23(d) and any  
subsequent incorporation of  
requirements specific to the evolving  
concept of Customized Postage.

4. Images which consist of notices or  
advertisements may not be included in  
Customized Postage produced during  
the test.

5. The test will be limited to full rate  
First-Class Mail®, Priority Mail® and  
Express Mail® services only.

6. The provider must agree that it has  
obtained all intellectual property  
licenses necessary to provide the  
approved service and that it will  
reimburse the Postal Service for any  
costs and damages the Postal Service  
may incur as a result of the provider's  
failure to honor this representation.

7. The provider must agree that the  
Postal Service has not exercised 28  
U.S.C. 1498 with respect to the  
approved Customized Postage product.

8. The provider must design its Customized Postage indicia in a manner approved by the Postal Service, which reduces the likelihood that the public will be misled into believing that the product image originated with the Postal Service.

9. The Postal Service may suspend or cancel without prior notice and without liability for any costs incurred or losses sustained by a provider or customer, the approval of any customer as a test participant, or the Customized Postage test itself, in the event there is sufficient cause to believe that the test presents unacceptable risk to Postal Service revenues, degradation of the ability of the Postal Service to process or deliver mail produced by the test participants, an assessment that continuation of the test may expose the Postal Service or its customers to legal liability, or an assessment that continuation of the test will cause public or political embarrassment or harm to the Postal Service in any way.

10. The Postal Service will require approved providers of Customized Postage to pay a fee to defray the costs of the Postal Service in testing and evaluating Customized Postage.

11. Additional conditions and requirements may be set forth in individual product test approval letters.

Persons interested in submitting proposed Customized PC Postage concepts should contact: Manager, Postage Technology Management, U.S. Postal Service, 1735 North Lynn Street, Room 5011, Arlington, VA 22209-6030; (703) 292-3590 (Telephone); (703) 292-4073 (Fax); [ptm@USPS.gov](mailto:ptm@USPS.gov).

**Neva Watson,**

*Attorney, Legislative.*

[FR Doc. 05-8487 Filed 4-26-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7710-12-P**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. IC-26836; File No. 812-13054]

### New England Life Insurance Co., et al., Notice of Application

April 21, 2005.

**AGENCY:** Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission").

**ACTION:** Notice of application for an order pursuant to Sections 11(a) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act").

*Applicants:* New England Life Insurance Company ("NELICO"), New England Variable Life Separate Account (the "Variable Account"), and New England Securities Corporation ("NES")  
*Summary of the Application:*  
Applicants request an order pursuant to

Section 11(a) of the Act approving the terms of the following proposed offer of exchange of variable life insurance contracts offered by NELICO and made available through the Variable Account: outstanding scheduled premium variable life insurance contracts ("Zenith Life Contract," "Zenith Life Plus Contract," "Zenith Life Plus II Contract," "Zenith Life Executive 65 Contract," and "Zenith Variable Whole Life Contract" and, collectively, the "Scheduled Premium Contracts") for the Zenith Flexible Life 2001 contract (the "Zenith 2001 Contract").

*Filing Date:* The application was filed on December 22, 2003 and amended and restated on April 21, 2005.

*Hearing or Notification of Hearing:* An order granting the application will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the Secretary of the Commission and serving the Applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. on May 12, 2005, and should be accompanied by proof of service on the Applicants, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons may request notification of a hearing by writing to the Secretary of the Commission.

**ADDRESSES:** Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609. Applicants, c/o Marie C. Swift, Esq., New England Life Insurance Company, 501 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116. Copies to: Stephen E. Roth, Esq. and Mary E. Thornton, Esq., Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP, 1275 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20004-2415.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Harry Eisenstein, Senior Counsel, or Zandra Y. Bailes, Branch Chief, Office of Insurance Products, Division of Investment Management, at (202) 551-6795.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Following is a summary of the application. The application is available for a fee from the Commission's Public Reference Branch, 450 5th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0102 (telephone (202) 551-8090).

### Applicants' Representations

1. NELICO is a stock life insurance company organized under the laws of Delaware in 1980 as New England Variable Life Insurance Company. New England Variable Life Insurance

Company was a wholly owned subsidiary of New England Mutual Life Insurance Company. On August 30, 1996, New England Mutual Life Insurance Company merged into Metropolitan Life Insurance Company ("MetLife"), a life insurance company with principal offices in New York. MetLife is a wholly owned subsidiary of MetLife, Inc., a publicly traded company. Thereafter, MetLife became the parent of New England Variable Life Insurance Company, and the latter changed its name to New England Life Insurance Company and changed its domicile from the State of Delaware to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. NELICO is authorized to operate in all states and the District of Columbia.

2. NELICO established the Variable Account on January 31, 1983, under Delaware law. When NELICO changed its domicile to Massachusetts on August 30, 1996, the Variable Account became subject to Massachusetts law. The Variable Account is registered under the Act as a unit investment trust, and is a "separate account" as that term is defined in Section 2(a)(37) of the Act. NELICO is the legal owner of the assets in the Variable Account. The obligations to contract owners and beneficiaries arising under the contracts are general corporate obligations of NELICO, and the general assets of NELICO support the contracts. The assets of the Variable Account equal to its reserves and other contract liabilities are not available to meet the claims of NELICO's general creditors, but are held and applied exclusively to the benefit of holders of those variable life insurance contracts funded through the Variable Account. The investment performance of the Variable Account is independent of both the investment performance of the general account of NELICO and of any other separate account that NELICO has established or may establish in the future.

3. NES is registered with the Commission as a broker-dealer, and is a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. NES serves as principal underwriter for the Scheduled Premium Contracts and the Zenith 2001 Contracts. NES is an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of NELICO.

### General Description of Zenith Life 2001 Contracts

4. The Zenith 2001 Contracts are flexible premium variable life insurance contracts offered pursuant to a registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933 ("1933 Act") (File No. 333-103193). The Zenith 2001 Contracts are available for sale to