

confidential financial information within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(4) (Freedom of Information Act). See 29 CFR 4204.21.

Under § 4204.22 of the regulation, PBGC shall approve a request for a variance or exemption if it determines that approval of the request is warranted, in that it:

(1) Would more effectively or equitably carry out the purposes of Title IV of the Act; and

(2) Would not significantly increase the risk of financial loss to the plan.

Section 4204(c) of ERISA and § 4204.22(b) of the regulation requires PBGC to publish a notice of the pendency of a request for a variance or exemption in the **Federal Register**, and to provide interested parties with an opportunity to comment on the proposed variance or exemption.

### The Request

PBGC has received a request, dated September 9, 2010, from Rangers Baseball Express, LLC (the "Purchaser") for an exemption from the bond/escrow requirement of section 4204(a)(1)(B) with respect to its purchase of Texas Rangers Baseball Partners (the "Seller"). In the request, the Purchaser represents, among other things, that:

1. The Seller was obligated to contribute to the Major League Baseball Players Pension Plan (the "Plan") for certain employees of the purchased operations.

2. The Purchaser has agreed to assume the obligation to contribute to the Plan for substantially the same number of contribution base units as the Seller.

3. The Seller has agreed to be secondarily liable for any withdrawal liability it would have had with respect to the purchased operations (if not for section 4204) should the Purchaser withdraw from the Plan and fail to pay its withdrawal liability.

4. The estimated amount of the withdrawal liability of the Seller with respect to the operations subject to the sale is \$34,030,359.

5. The amount of the bond/escrow established under section 4204(a)(1)(B) is \$4,068,868, which is to be posted if PBGC has not acted on the request by the end of the plan year of the request.

6. The Major League Baseball Clubs (the "Clubs") have established the Major League Central Fund (the "Central Fund") pursuant to the Major League Baseball Constitution. Under this Constitution, the Office of the Commissioner of Baseball pays contributions to the Plan from the Central Fund on behalf of each participating employer in satisfaction of the employer's pension liability under

the Plan's funding agreement. The monies in the Central Fund are derived directly from (i) gate receipts from All-Star games; (ii) radio and television revenue from World Series, League Championship Series, Division Series, All-Star Games, and (iii) certain other radio and television revenue, including revenues from foreign broadcasts, regular, spring training, and exhibition games ("Revenues").

7. In support of the exemption request, the Purchaser asserts that "[t]he Plan is funded from the Revenues which are paid from the Central Fund directly to the Plan without passing through the hands of any of the Clubs. Therefore, the Plan enjoys a substantial degree of security with respect to contributions on behalf of the Clubs. A change in ownership of a particular Club does not affect the obligation of the Central Fund to fund the Plan out of the Revenues. As such, approval of this exemption request would not significantly increase the risk of financial loss to the Plan."

8. A complete copy of the request was sent to the Plan and to the Major League Baseball Players Association by certified mail, return receipt requested.

Issued at Washington, DC on December 17, 2010.

**Joshua Gotbaum,**  
*Director.*

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**BILLING CODE 7708-01-P**

## OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

### National Council on Federal Labor-Management Relations Meeting

**AGENCY:** Office of Personnel Management.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The National Council on Federal Labor-Management Relations plans to meet on the following dates—

Wednesday, January 19, 2011.

Wednesday, February 16, 2011.

The meetings will start at 10 a.m. and will be held in the AIA Gallery Room at the American Institute of Architects, 1735 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20006. Interested parties should consult the Council Web site at <http://www.lmrcouncil.gov> for the latest information on Council activities, including changes in meeting dates.

The Council is an advisory body composed of representatives of Federal employee organizations, Federal management organizations, and senior government officials. The Council was established by Executive Order 13522, entitled, "Creating Labor-Management

Forums to Improve Delivery of Government Services," which was signed by the President on December 9, 2009. Along with its other responsibilities, the Council assists in the implementation of Labor Management Forums throughout the government and makes recommendations to the President on innovative ways to improve delivery of services and products to the public while cutting costs and advancing employee interests. The Council is co-chaired by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management and the Deputy Director for Management of the Office of Management and Budget.

At its meetings, the Council will continue its work in promoting cooperative and productive relationships between labor and management in the executive branch, by carrying out the responsibilities and functions listed in Section 1(b) of the Executive Order. The meetings are open to the public. Please contact the Office of Personnel Management at the address shown below if you wish to present material to the Council at the meeting. The manner and time prescribed for presentations may be limited, depending upon the number of parties that express interest in presenting information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tim Curry, Deputy Associate Director for Partnership and Labor Relations, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street, NW., Room 7H28-E, Washington, DC 20415. Phone (202) 606-2930; FAX (202) 606-2613; or e-mail at [PLR@opm.gov](mailto:PLR@opm.gov).

For the National Council.

**John Berry,**  
*Director.*

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## OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

### Aeronautics Science and Technology Subcommittee; Committee on Technology; National Science and Technology Council

**ACTION:** Notice of Meeting—Public input is requested on the National Aeronautics Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E) Infrastructure Plan.

