

(BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a bank or bank holding company and all of the banks and nonbanking companies owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The application also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act. Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than November 13, 1998.

- A. Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago (Philip Jackson, Applications Officer) 230 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60690-1413:
1. Richland County Bancshares, Inc., Richland Center, Wisconsin; become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of Richland County Bank, Richland Center, Wisconsin.
- B. Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland (Paul Kaboth, Banking Supervisor) 1455 East Sixth Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44101-2566:
1. Sky Financial Group, Inc., Salineville, Ohio (formerly known as Citizens Bancshares, Inc.); to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of The Ohio Bank, Findlay, Ohio, and Citizens Bancshares Interim Bank, Salineville, Ohio.
- C. Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco (Maria Villanueva, Manager of Analytical Support, Consumer Regulation Group) 101 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94105-1579:
1. Bay View Capital Corporation, San Mateo, California; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of Bay View Bank, N.A., San Mateo, California. Bay View Bank, N.A., currently operates as Bay View

Bank.

In connection with this application, Applicant also has applied to acquire Regent Financial Corporation, San Mateo, California, and thereby engage in check processing activities, pursuant to §§ 225.28(b)(9), (b)(10)(i), and (b)(14) of Regulation Y; and Bay Commercial Finance Group, San Mateo, California, and thereby engage in lending activities, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(1) of Regulation Y.

D. Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco (Maria Villanueva, Manager of Analytical Support, Consumer Regulation Group) 101 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94105-1579:

1. Western Sierra Bancorp, Cameron Park, California; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of Lake Community Bank, Lakeport, California.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, October 15, 1998.

**Robert deV. Frierson,**

*Associate Secretary of the Board.*

[FR Doc. 98-28188 Filed 10-20-98; 8:45 am]

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## FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

### Notice of Proposals to Engage in Permissible Nonbanking Activities or to Acquire Companies that are Engaged in Permissible Nonbanking Activities; Correction

This notice corrects a notice (FR Doc. 98-27635) published on page 55390 of the issue for Thursday, October 15, 1998.

Under the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco heading, the entry for Banque Nationale de Paris, Paris, France, is revised to read as follows:

A. Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco (Maria Villanueva, Manager of Analytical Support, Consumer Regulation Group) 101 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94105-1579:

1. Banque Nationale de Paris, Paris, France; to engage de novo through its subsidiary, BNP Capital Markets, LLC, New York, New York, in underwriting and dealing to a limited extent in all types of debt securities (including, without limitation, corporate debt securities, sovereign debt securities, and debt securities convertible into equity securities) and equity securities (including, without limitation, common stock, preferred stock, American Depositary Receipts, Global Depositary Receipts, securities convertible into equity securities and options, other direct and indirect equity ownership interests in corporations and other

entities, warrants and other rights issued in connection with the above securities, and other rights issued by close-end investment companies, but not including ownership interests in open-end investment companies); See e.g. Societe Generale, 84 Fed. Res. Bull. 680 (1998); in underwriting and dealing in bank-eligible securities, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(8)(i) of Regulation Y; in acting as private placement agent, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(7)(iii) of Regulation Y; in acting as a riskless principal, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(7)(ii) of Regulation Y; in acting as investment or financial advisor to any person, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(6) of Regulation Y; in brokerage activities, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(7)(i) of Regulation Y; in providing transactional services as agent with respect to a broad range of foreign exchange and derivatives instruments, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(7)(v) of Regulation Y; in acting as principal in foreign exchange and certain derivatives transactions, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(8)(ii) of Regulation Y; in making, acquiring, brokering or servicing loans or other extensions of credit, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(1) of Regulation Y; in asset management, servicing and collection of assets of a type that an insured depository institution may originate and own, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(2)(vi) of Regulation Y; and acquiring debt that is in default at the time of acquisition, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(2)(vii) of Regulation Y. These activities will be conducted worldwide.

