

to Section 31 of the Act,<sup>1</sup> as authorized by CHX Article XV, Rule 4.

## II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the CHX included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The self-regulatory organization has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

### A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

#### 1. Purpose

Congress recently enacted the National Securities Markets Improvement Act of 1996 ("Improvement Act") and the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 1997 ("Appropriations Act"), which together require national securities associations to pay SEC transaction fees for transactions in certain OTC securities.

As a result of the Improvement Act and Appropriations Act, the SEC has amended Rule 31-1<sup>2</sup> to eliminate the current exemption from SEC transaction fees for transactions in OTC securities occurring on the CHX (as a national securities exchange) that are either listed on the CHX or are traded on the CHX pursuant to unlisted trading privileges ("OTC/UTP Securities"). Thus, effective January 1, 1997, the CHX is required to pay to the Commission a transaction fee for sales of OTC/UTP Securities transacted on the CHX.<sup>3</sup> Additionally, pursuant to the Improvement Act, effective October 1, 1997, these fees, as well as the traditional SEC transaction fees on exchange-registered securities that are not OTC/UTP Securities, will become payable to the SEC twice a year, as opposed to once a year as required by existing Section 31 of the Act.

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to codify the imposition of SEC transaction fees in the Exchange's fee schedule.

#### 2. Statutory Basis

The CHX believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act<sup>4</sup> in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among its members and issuers and persons using its facilities.

#### B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any inappropriate burden on competition.

#### C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants or Others

No written comments were solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

#### III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange and therefore has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act and subparagraph (e) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of such rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

#### IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing. Persons making written submission should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington D.C. 20549. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington D.C. Copies of such filing

also will be available for inspection and copying at the Exchange. All submissions should refer to file number SR-CHX-97-04 and should be submitted by April 4, 1997.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>5</sup>

Margaret H. McFarland,  
Deputy Secretary.

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## SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection Requests and Submissions for OMB Review

This notice lists information collection packages that will require submission to the Office of Management and Budget as well as information collection packages submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for clearance.

I. The Social Security Administration publishes a list of information collection packages that will require submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance in compliance with Public Law 104-13 effective October 1, 1995, The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The information collection(s) listed below requires extension of the current OMB approval(s):

1. 0960-0462—You Can Make Your Payments by Credit Cards. The information on Forms SSA-4588 & SSA-4589 will be used to update the individual's social security record to reflect that a payment has been made on their overpayment and to effectuate payment through the appropriate credit card company.

*Number of Respondents:* 12,000.

*Frequency of Response:* 1.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 5 minutes.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 1,000 hours.

2. 0960-0323—Third Party Liability Information Statement. Form SSA-8019 is used by the Social Security Administration to gather information or to make changes in existing information about third party insurance (other than Medicare or Medicaid), which could be responsible for payment for a beneficiary's medical care.

*Number of Respondents:* 65,400.

*Frequency of Response:* 1.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 5 minutes.

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78ee.

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.31-1.

<sup>3</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 38073 (December 23, 1996), 61 FR 68590 (December 30, 1996).

<sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

<sup>5</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 5,450 hours.

3. 0960-0068—Representative Payee Report. Sections 205(j) and 1631(a)(2) of the Social Security Act provide for the payment of supplemental social security benefits to a relative, another person or an organization when the best interests of the beneficiary will be served. Form SSA-6230 (20 CFR 404.2065) is sent to parents, stepparents and grandparents with custody of minor children receiving social security benefits. Form SSA-623 (20 CFR 404.2065 and 416.665) is sent to all other payees with or without custody of the beneficiary. Both forms are used to determine the continuing suitability of the individual/organization to serve as representative payee.

*Number of Respondents:* 5,315,160.

*Frequency of Response:* 1.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 15 minutes.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 1,328,790 hours.

4. Telephone Replacement Card Pilot Test—0960-NEW. The Social Security Administration will conduct a pilot study on obtaining information by telephone from individuals who need a duplicate Social Security Number (SSN) card. The information will be used to properly identify an individual prior to releasing a replacement SSN card, thus eliminating the need for the respondent to take or mail his/her identify documents to a Social Security office. The information provided, which should be known by the true Social Security number holder, will be compared to information available in our current electronic systems. The respondents are individuals in the pilot study who request a duplicate SSN replacement card by telephone.

*Number of Respondents:* 500,000.

*Frequency of Response:* 1.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 2 minutes.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 16,667 hours.

