

SEC NEWS DIGEST

Issue 2001-54

March 20, 2001

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

THU TA NAMED AS COUNSELOR TO THE CHAIRMAN

Acting Chairman Laura Unger today named Thu Ta as Counselor to the Chairman. Ms. Ta will advise the Chairman primarily on enforcement matters. Ms. Ta joined the Commission's staff in September 1997 as a staff attorney in the Northeast Regional Office of the Commission in New York City. In October 1999, she moved to the Commission's Office of Legal Policy, Office of the General Counsel, in Washington, D C.

HOLDING COMPANY ACT RELEASES

CONSOLIDATED NATURAL GAS COMPANY

A supplemental order has been issued authorizing Consolidated Natural Gas Company (CNG), a registered public utility holding company, to amend the indenture dated as of May 1, 1971, between CNG and the Chase Manhattan Bank, as successor Trustee. (Rel. 35-27385)

NORTHEAST UTILITIES, ET AL.

A notice has been issued giving interested persons until April 12, 2001, to request a hearing on a proposal by Northeast Utilities (NU), a registered public utility holding company, and its public utility subsidiaries, Western Massachusetts Electric Company and Connecticut Light and Power Company. Applicants propose to pay dividends and/or repurchase stock from NU out of capital or unearned surplus (Rel. 35-27359)

SELF-REGULATORY ORGANIZATIONS

IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVENESS OF PROPOSED RULE CHANGE

A proposed rule change (SR-CBOE-01-05) filed by the Chicago Board Options Exchange has become effective under Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Publication of the notice in the Federal Register is expected during the week of March 19. (Rel. 34-44073)

PROPOSED RULE CHANGE

The Chicago Stock Exchange filed with the Commission a proposed rule change under Rule 19b-4 (SR-CHX-01-05) to amend its SuperMAX2000 price improvement algorithm. Publication of the notice in the Federal Register is expected during the week of March 19. (Rel. 34-44085)