

**Week of May 30, 2005—Tentative***Wednesday, June 1, 2005*

9:30 a.m.

Discussion of Security Issues  
(Closed—Ex. 1).

*Thursday, June 2, 2005*

9:30 a.m.

Briefing on Office of International Programs (OIP) Programs, Performance, and Plans (Public Meeting). (Contact: Margie Doane, (301) 415-2344).

This meeting will be Web cast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov>.

1:30 p.m.

Discussion of Management Issues  
(Closed—Ex. 2&9).

\*The schedule for Commission meetings if subject to change on short notice. To verify the status of meetings call (recording)—(301) 415-1292. Contact person for more information: Dave Gamberoni, (301) 415-1651.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** “Discussion of Security Issues (Closed—Ex. 1),” originally scheduled for Thursday, April 21, 2005 at 1:30 p.m. was not held.

The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the Internet at: <http://www.nrc.gov/what-we-do/policy-making/schedule.html>.

The NRC provides reasonable accommodation to individuals with disabilities where appropriate. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in these public meetings, or need this meeting notice or the transcript or other information from the public meetings in another format (e.g. braille, large print), please notify the NRC's Disability Program Coordinator, August Spector, at (301) 415-7080, TDD: (301) 415-2100, or by e-mail at [aks@nrc.gov](mailto:aks@nrc.gov). Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

This notice is distributed by mail to several hundred subscribers; if you no longer wish to receive it, or would like to be added to the distribution, please contact the Office of the Secretary, Washington, DC 20555 (301) 415-1969). In addition, distribution of this meeting notice over the Internet system is available. If you are interested in receiving this Commission meeting schedule electronically, please send an electronic message to [dkw@nrc.gov](mailto:dkw@nrc.gov).

Dated: April 21, 2005.

**Dave Gamberoni,**

*Office of the Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 05-8493 Filed 4-25-05; 9:23 am]

**BILLING CODE 7590-01-M**

**POSTAL SERVICE****Customized Postage**

**AGENCY:** Postal Service.

**ACTION:** Notice of authorization of market test for Customized Postage.

**SUMMARY:** The Postal Service(™) provides notice of its intention to resume testing of the concept of Customized Postage for a period of one year commencing 20 calendar days from the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. PC Postage(®) is a method of providing evidence of prepayment of United States postage using a personal computer and printer and Internet access to an authorized PC Postage provider infrastructure approved by the Postal Service under 39 CFR part 501. Like postage meters, PC Postage services facilitate customer access to postage payment and use of the mail. PC Postage and postage meter products that print digitally generated barcode indicia contain human readable and machine readable elements that facilitate mail processing and counterfeit detection due to identification enabling characteristics. The typical indicia design consists of two elements: a postage block and a distinctly separate block typically called an “ad plate.” The historical use of ad plates consists of printed advertising messages authorized, enabled, and controlled by a Postal Service approved postage meter or PC Postage provider. Customized Postage differs from conventional PC Postage in two respects: First, it utilizes the “ad plate” area to print a digital, graphic image. The image may be one selected from a “library” of images provided by the authorized PC Postage provider or a customer supplied image that meets acceptance criteria established by the PC Postage provider; and, second, instead of the customer printing the selected image on a personal computer the images are printed by the Customized Postage provider under controlled conditions and the finished product is mailed to the customer. With respect to postage meter ad plates the Postal Service will require evaluation and approval of any process established by an authorized provider which results in the printing of a graphic “ad plate.”

**DATES:** This notice is effective April 27, 2005.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Manager of Postage Technology Management, at 703-292-3691 or by fax at 703-292-4073.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In July 2004, the Postal Service authorized a limited market test of the first exemplar

of Customized Postage. The test was concluded on September 30, 2004.

The Postal Service is interested in obtaining additional knowledge regarding the market for Customized Postage, and, therefore, is authorizing an additional market test of Customized Postage concepts. By this notice, the Postal Service invites interested parties to submit proposed concepts for consideration.

While each concept will be evaluated on its own merits, particular conditions may be required and agreed to by the Postal Service and the Customized Postage provider regarding the testing of that concept. The following conditions will be applied in common to all concepts:

1. The provider must be an authorized PC Postage provider, authorized postage meter manufacturer or distributor, or a company affiliated with an authorized postage provider under conditions respecting postage revenue security approved by the Postal Service in accordance with 39 CFR part 501.1 and subject to all procedures and regulations set forth throughout 39 CFR Chapter 501.

2. The Customized Postage indicia and other printed matter must meet all Postal Service requirements respecting placement on a mail piece, readability, avoidance of interference with and facilitation of mail processing, and identification of fraudulent indicia, as well as all Postal Service regulations pertaining to PC Postage products and services.

3. The provider must maintain an image control process which prevents the distribution of images that could harm the public image of the Postal Service in accordance with 39 CFR 501.6(g) and 501.23(d) and any subsequent incorporation of requirements specific to the evolving concept of Customized Postage.

4. Images which consist of notices or advertisements may not be included in Customized Postage produced during the test.

5. The test will be limited to full rate First-Class Mail®, Priority Mail® and Express Mail® services only.

6. The provider must agree that it has obtained all intellectual property licenses necessary to provide the approved service and that it will reimburse the Postal Service for any costs and damages the Postal Service may incur as a result of the provider's failure to honor this representation.