Comments on this application must be received by October 28, 1998.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, October 15, 1998.

**Robert deV. Frierson,**

*Associate Secretary of the Board.*

[FR Doc. 98-28186 Filed 10-20-98; 8:45 am]

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## OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS

### Proposed Collection; Comment Request: Proposed Slightly Revised OGE Form 450 Executive Branch Confidential Financial Disclosure Report

**AGENCY:** Office of Government Ethics (OGE).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** After this first round notice and public comment period, OGE plans to submit a slightly revised version of its OGE Form 450 for confidential financial disclosure reporting under its existing executive branch regulations for review and three-year approval by the Office of

Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act.

**DATES:** Comments by the agencies and the public on this proposal are invited and should be received by January 4, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be sent to William E. Gressman, Associate General Counsel, Office of Government Ethics, Suite 500, 1201 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20005-3917. Comments may also be sent electronically to OGE's Internet E-mail address at [usoge@oge.gov](mailto:usoge@oge.gov) (for E-mail messages, the subject line should include the following reference—"Proposed Slightly Revised OGE Form 450 Executive Branch Confidential Financial Disclosure Report").

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Gressman at the Office of Government Ethics, telephone: 202-208-8000, ext. 1110; TDD: 202-208-8025; FAX 202-208-8037. A copy of the proposed slightly revised OGE Form 450 may be obtained, without charge, by contacting Mr. Gressman.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Office of Government Ethics is planning to submit, after this notice and comment period (with any modifications that may appear warranted), a slightly revised version of the OGE Form 450 Executive Branch Confidential Financial Disclosure Report for three-year approval (reclearance) by OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. chapter 35. The OGE Form 450 (OMB control # 3209-0006) collects information from covered department and agency officials as required under OGE's executive branchwide regulatory provisions in subpart I of 5 CFR part 2634. The revised OGE Form 450 will serve as the uniform report form for collection, on a confidential basis, of financial information required by the OGE regulation from certain new entrant and incumbent employees of the Federal Government executive branch departments and agencies in order to allow ethics officials to conduct conflict of interest reviews and to resolve any actual or potential conflicts found.

The basis for the OGE regulation and the report form is two-fold. First, section 201(d) of Executive Order 12674 of April 12, 1989 (as modified by Executive Order 12731 of October 17, 1990) makes OGE responsible for the establishment of a system of nonpublic (confidential) financial disclosure by executive branch employees to complement the system of public financial disclosure under the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (the "Ethics Act"), as amended, 5 U.S.C. appendix. Second, section 107(a) of the Ethics Act,

5 U.S.C. appendix, Section 107(a), further provides authority for OGE as the supervising ethics office for the executive branch of the Federal Government to require that appropriate executive agency employees file confidential financial disclosure reports, "in such form as the supervising ethics office may prescribe." The current OGE Form 450, adopted in early 1996, together with the underlying OGE 5 CFR part 2634 regulation, issued in 1992 and modified since, constitute the basic form OGE has prescribed for such confidential financial disclosure in the executive branch.

The relatively minor updating revisions OGE now proposes to make to the OGE Form 450 will bring it up-to-date and will not require any rule changes to accomplish. First, OGE proposes to make a couple of revisions to the Privacy Act and public burden information statements on page 3 of the instructions to the form. The proposed revisions include addition to the Privacy Act statement of a reference to the underlying executive branchwide Privacy Act system of records, OGE/GOVT-2, for confidential disclosure reports that OGE issued in 1990 upon its separation from the Office of Personnel Management. See 55 FR 6327-6331 (February 22, 1990). Also, the indication of routine use six for such reports in judicial or administrative proceedings would be revised to more closely track the wording of the underlying routine use in the OGE/GOVT-2 system notice. Under the public burden information statement, OGE proposes to remove the reference to OMB as an additional point of contact for information collection comments on the OGE Form 450. In accordance with current procedures, OGE will henceforth be indicated as the sole contact point for such comments, on which OGE will coordinate with OMB if need be. The Office of Government Ethics is also correcting a few minor typographical errors on the form (including the instructions) and is proposing a couple of minor stylistic edits as well. The mark-up copy of the form as proposed for slight revision, available from OGE (see the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section above), shows all of the changes that would be made.

