

subject to notice and comment and peer review.

**Cass R. Sunstein,**

*Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2012-8533 Filed 4-11-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE P**

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541)

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice of permit applications received under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, Public Law 95-541.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish a notice of permit applications received to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act at Title 45 Part 670 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of permit applications received.

**DATES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by May 14, 2012. This application may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Room 755, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Polly A. Penhale at the above address or (703) 292-7420.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541), as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, has developed regulations for the establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

The applications received are as follows:

1. *Applicant:*

### Permit Application: 2013-001

William R. Fraser, Polar Oceans Research Group, P.O. Box 366, Sheridan, MT 59749.

### Activity for Which Permit Is Requested

Enter Antarctic Specially Protected Areas (ASPAs), Take, and Import into the USA. The applicant conducts research as part of the Palmer Station Long-Term Ecological Research Program. The applicant plans to enter the Antarctic Specially Protected areas of ASPA 107-Dion Islands, ASPA 113-Litchfield Island, ASPA 115-Lagotellerie Island, ASPA-117-Avian Island, and ASPA 139-Biscoe Point to conduct his research. He plans to take by capture and release to (1) census populations and mark breeding territories; (2) capture, mark, band and/or weigh adult, chicks and eggs of seabirds (Adelie, Chinstrap, and Gentoo penguins, Brown Skua, South Polar Skua, S. Giant Petrel, Blue-Eyed Shag, and Kelp Gulls), (3) obtain diet samples by stomach lavage, by screening contents of terrestrial sediment traps and/or by collecting regurgitated prey items; (4) place transmitters on individuals; (5) place instrumented artificial eggs under incubating individuals; (6) obtain tissue samples from adults and chicks (e.g. preen gland oil, blood, feathers, yolk); (7) collect added/infertile eggs no longer being incubated; (8) use GPS/GIS technologies to update existing breeding habitat maps, and (9) salvage dead specimens in good condition for educational purposes.

### Location

Palmer Station area, Marguerite Bay including ASPA 107-Dion Islands, ASPA 113-Litchfield Island, ASPA 115-Lagotellerie Island, ASPA-117-Avian Island, and ASPA 139-Biscoe Point.

### Dates

October 1, 2012 to 30 September 30, 2017.

**Nadene G. Kennedy,**

*Permit Officer, Office of Polar Programs.*

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**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**

## 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:

Form TH, OMB Control No. 3235-0425, SEC File No. 270-377.

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 ("Commission") is soliciting comments on the collection of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for extension and approval.

Form TH (17 CFR 239.65, 249.447, 269.10 and 274.404) under the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77a *et seq.*), the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a *et seq.*), the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 (15 U.S.C. 77aaa *et seq.*) and the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-1 *et seq.*) is used by registrants to notify the Commission that an electronic filer is relying on the temporary hardship exemption for the filing of a document in paper form that would otherwise be required to be filed electronically as prescribed by Rule 201(a) of Regulation S-T. Form TH must be filed every time an electronic filer experiences unanticipated technical difficulties preventing the timely preparation and submission of a required electronic filing. Approximately 70 registrants file Form TH and it takes an estimated 0.33 hours per response for a total annual burden of 23 hours.

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden imposed by 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 respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

Please direct your written comments to Thomas Bayer, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Remi Pavlik-Simon, 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, Virginia 22312; or send an email to: [PRA\\_Mailbox@sec.gov](mailto:PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov).

Dated: April 6, 2012.

**Kevin M. O'Neill,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2012-8796 Filed 4-11-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8011-01-P**

## 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:*

Regulation FD, OMB Control No. 3235-0536, SEC File No. 270-475.

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 ("Commission") is soliciting comments on the collection of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for extension and approval.

Regulation FD (17 CFR 243.100 *et seq.*)—Other Disclosure Materials requires public disclosure of material information from issuers of publicly traded securities so that investors have current information upon which to base investment decisions. The purpose of the regulation is to require: (1) An issuer that intentionally discloses material information, to do so through public disclosure, not selective disclosure; and (2) to make prompt public disclosure of material information that was unintentionally selectively disclosed. We estimate that approximately 13,000 issuers make Regulation FD disclosures approximately five times a year for a total of 58,000 submissions annually, not including an estimated 7,000 issuers who file Form 8-K to comply with Regulation FD. We estimate that it takes 5 hours per response (58,000 responses × 5 hours) for a total burden of 290,000 hours annually. In addition, we estimate that 25% of the 5 hours per response (1.25 hours) is prepared by the filer for an annual reporting burden of 72,500 hours (1.25 hours per response × 58,000 responses).

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden imposed by 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 respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

Please direct your written comments to Thomas Bayer, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Remi Pavlik-Simon, 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, Virginia 22312; or send an email to: [PRA\\_Mailbox@sec.gov](mailto:PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov).

Dated: April 6, 2012.

**Kevin M. O'Neill,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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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:*

Form F-9, OMB Control No. 3235-0377, SEC File No. 270-333.

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 ("Commission") is soliciting comments on the collection of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management Budget for extension and approval.

Form F-9 (17 CFR 239.39) is a registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77a *et seq.*) that is used to register investment grade debt or investment grade preferred securities that are offered for cash or in connection with an exchange offer and are either non-convertible or not convertible for a period of at least one year from the date of issuance and thereafter are only convertible into a security of another class of the issuer. The purpose of the information collection is to permit verification of compliance with securities law requirements and to assure the public availability and dissemination of such information. The principal function of

the Commission's forms and rules under the securities laws' disclosure provisions is to make information available to the investors. We estimate that Form F-9 takes approximately 25 hours per response and it is filed by 18 respondents. We further estimate that 25% of the 25 hours per response (6.25 hours) is prepared by the issuer for an annual reporting burden of 113 hours (6.25 hours per response × 18 responses).

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether this proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden imposed by 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 respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

Please direct your written comments to Thomas Bayer, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Remi Pavlik-Simon, 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, Virginia 22312; or send an email to: [PRA\\_Mailbox@sec.gov](mailto:PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov).

Dated: April 6, 2012.

**Kevin M. O'Neill,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2012-8794 Filed 4-11-12; 8:45 am]

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### Proposed Extension of Existing Collection; Comment Request

*Upon Written Request, Copies Available*

*From:* U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Investor Education and Advocacy, Washington, DC 20549-0213.

*Extension:*

Interagency Statement on Sound Practices, OMB Control No. 3235-0622, SEC File No. 270-560.

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 ("Commission") is soliciting comments on the existing collection of information provided for in the proposed Interagency Statement on Sound