

information about countries which employ non-transparent procurement procedures or fail to maintain effective prohibitions on bribery and other corrupt practices. Specifically, the President is required to identify any countries that:

(a) Are signatories to the former GATT and/or WTO Agreement on Government Procurement (Agreement) and are not in compliance with the requirements of the Agreement;

(b) Are signatories to the Agreement; are in compliance with the Agreement, but maintain a significant and persistent pattern or practice of discrimination in the government procurement of products or services from the United States not covered by the Agreement, which results in identifiable harm to U.S. business; and whose products or services are acquired in significant amounts by the U.S. Government; or

(c) Are not signatories to the Agreement and maintain a significant and persistent pattern or practice of discrimination in government procurement of products or services from the United States, which results in identifiable harm to U.S. business, and whose products or services are acquired in significant amounts by the U.S. Government; or

(d) Are not signatories to the Agreement and fail to apply transparent and competitive procedures to its government procurement equivalent to those in the Agreement and whose products and services are acquired in significant amounts by the U.S. Government; or

(e) Are not Signatories to the Agreement and fail to maintain and enforce effective prohibitions on bribery and other corrupt practices in connection with government procurement and whose products and services are acquired in significant amounts by the U.S. Government.

The functions vested in the President under Section 305 of the Trade Agreements Act were delegated to the United States Trade Representative (USTR) pursuant to Section 4-101 of Executive Order 12661 (54 FR 779).

DATES: Submissions containing the information described below must be received on or before March 1, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments must be submitted to Carolyn Frank, Executive Secretary, Trade Policy Staff Committee, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20508, and must include not less than twenty (20) copies. Submissions will be available for public inspection by appointment with the staff of the USTR Public Reading Room,

except for information granted "business confidential" status pursuant to 15 CFR 2003.6. Any business confidential material must be clearly marked as such at the top of the cover page or letter and each succeeding page and must be accompanied by a nonconfidential summary.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Elena Bryan (202-395-5097) or Mark Linscott (202-395-3063), Office of WTO and Multilateral Affairs, or Laura B. Sherman (202-395-3150), Office of the General Counsel, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20508.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 305 of the Trade Agreements Act requires an annual report to be submitted no later than April 30, 1996 to the appropriate Committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate. The USTR is required to request consultations with any countries identified in the report to remedy the procurement practices cited in the report.

Effective January 1, 1996, the new WTO Government Procurement Agreement entered into force and the United States withdrew from the GATT Government Procurement Code. Therefore, this year's Title VII review will include both agreements. The WTO Code significantly expands coverage beyond goods to include services, including construction, and to procurement of goods, services and construction by subcentral governments and government enterprises. Singapore and Hong Kong are members of the GATT Code but have yet to join the WTO Code, although Singapore has requested accession to the WTO Code and tabled a first offer. The Republic of Korea (ROK) is a member of the WTO Code but may delay implementation until January 1, 1997. The ROK was not a member of the GATT Code. Otherwise, and with the exception of the United States, the membership in the GATT and WTO Codes are identical.

USTR invites submissions from interested parties concerning foreign government procurement practices that should be considered in developing the annual report. Pursuant to Section 305(d)(5) of the Trade Agreements Act, submissions are sought from any interested parties in the United States and in countries that are signatories to the Agreement, as well as in other foreign countries whose products or services are acquired in significant amounts by the U.S. Government.

Each submission should provide, in order, the following general information: (1) the party submitting the

information; (2) the foreign country or countries that are the subject of the submission and the entities of each subject country's government whose practices are being cited, and (3) the U.S. products or services that are affected by the non-compliance or discrimination.

Each submission should also provide specific information on the particular problem: (1) noncompliance with the former GATT Agreement on Government Procurement or new WTO Government Procurement Agreement; (2) the type of discrimination encountered, including information regarding the date and nature of affected procurement(s); (3) policies or practices which are discriminatory, not transparent or anti-competitive (where possible, include copies of discriminatory laws, policies or regulations), and (4) the extent to which the problem has impeded the ability of U.S. suppliers to participate in procurements on terms comparable to those available to suppliers of the country in question when they are seeking to sell goods or services to the U.S. Government; (5) examples of failure to maintain and enforce effective prohibitions on bribery and other corrupt practices in connection with government procurement.

Finally, each submission should: (1) If applicable, identify provisions of the former GATT or WTO Codes which are not being observed by the country identified or describe how the country identified has maintained a significant and persistent pattern or practice of discrimination in government procurement of non-Code-covered goods or services; (2) identify the specific impact of the discriminatory policy or practice on U.S. businesses (including an estimate of the value of market opportunities lost and, if any, the cost of preparing bids which are rejected during the course of procurement evaluation for discriminatory reasons), and (3) describe the extent of which the products or services of the country identified are acquired in significant amounts by the U.S. Government.