No substantive changes to the OGE Form 450 are being proposed at this time, though OGE does note (as also referenced on the mark-up copy of the form) that the thresholds for reporting of gifts and reimbursements in Part V of the OGE Form 450, currently \$250 from any one source with a \$100 de minimis amount, may have to be adjusted sometime next year if the General

Services Administration raises "minimal value" under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act, 5 U.S.C. 7342(a)(5), to more than \$250. (Currently, the minimal value is set at \$245 pursuant to 41 CFR 101-49.001-5 of GSA's regulations.) Under section 102(a)(2)(A) and (B) of the Ethics Act as amended, 5 U.S.C. appendix, § 102(a)(2)(A) and (B), the public financial disclosure reporting thresholds are pegged to any such minimal value increase. The Office of Government Ethics has, in its 5 CFR part 2634 regulation, extended the statutory thresholds to confidential financial disclosure reporting for the executive branch. If the thresholds do need to be increased, OGE will revise the OGE Form 450, and the underlying part 2634 regulation (public financial disclosure reporting would also be affected), and coordinate with OMB on the paperwork and rulemaking aspects of the revision. The Office of Government Ethics will also advise the departments and agencies of any such change.

The Office of Government Ethics expects that the currently anticipated slightly revised form should be ready, after OMB clearance, for dissemination to executive branch departments and agencies early next year. Once finally cleared, OGE will make the newly revised form available to departments and agencies in paper, on OGE's ethics CD-ROM and in the Ethics Resource Library section of the OGE Internet Web site (address: <http://www.usoge.gov>). In addition, when time and resources permit, OGE will endeavor to make an updated electronic version of its software for the OGE Form 450 available on the OGE Web site. This will allow employees the option of preparing their forms on a computer, although a printout and manual signature of the form are still required unless specifically approved otherwise by OGE. Moreover, OGE also permits departments and agencies to develop or utilize on their own electronic versions of the OGE Form 450 provided they precisely duplicate the paper original to the extent technically possible.

Since 1992 various agencies have developed, with OGE review/approval, alternative reporting formats, such as certificates of no conflict, for certain classes of employees.

Other agencies provide for additional disclosures pursuant to independent organic statutes and in certain other circumstances when authorized by OGE. Last year, OGE itself developed the new OGE Optional Form 450-A (Certificate of No New Interests) for possible agency and employee use in certain years, if applicable. However, the OGE Form 450

remains the uniform executive branch report form for most of those executive branch employees who are required by their agencies to report confidentially on their financial interests. The OGE Form 450 is to be filed by each reporting individual with the designated agency ethics official at the executive department or agency where he or she is or will be employed.

Reporting individuals are regular employees whose positions have been designated by their agency under 5 CFR part 2634.904 as requiring confidential financial disclosure in order to help avoid conflicts with their assigned responsibilities; additionally, all special Government employees (SGE) are generally required to file. Agencies may, if appropriate under the OGE regulation, exclude certain regular employees or SGEs as provided in 5 CFR 2634.905. Reports are normally required to be filed within 30 days of entering a covered position (or earlier if required by the agency concerned), and again annually in the fall if the employee serves for more than 60 days in the position. As indicated in § 2634.907 of the OGE regulation, the information required to be collected includes assets and sources of income, liabilities, outside positions, employment agreements and arrangements, and gifts and travel reimbursements, subject to certain thresholds and exclusions.