To receive a copy of the form(s) or clearance package(s), call the SSA Reports Clearance Officer on (410) 965-4123 or write to her at the address listed below the information collection(s). Written comments and recommendations regarding the information collection(s) should be sent within 60 days from the date of this publication, directly to the SSA Reports Clearance Officer at the following address: Social Security Administration, DCFAM, Attn: Judith T. Hasche, 6401 Security Blvd., 1-A-21 Operations Bldg., Baltimore, MD 21235.

In addition to your comments on the accuracy of the agency's burden

estimate, we are soliciting comments on the need for the information; its practical utility; ways to enhance its quality, utility and clarity; and on ways to minimize burden on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

II. The Social Security Administration publishes a list of information collection packages submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance in compliance with Public Law 104-13 effective October 1, 1995, The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The information collections listed below have been submitted to OMB:

1. Claimant's Medications—0960-0289. The information on form HA-4632 is used by the Social Security Administration to compile a current list of medications used by a claimant. The list is provided to an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ), who is considering the disability aspects of the claim. The affected public consists of claimants for disability benefits, who have requested a hearing before an ALJ.

*Number of Respondents:* 227,107.

*Frequency of Response:* 1.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 15 minutes.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 56,777 hours.

2. Request for SSI Benefit Estimate—0960-0492. The Social Security Administration collects the information on Form SSA-3716 for the sole purpose of complying with an SSI recipient's request for an estimate of the impact of his/her work on the receipt of SSI benefits.

*Number of Respondents:* 50,000.

*Frequency of Response:* 1.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 5 minutes.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 4,167 hours.

3. Statement of Employer—0960-0030. The information collected on Form SSA-7011 is used by the Social Security Administration to substantiate allegations of wages paid to workers when those wages do not appear in SSA's records of earnings, and the worker does not have proof of payment. This information is used to process claims for social security benefits and to resolve discrepancies in earnings records. The respondents are certain employers who can verify allegations of wages made by the wage earner.

*Number of Respondents:* 925,000.

*Frequency of Response:* 1.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 20 minutes.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 308,333 hours.

4. Supplemental Security Income Notice of Interim Assistance

Reimbursement (two forms). Forms SSA-8125 0960-0546 and SSA-L8125 0960-0563 collect interim assistance reimbursement (IAR) information from States which provide such assistance. Form SSA-8125 is used in most situations where IAR is applicable. Form SSA-L8125 is used in situations where an individual entitled to underpayments has received IAR from a State and his/her benefit will be controlled by SSA through the installment process. The respondents are states which provide IAR to SSI claimants.

	SSA-8125	SSA-L8125
Number of Respondents.	80,000 .....	60,000.
Frequency of Response.	1 .....	1.
Average Burden Per Response.	10 minutes ...	10 minutes.
Estimated Annual Burden.	13,333 hours	10,000 hours.

5. Work Reintegration Study—0960-0543. The purpose of the Work Reintegration Study is to identify those incentives and interventions that are most successful in assisting persons who are disabled due to a back condition to return to work. The information collected will be used primarily to complete a cross-national analysis of this issue. Data also will be gathered on subjects of particular importance in the U.S. The findings will provide policymakers with information that will be highly useful in establishing disability policy. The respondents are persons entitled to Social Security Disability Insurance, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or State Temporary Disability Insurance.

*Number of Respondents:* 800.

*Frequency of Response:* 1.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 1 hour.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 800 hours.

6. Personal Earnings and Benefit Estimate Statement (PEBES)—Identity Verification Survey—0960-NEW. The Social Security Administration (SSA) is conducting a survey to verify the identity and address of individuals who request their PEBES by means of the Form SSA-7004-SM. Request for Earnings and Benefit Statement and through the Internet. The information is needed to determine the number of invalid requests for PEBES using the SSA-7004-SM compared to the number of invalid PEBES requests using the Internet. The information will be used in the evaluation of whether to adopt the Internet as an appropriate vehicle to

obtain PEBES requests. The respondents are a sample of PEBES requestors whose identity and address could not be verified through other means.

*Number of Respondents:* 300.

*Frequency of Response:* 1.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 5 minutes.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 25 hours.

To receive a copy of the form or clearance packages, call the SSA Reports Clearance Officer on (410) 965-4123 or write to her at the address listed below. Written comments and recommendations regarding the information collection(s) should be directed within 30 days to the OMB Desk Officer and SSA Reports Clearance Officer at the following addresses:

(OMB)—Office of Management and Budget, OIRA, Attn: Laura Oliven, New Executive Office Building, Room 10230, 725 17th St., NW., Washington, D.C. 20503

(SSA)—Social Security Administration, DCFAM, Attn: Judith T. Hasche, 1-A-21 Operations Bldg., 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21235.

