Paperwork Reduction Act

This proposed rule contains no new information collection or recordkeeping requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq*.).

List of Subjects in 9 CFR Part 92

Animal disease, Imports, Livestock, Poultry and poultry products, Quarantine, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Accordingly, 9 CFR part 92 would be amended as follows:

PART 92—IMPORTATION OF CERTAIN ANIMALS, BIRDS, AND POULTRY, AND CERTAIN ANIMAL, BIRD, AND POULTRY PRODUCTS; REQUIREMENTS FOR MEANS OF CONVEYANCE AND SHIPPING CONTAINERS

1. The authority citation for part 92 would continue to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1622; 19 U.S.C. 1306; 21 U.S.C. 102–105, 111, 114a, 134a, 134b, 134c, 134d, 134f, 135, 136, and 136a; 31 U.S.C. 9701; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.2(d).

§ 92.308 [Amended]

2. In § 92.308, paragraph (a)(1) would be amended by removing the reference to ''§ 92.317'' and adding in its place the reference to ''§§ 92.317 and 92.324''.

§ 92.324 [Amended]

3. Section 92.324 would be amended by removing the words '', for not less than 7 days and'' and by removing the words ''approved by the Administrator and constructed so as to prevent the entry of mosquitoes and other hematophagous insects''.

§ 92.326 [Amended]

4. In § 92.326, the first sentence would be amended by removing the words ''92.323, and 92.324'' and adding in their place the words ''and 92.323''.

Done in Washington, DC, this 4th day of August 1997.

Terry L. Medley,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 97–20994 Filed 8–7–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

10 CFR Part 35

Medical Use of Byproduct Material; Working Group for Revision

AGENCY: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Establishment of working group and notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: A working group consisting of representatives from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Organization of Agreement States (OAS), and the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD) has been established in response to Commission approval of the staff's proposed plan for revising 10 CFR part 35, associated guidance documents, and the Commission's 1979 ''Medical Policy Statement,'' if necessary. With this approval, the NRC staff has begun developing draft rule language and alternatives, using an entirely modality-based approach, to help focus the public input and the discussions during facilitated public meetings. During this process, the staff is examining the applicability of risk-informed, performance-based regulations and less prescriptive approaches to regulation of nuclear material used for medical purposes. The working group will meet at NRC Headquarters in Rockville, Maryland, on August 19 and August 20, 1997, to review the early draft staff documents and to discuss the major regulatory issues associated with the medical use of byproduct material.

DATES: The Working Group will meet on August 19 and 20, 1997, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, One White Flint North, Auditorium, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD, 20852–2738.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cathy Haney, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, MS T8F5, Washington, DC 20555, telephone (301) 415–6825, e-mail cxh@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NRC has examined the issues surrounding its medical use program in great detail during the last four years. This process started with NRC's 1993 internal senior management review report; continued with the 1996 independent external review report by the National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Medicine; and culminated in NRC's Strategic Assessment and Rebaselining Project (SA). In particular, medical oversight was addressed in the SA Direction-Setting Issue Paper Number 7 (DSI 7) (released September 16, 1996). In its ''Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM)—COMSECY–96–057, Materials/Medical Oversight (DSI 7),'' dated March 20, 1997, the Commission directed staff to revise Part 35, associated guidance documents, and, if necessary, the Commission's 1979 ''Medical Policy Statement.'' The Commission SRM specifically directed the restructuring of Part 35 into a risk-informed, more performance-based regulation.

A June 30, 1997, SRM informed the staff of the Commission's approval, with comments, of the staff's proposed program in SECY–97–131, Supplemental Information on SECY–97–115, ''Program for Revision of 10 CFR Part 35, 'Medical Uses of Byproduct Material,' and Associated **Federal Register** Notice,'' dated June 20, 1997. After this approval, the NRC staff initiated development of draft rule language, using an entirely modality-based approach. The modality approach places all requirements for a given type of treatment into a single section of the regulation, including: (a) Who or what organization is licensed; (b) what type of license is issued; (c) the necessary technical requirements, such as surveys and calibration; (d) the training and experience requirements; (e) the event recording and reporting requirements; and (f) the quality improvement and management objectives.

Per NRC Management Directive 6.3, ''The Rulemaking Process,'' the rulemaking will be conducted using a group approach. A governmental working group consisting of representatives of NRC, OAS, and CRCPD has been established to develop rule text alternatives, including draft guidance documents. State participation in the process will enhance development of corresponding rules in State regulations, and provide an opportunity for early State input and will allow the State staff to assess potential impacts of NRC draft language on the regulation of non-Atomic Energy Act materials used in medical diagnosis, treatment, or research, in the States.

At the initial meeting of the working group, on August 19–20, 1997, the group will review the initial draft input developed by the NRC staff, focusing its discussion on the major regulatory issues associated with the medical use of byproduct material.

Committee Organization and Operations

Cathy Haney, NRC, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, will serve as chairman. Other members are from the NRC's Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards; Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research; Office of the General Counsel, and Office of State Programs; and from OAS and CRCPD.