**SUMMARY:** The Aeronautics Science and Technology Subcommittee (ASTS) of the National Science and Technology Council's (NSTC) Committee on Technology will hold a public meeting

to review and discuss the National Aeronautics RDT&E Infrastructure Plan. Executive Order (E.O.) 13419—National Aeronautics Research and Development—signed December 20, 2006, calls for the development of this plan. The plan is guided by both the National Aeronautics Research and Development (R&D) Policy and the National Aeronautics Research and Development Plan that were developed by the NSTC in consonance with E.O. 13419.

**Dates and Addresses:** The meeting will be held in conjunction with the 49th AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting at the Orlando World Center Marriott, 8701 World Center Drive, Orlando, Florida 32821 on Friday, January 7, 2011, from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Crystal Ballroom A. Information regarding the 49th AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting is available at the: <http://www.aiaa.org> Web site. Note: Persons solely attending this ASTS public meeting do not need to register for the AIAA Conference and Exhibit to attend this public meeting. There will be no admission charge for persons solely attending the public meeting. Seating is limited and will be on a first come, first served basis.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Additional information and links to E.O. 13419, the National Aeronautics R&D Policy, the National Aeronautics R&D Plan are available by visiting the Office of Science and Technology Policy's NSTC Web site at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ostp/nstc/aero> or by calling 202-456-6012.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** E.O. 13419 and the National Aeronautics R&D Policy call for executive departments and agencies conducting aeronautics R&D to engage industry, academia and other non-Federal stakeholders in support of government planning and performance of aeronautics R&D. At this meeting, ASTS members will review the content of the National Aeronautics RDT&E Infrastructure Plan and receive input to help inform the future development of national aeronautics R&D planning documents.

**Ted Wackler,**

*Deputy Chief of Staff, OSTP.*

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Investor Education and Advocacy, Washington, DC 20549-0213.

**Extension:** Rule 27d-1 and Form N-27D-1; SEC File No. 270-499; OMB Control No. 3235-0560.

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") is soliciting comments on the collections of information under the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> summarized below. The Commission plans to submit these existing collections of information to the Office of Management and Budget for extension and approval.

Rule 27d-1 (17 CFR 270.27d-1) is entitled "Reserve Requirements for Principal Underwriters and Depositors to Carry Out the Obligations to Refund Charges Required by Section 27(d) and Section 27(f) of the Act." Form N-27D-1 (17 CFR 274.127d-1) is entitled "Accounting of Segregated Trust Account." Rule 27d-1 requires the depositor or principal underwriter for an issuer of a periodic payment plan to deposit funds into a segregated trust account to provide assurance of its ability to fulfill its refund obligations under sections 27(d) and 27(f) of the Act. The rule sets forth minimum reserve amounts and guidelines for the management and disbursement of the assets in the account. A single account may be used for the periodic payment plans of multiple investment companies. Rule 27d-1(j) directs depositors and principal underwriters to make an accounting of their segregated trust accounts on Form N-27D-1, which is intended to facilitate the Commission's oversight of compliance with the reserve requirements set forth in rule 27d-1. The form requires depositors and principal underwriters to report deposits to a segregated trust account, including those made pursuant to paragraphs (c) and (e) of the rule. Withdrawals pursuant to paragraph (f) of the rule also must be reported. In addition, the form solicits information regarding the minimum amount required to be maintained under paragraphs (d) and (e) of rule 27d-1. Depositors and principal underwriters must file the form once a year on or

before January 31 of the year following the year for which information is presented.<sup>2</sup>

Rule 27d-1, which was explicitly authorized by statute, provides assurance that depositors and principal underwriters of issuers have access to sufficient cash to meet the demands of certificate holders who reconsider their decisions to invest in a periodic payment plan. The information collection requirements in rule 27d-1 enable the Commission to monitor compliance with reserve rules.

Effective October 27, 2006, the Military Personnel Financial Services Protection Act banned the issuance or sale of new periodic payment plans. Accordingly, the staff estimates that there is no longer any information collection burden associated with rule 27d-1 or Form N-27D-1. For administrative purposes, however, we are requesting approval for an information collection burden of one hour per year. This estimate of burden hours is not derived from a comprehensive or necessarily even a representative study of the cost of the Commission's rules and forms.

Complying with the collection of information requirements of rule 27d-1 is mandatory for depositors or principal underwriters of issuers of periodic payment plans unless they comply with the requirements in rule 27d-2 (17 CFR 270.27d-2). The information provided pursuant to rule 27d-1 is public and, therefore, will not be kept confidential. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on

<sup>2</sup> Instead of relying on rule 27d-1 and filing Form N-27D-1, depositors or principal underwriters for the issuers of periodic payment plans may rely on the exemption afforded by rule 27d-2. In order to comply with rule 27d-2: (i) The depositor or principal underwriter must secure from an insurance company a written guarantee of the refund requirements; (ii) the insurance company must satisfy certain financial criteria; and (iii) the depositor or principal underwriter must file as an exhibit to the issuer's registration statement, a copy of the written undertaking, an annual statement that the insurance company has met the requisite financial criteria on a monthly basis, and an annual audited balance sheet.

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 80a-1 *et seq.*