Dated: March 6, 1997.

Judith T. Hasche,  
*Reports Clearance Officer, Social Security Administration.*

[FR Doc. 97-6240 Filed 3-13-97; 8:45 am]

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### Testing Modifications to the Disability Determination Procedures; Single Decisionmaker Model Test Site Continuation

**AGENCY:** Social Security Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice of the continuation of a test site and the duration of the test involving a single decisionmaker.

**SUMMARY:** The Social Security Administration is announcing the continuation of a test that it has been conducting under the final rules published in the Federal Register on April 24, 1995 (60 FR 20023), as well as the location and duration of that test. Those final rules authorize the testing of several modifications to the disability determination procedures that we normally follow in adjudicating claims for disability insurance benefits under title II of the Social Security Act (the Act) and claims for supplemental security income (SSI) payments based on disability under title XVI of the Act. This notice announces the continuation of the test involving the use of a single decisionmaker who may make the disability determination without requiring the signature of a medical consultant. This notice also announces

the designated test site and the duration of the test.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Harry Pippin, Models Team Leader, Office of Disability, Disability Process Redesign Staff, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21235, 410-965-9203.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On April 24, 1995, we published final rules in the Federal Register authorizing us to test different modifications to the disability determination procedures. The tests are designed to provide us with information so that we can determine the effectiveness of the concepts in the models in improving the disability process.

Under this test, a single decisionmaker may make disability determinations without generally requiring a medical consultant to sign the disability determination forms that we use to certify the determination. On May 3, 1996, we announced in the Federal Register our intent to begin tests, on or about May 1, 1996, of the procedures to be conducted by a single decisionmaker (61 FR 19969). We also explained that we would select cases for the evaluation for approximately six months and might continue to process cases for another six months. In that announcement, we identified nine test sites in seven states. We are now planning additional testing of the single decisionmaker model; and at this time, we are announcing a continuation of testing at one site. We plan to continue testing the single decisionmaker model on or about February 24, 1997. We will continue the test for approximately fourteen months. We will publish another notice in the Federal Register if we extend the duration of the test. Continued testing of the single decisionmaker model will be conducted at the following location:

- North Carolina Division of Social Services, Disability Determination Services, 321 Chapanoke Road, Raleigh, NC 27603.

Not all cases received in the test site listed above will be handled under the test procedures. However, if a claim is selected to be handled by a single decisionmaker as part of the test, the claim will be processed under the procedures established under the final rules cited above.

Carolyn W. Colvin,  
*Deputy Commissioner for Programs and Policy.*

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### OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

[Docket No. 301-111]

#### Initiation of Section 302 Investigation and Request for Public Comment: Certain Subsidies Affecting Access to the European Communities' Market for Modified Starch

**AGENCY:** Office of the United Trade Representative.

**ACTION:** Notice of initiation of investigation; request for written comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Acting United States Trade Representative (Acting USTR) has initiated an investigation under section 302(a) of the Trade Act of 1974 (the Trade Act) with respect to certain acts, policies and practices of the European Communities (EC), more specifically, the provision of subsidies that affect access to the EC modified starch market. The Acting USTR invites written comments from the public on the matters being investigated and the determinations to be made under section 304 of the Trade Act.

**DATES:** This investigation was initiated on March 8, 1997. Written comments from the public are due on or before noon on Monday, April 14, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW., Washington, D.C. 20508.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ronald K. Lorentzen, Office of WTO and Multilateral Affairs, (202) 395-3063; Audrey Winter, Office of the General Counsel, (202) 395-7305; or Marilyn Moore, Office of Agricultural Affairs, (202) 395-6127.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On January 22, 1997, the U.S. Wheat Gluten Industry Council filed a petition pursuant to section 302(a) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2412(a)) alleging that certain subsidy schemes of the EC constitute acts, policies and practices that violate, or are inconsistent with and otherwise deny benefits to the United States under, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 (GATT) and the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (SCM Agreement). In particular, the petition alleges that four EC subsidy programs ((1) the wheat export tax; (2) the starch production refund program; (3) the starch export restitution program; and (4) various quotas and other production limits on other starches) violate EC obligations, cause serious prejudice to U.S. interests and nullify or impair U.S. benefits under the World Trade Organization (WTO) agreements insofar