Frederick L. Montgomery,
Chairman, Trade Policy Staff Committee.
[FR Doc. 96-2885 Filed 2-8-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3110-01-M

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

The National Partnership Council

Editorial Note: This document supersedes the notice published on Monday, February 5, 1996.

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

TIME AND DATE: 8:30 a.m., February 14, 1996.

PLACE: U.S. Office of Personnel Management Auditorium, Theodore Roosevelt Building, 1900 E Street, NW., Washington, DC 20415-0001.

STATUS: This meeting will be open to the public. Seating will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Individuals with special access needs wishing to attend should contact OPM at the number shown below to obtain appropriate accommodations.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: This meeting will consist of an awards ceremony. The winners of the NPC Partnership Award will be announced; and the winners will receive their awards. The NPC Partnership Award is given in recognition of outstanding labor-management partnership activities. These will be the first NPC Partnership Awards given out.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Douglas K. Walker, National Partnership Council, Executive Secretariat, Office of Personnel Management, Theodore Roosevelt Building, 1900 E Street, NW., Room 5315, Washington, DC 20415-0001. (202) 606-1000.

Office of Personnel Management.

James B. King,

Director.

[FR Doc. 96-2744 Filed 2-8-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-01-M

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Agency Forms Submitted for OMB Review

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Railroad Retirement Board has submitted the following proposal(s) for the collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for review and approval.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL(S):

(1) *Collection title:* RUIA Claims Notification System.

(2) *Form(s) submitted:* ID-4k.

(3) *OMB Number:* 3220-0171.

(4) *Expiration date of current OMB clearance:* March 31, 1996.

(5) *Type of request:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

(6) *Respondents:* Business or other for-profit.

(7) *Estimated annual number of respondents:* 500.

(8) *Total annual responses:* 386,000.

(9) *Total annual reporting hours:* 4,195.

(10) *Collection description:* Section 5(b) of the RUIA requires that effective January 1, 1990, when a claim for benefits is filed with the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB), the RRB shall provide notice of such claim to the claimant's base year employer(s) and afford such employer(s) an opportunity to submit information relevant to the claim.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS:

Copies of the form and supporting documents can be obtained from Chuck Mierzwa, the agency clearance officer (312-751-3363). Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Ronald J. Hodapp, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092 and the OMB reviewer, Laura Oliven (202-395-7316), Office of Management and Budget, Room 10230, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Chuck Mierzwa,

Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 96-2784 Filed 2-8-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7905-01-M

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Rel. No. IC-21729; No. 812-9790]

American Skandia Life Assurance Corporation, et al.

February 5, 1996.

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC or "Commission").

ACTION: Notice of Application for an Order under the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("1940 Act").

APPLICANTS: American Skandia Life Assurance Corporation ("American Skandia"), American Skandia Assurance Corporation Variable Account B ("Separate Account") and American Skandia Marketing, Inc. ("Marketing").

RELEVANT 1940 ACT SECTIONS: Order requested under Section 6(c) of the 1940 Act granting exemptions from the provisions of Sections 2(a)(32), 22(c), 26(a)(2)(C), 27(c)(1), 27(c)(2), and 27(d) of the 1940 Act and Rule 22c-1 thereunder.

SUMMARY OF APPLICATION: Applicants see an order to permit the deduction of a mortality and expense risk charge and the recapture of certain credits applied to purchase payments from the assets of the Separate Account or any other

separate account ("Other Accounts") established by American Skandia to support certain flexible premium individual tax deferred variable annuity contracts ("Contracts") as well as other variable annuity contracts that are substantially similar in all material respects to the Contracts ("Future Contracts"). In addition, Applicants propose that the order extend to any broker-dealer other than Marketing, that may in the future serve as principle underwriter for the Contracts or Future Contracts, the same exemptions granted to Marketing ("Future Broker-Dealers"). Any such broker-dealer will be a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD"), and will be controlling, controlled by, or under common control with American Skandia.

FILING DATE: The application was filed on September 25, 1995, and was amended on January 25, 1996.

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 SEC's Secretary and serving Applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the SEC by 5:30 p.m. on March 1, 1996, and should be accompanied by proof of service on Applicants in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Hearing requests should state the nature of the requestor'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 SEC.

ADDRESSES: Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 5th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Applicants, M. Patricia Paez, Corporate Secretary, c/o Jeffrey M. Ulness, Esq., American Skandia Life Assurance Corporation, One Corporate Drive, Shelton, Connecticut 06484.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pamela K. Ellis, Senior Counsel, or Patrice M. Pitts, Special Counsel, Office of Insurance Products (Division of Investment Management), at (202) 942-0670.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Following is a summary of the application; the complete application is available for a fee from the SEC's Public Reference Branch.

Applicants' Representations

1. American Skandia, a stock life insurance company, is organized in Connecticut and licensed to do business in the District of Columbia and all of the