Most of the persons who file this report form are current executive branch Government employees at the time they complete the forms. However, some filers are private citizens who are asked by their prospective agency to file a new entrant report prior to entering Government service in order to permit advance checking for any potential conflicts of interest and resolution thereof by agreement to recuse or divest, obtaining of a waiver, etc. Based on OGE's annual agency ethics program questionnaire responses for 1996 and 1997, OGE estimates that an average of approximately 281,500 OGE 450 report forms will be filed each year for the next three years throughout the executive branch. This estimate is based on the average number of forms filed branchwide for the past two years, some 286,450 in 1996 and 276,444 in 1997, for a total of 562,894, with that number then divided in half and rounded. Of these, OGE estimates that no more than between 5% and 10%, or some 14,075 to 28,150 per year at most, will be filed by private citizens, those potential (incoming) regular employees whose positions are designated for confidential disclosure filing as well as potential special Government employees whose agencies require that they file their new

entrant reports prior to assuming Government responsibilities. No termination reports are required.

Each filing is estimated to take an average of one and one-half hours. The number of private citizens whose reports are filed each year with OGE is less than 10, but pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.3(c)(4)(i), the lower limit for this general regulatory-based requirement is set at 10 private persons (OGE-processed reports). This yields an annual reporting burden of 15 hours, the same as in OGE's current OMB inventory for this information collection. The remainder of the private citizen reports are filed with other departments and agencies throughout the executive branch.

Public comment is invited on the proposed slightly revised OGE Form 450 as set forth in this notice, including specifically views on the need for and practical utility of this proposed modified collection of information, the accuracy of OGE's burden estimate, the enhancement of quality, utility and clarity of the information collected, and the minimization of burden (including the use of information technology).

Comments received in response to this notice will be summarized for, and may be included with, OGE's future request for OMB paperwork approval for the proposed slightly revised OGE Form 450. At that time, OGE will publish a second paperwork notice in the **Federal Register** to inform the agencies and the public.

Approved: October 15, 1998.

**Stephen D. Potts,**

*Director, Office of Government Ethics.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

[ATSDR-137]

#### Availability of Draft Toxicological Profiles

**AGENCY:** Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA),

Section 104(i)(3) [42 U.S.C. 9604(i)(3)] directs the Administrator of ATSDR to prepare toxicological profiles of priority hazardous substances and to revise and publish each updated toxicological profile as necessary. This notice announces the availability of the 12th set of toxicological profiles, one being a new draft and five updated drafts, prepared by ATSDR for review and comment.

**DATES:** In order to be considered, comments on these draft toxicological profiles must be received on or before February 22, 1999. Comments received after the close of the public comment period will be considered at the discretion of ATSDR based upon what is deemed to be in the best interest of the general public.

**ADDRESSES:** Requests for copies of the draft toxicological profiles should be sent to the attention of Ms. Loretta Norman, Division of Toxicology, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Mailstop E-29, 1600 Clifton Road, NE., Atlanta, Georgia 30333. Comments regarding the draft toxicological profiles should be sent to the attention of Dr. Ganga Choudhary, Division of Toxicology, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Mailstop E-29, 1600 Clifton Road, NE., Atlanta, Georgia 30333.

Requests for the draft toxicological profiles must be in writing, and must specifically identify the hazardous substance(s) profile(s) that you wish to receive. ATSDR reserves the right to provide only one copy of each profile requested, free of charge. In case of extended distribution delays, requestors will be notified.

Written comments and other data submitted in response to this notice and the draft toxicological profiles should bear the docket control number ATSDR-137. Send one copy of all comments and three copies of all supporting documents to Dr. Ganga Choudhary at the above stated address by the end of the comment period. Because all public comments regarding ATSDR toxicological profiles are available for public inspection [after the profile is published in final], no confidential business information should be submitted in response to this notice.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Loretta Norman, Division of Toxicology, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Mailstop E-29, 1600 Clifton Road, NE., Atlanta, Georgia 30333, telephone (404) 639-6322.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) (Pub. L. 99-499) amends the Comprehensive