

Rule 15g-6, SEC File No. 270-349, OMB Control No. 3235-0395

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 ("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 15g-6—Account statements for penny stock customers.

Rule 15g-6 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 requires brokers and dealers that sell penny stocks to their customers to provide monthly account statements containing information with regard to the penny stocks held in customer accounts. The information is required to be provided to customers of broker-dealers that effect penny stock transactions in order to provide those customers with information that is not now publicly available. Without this information, investors would be less able to protect themselves from fraud and to make informed investment decisions.

The staff estimates that there are approximately 240 broker-dealers that are subject to the rule. The staff estimates that the firms affected by the rule will, at any one time, have approximately 150 new customers with whom they have effected transactions in penny stocks, each of whom would receive a maximum of 12 account statements per year, for a total of 1,800 account statements annually for each firm (150 customers × 12 account statements/customer). The staff estimates that a broker-dealer would expend approximately three minutes in processing the information required for each account statement. Accordingly, the estimated average annual burden would equal 90 hours (1,800 account statements × 3 minutes/account statement ÷ 1 hour/60 minutes), and the estimated average total burden would equal 21,600 hours (90 hours × 240).

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency'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.

Please direct your written comments to R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549.

Dated: February 1, 2006.

Jill M. Peterson,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. E6-1831 Filed 2-9-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

Extension:

Form N-SAR; SEC File No. 270-292; OMB Control No. 3235-0330.

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 (the "Commission") is soliciting comments on the collections of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit these existing collections of information to the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") for extension and approval.

- Form N-SAR—Semi-Annual Report for Registered Investment Companies

Form N-SAR is the form used by all registered investment companies with the exception of face amount certificate companies, to comply with the periodic filing and disclosure requirements imposed by Section 30 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 [15 U.S.C. 80a-1 *et seq.*], and of rules 30a1-1 and 30b1-1 under the Act. The information required to be filed with the Commission assures the public availability of the information and permits verification of compliance with Investment Company Act requirements. Registered unit investment trusts are required to provide this information on an annual report filed with the Commission on Form N-SAR (OMB Control No. 3235-0330) pursuant to rule 30a1-1 under the Investment Company Act [17 CFR 30a1-1], and registered management investment companies

must submit the required information on a semi-annual report on Form N-SAR pursuant to rule 30b1-1 under the Act [17 CFR 270.30b1-1].¹

The Commission estimates that the total number of respondents is 4,130 and the total annual number of responses is 7,430 ((3,300 respondents X 2 responses per year) + (830 respondents X 1 response per year)). The Commission estimates that each registrant filing a report on Form N-SAR would spend, on average, 14.43 hours in preparing and filing the Form and that the total hour burden for all Form N-SAR filings would be 107,203 hours. Estimates of the burden hours are made solely for the purposes of the PRA, and are not derived from a comprehensive or even a representative survey or study of the costs of Commission rules and forms.

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency'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.

Please direct your written comments to R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549.

February 2, 2006.

Nancy M. Morris,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. E6-1833 Filed 2-9-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon written request, copies available from: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

¹ Face amount certificate companies are required to file periodic reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. 78m, 78o(d)].