7. The provider must agree that the Postal Service has not exercised 28 U.S.C. 1498 with respect to the approved Customized Postage product.

8. The provider must design its Customized Postage indicia in a manner approved by the Postal Service, which reduces the likelihood that the public will be misled into believing that the product image originated with the Postal Service.

9. The Postal Service may suspend or cancel without prior notice and without liability for any costs incurred or losses sustained by a provider or customer, the approval of any customer as a test participant, or the Customized Postage test itself, in the event there is sufficient cause to believe that the test presents unacceptable risk to Postal Service revenues, degradation of the ability of the Postal Service to process or deliver mail produced by the test participants, an assessment that continuation of the test may expose the Postal Service or its customers to legal liability, or an assessment that continuation of the test will cause public or political embarrassment or harm to the Postal Service in any way.

10. The Postal Service will require approved providers of Customized Postage to pay a fee to defray the costs of the Postal Service in testing and evaluating Customized Postage.

11. Additional conditions and requirements may be set forth in individual product test approval letters.

Persons interested in submitting proposed Customized PC Postage concepts should contact: Manager, Postage Technology Management, U.S. Postal Service, 1735 North Lynn Street, Room 5011, Arlington, VA 22209-6030; (703) 292-3590 (Telephone); (703) 292-4073 (Fax); [ptm@USPS.gov](mailto:ptm@USPS.gov).

**Neva Watson,**

*Attorney, Legislative.*

[FR Doc. 05-8487 Filed 4-26-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710-12-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. IC-26836; File No. 812-13054]

### New England Life Insurance Co., et al., Notice of Application

April 21, 2005.

**AGENCY:** Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission").

**ACTION:** Notice of application for an order pursuant to Sections 11(a) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act").

*Applicants:* New England Life Insurance Company ("NELICO"), New England Variable Life Separate Account (the "Variable Account"), and New England Securities Corporation ("NES")

*Summary of the Application:* Applicants request an order pursuant to

Section 11(a) of the Act approving the terms of the following proposed offer of exchange of variable life insurance contracts offered by NELICO and made available through the Variable Account: outstanding scheduled premium variable life insurance contracts ("Zenith Life Contract," "Zenith Life Plus Contract," "Zenith Life Executive 65 Contract," and "Zenith Variable Whole Life Contract" and, collectively, the "Scheduled Premium Contracts") for the Zenith Flexible Life 2001 contract (the "Zenith 2001 Contract").

*Filing Date:* The application was filed on December 22, 2003 and amended and restated on April 21, 2005.

*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 Secretary of the Commission and serving the Applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. on May 12, 2005, and should be accompanied by proof of service on the Applicants, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Hearing requests should state the nature of the writer'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 Commission.

**ADDRESSES:** Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609. Applicants, c/o Marie C. Swift, Esq., New England Life Insurance Company, 501 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116. Copies to: Stephen E. Roth, Esq. and Mary E. Thornton, Esq., Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP, 1275 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20004-2415.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Harry Eisenstein, Senior Counsel, or Zandra Y. Bailes, Branch Chief, Office of Insurance Products, Division of Investment Management, at (202) 551-6795.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Following is a summary of the application. The application is available for a fee from the Commission's Public Reference Branch, 450 5th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0102 (telephone (202) 551-8090).

#### Applicants' Representations

1. NELICO is a stock life insurance company organized under the laws of Delaware in 1980 as New England Variable Life Insurance Company. New England Variable Life Insurance

Company was a wholly owned subsidiary of New England Mutual Life Insurance Company. On August 30, 1996, New England Mutual Life Insurance Company merged into Metropolitan Life Insurance Company ("MetLife"), a life insurance company with principal offices in New York. MetLife is a wholly owned subsidiary of MetLife, Inc., a publicly traded company. Thereafter, MetLife became the parent of New England Variable Life Insurance Company, and the latter changed its name to New England Life Insurance Company and changed its domicile from the State of Delaware to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. NELICO is authorized to operate in all states and the District of Columbia.

2. NELICO established the Variable Account on January 31, 1983, under Delaware law. When NELICO changed its domicile to Massachusetts on August 30, 1996, the Variable Account became subject to Massachusetts law. The Variable Account is registered under the Act as a unit investment trust, and is a "separate account" as that term is defined in Section 2(a)(37) of the Act. NELICO is the legal owner of the assets in the Variable Account. The obligations to contract owners and beneficiaries arising under the contracts are general corporate obligations of NELICO, and the general assets of NELICO support the contracts. The assets of the Variable Account equal to its reserves and other contract liabilities are not available to meet the claims of NELICO's general creditors, but are held and applied exclusively to the benefit of holders of those variable life insurance contracts funded through the Variable Account. The investment performance of the Variable Account is independent of both the investment performance of the general account of NELICO and of any other separate account that NELICO has established or may establish in the future.

3. NES is registered with the Commission as a broker-dealer, and is a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. NES serves as principal underwriter for the Scheduled Premium Contracts and the Zenith 2001 Contracts. NES is an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of NELICO.

#### General Description of Zenith Life 2001 Contracts

4. The Zenith 2001 Contracts are flexible premium variable life insurance contracts offered pursuant to a registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933 ("1933 Act") (File No. 333-103193). The Zenith 2001 Contracts are available for sale to