Committee Meetings

The working group will meet, as needed, in the Washington, DC, area, or at other locations agreed upon by the working group members. Meetings will be announced in advance, through the NRC Public Meeting Notice System and, with some exceptions, will be open for public observation. Persons attending working group meetings will be welcome to provide input to the working group for its consideration, either in written form or orally, at times specified by the working group chair.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 4th day of August 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Donald A. Cool,

Director, Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 97–20974 Filed 8–7–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

12 CFR Part 204

[Regulation D; Docket No. R–0980]

Reserve Requirements of Depository Institutions

AGENCY: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Board is proposing to amend its Regulation D, Reserve Requirements of Depository Institutions, to allow U.S. branches and agencies of foreign banks and Edge and Agreement corporations to choose whether to aggregate reserves on a nationwide basis in a single account at one Reserve Bank or to continue to have separate accounts on a same-state/same-District basis as they do today. The amendments would also update and clarify the pass-through account rules in Regulation D for all institutions. These amendments would facilitate interstate banking and eliminate certain restrictions applicable to pass-through accounts.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before September 12, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments, which should refer to Docket No. R–0980, may be mailed to Mr. William W. Wiles, Secretary, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 20th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20551. Comments addressed to Mr. Wiles also may be delivered to the Board's mail room between 8:45 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. and to the security control room outside of those hours. Both the mail room and the security control room are accessible from the courtyard entrance on 20th Street between Constitution Avenue and C Street, N.W. Comments may be inspected in Room MP–500 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Oliver Ireland, Associate General Counsel, (202/452–3625) or Stephanie Martin, Senior Attorney (202/452–3198), Legal Division. For the hearing impaired *only*, contact Diane Jenkins, Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) (202/452–3544), Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 20th and C Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20551.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: To facilitate interstate banking, the Federal Reserve Banks will begin to implement a new account structure on January 2, 1998, that will provide a single Federal Reserve account for each domestic depository institution. This structure will enable the Federal Reserve Banks to establish a single debtor-creditor relationship with each chartered entity, thereby providing an effective means for Reserve Banks to carry out their risk management responsibilities, and will improve the efficiency of account management for depository institutions. To determine the Federal Reserve Bank where a bank with interstate branches will hold an account, the Board adopted amendments to its Regulation D (12 CFR part 204, Reserve Requirements of Depository Institutions) and Regulation I (12 CFR part 209, Issue and Cancellation of Capital Stock of Federal Reserve Banks) (62 FR 34613, June 27, 1997). These amendments define a domestic depository institution's location for purposes of Federal Reserve membership and reserve account maintenance.

U.S. branches and agencies of the same foreign bank and Edge and Agreement corporations [1] of the same parent bank were not included in the new single-account structure or in the final amendments to Regulations D and I, pending further consideration of legal and operational issues. The Board is now proposing amendments to Regulation D under which the Federal Reserve Banks will offer a single account to these institutions on an optional basis. Under this proposal, foreign banks and Edge corporations could choose either to designate one office to hold a single account at one Reserve Bank or to continue to have separate accounts on a same-state/same-District basis as they do today. The Board is also proposing changes to the pass-through account rules in Regulation D to accommodate the single-account option and to make other changes applicable to all institutions that will simplify and clarify the pass-through rules.

The Board believes making a single account optional rather than required for families of foreign bank branches is reasonable in light of certain operational, legal, and supervisory differences between U.S. branches and agencies of foreign banks and domestic banks.[2] For example, certain foreign banks have historically managed their U.S. offices as independent entities that do not necessarily coordinate lending and investment decisions from a central office. Further, each office of a foreign bank family must have a separate license, either state or federal. The majority of U.S. offices of foreign banks are state-licensed and not federally insured and are thus would be liquidated separately based on the law of each licensing state. In addition, U.S. bank supervisory authorities treat U.S. branches of foreign banks as independent units for other purposes, such as asset maintenance requirements. As a result of these differences, U.S. branches of foreign banks may be placed at a disadvantage if they were required, in the short term, to adopt a single account structure.

To ensure stability in account relationships and to move the foreign banks and Edge corporations toward the preferred long-run account structure, the optional single account, where possible, would be a one-way election. That is, once an entity selects a single account it would not be permitted to switch back to multiple accounts without the Board's approval. The single account would be available to U.S. branches of foreign banks and Edge corporations effective January 2, 1998.

[1] Edge corporations are organized under section 25A of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 611–631), and Agreement corporations have an agreement or undertaking with the Board under section 25 of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 601–604a). For purposes of this docket, the term ''Edge corporation'' includes Agreement corporations. Similarly the term ''branch'' of a foreign bank includes both branches and agencies.

[2] The distinguishing characteristics of U.S. branches of foreign banks do not necessarily apply to Edge corporations. As a result, the legal, supervisory, and risk management treatment of multiple offices of the same Edge corporation differs from that of multiple U.S. offices of foreign banks. Unless otherwise noted, the following points apply mainly to U.S. branches of foreign banks. Because of the historical parallel regulatory treatment of these entities, however, the account structure for U.S. branches of foreign banks applies to Edge corporations as well.