

Agency name	Organization name	Position title	Authorization No.	Effective date
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES. OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. DEPARTMENT OF STATE	Bureau of International Labor Affairs.	Senior Counselor	DL200168	08/17/2020
	National Endowment for the Humanities.	Congressional Affairs Specialist	NH200005	08/13/2020
	Office of the General Counsel	Strategic Advisor	NH200004	08/17/2020
		Confidential Assistant	BO200045	08/28/2020
	Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs.	General Counsel	DS200085	08/01/2020
DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY.	Office of the Assistant Secretary (Public Affairs).	Director, Public Affairs	DY200126	08/03/2020
	Secretary of the Treasury	Special Advisor	DY200124	08/26/2020

The following Schedule C appointing authorities were revoked during August 2020.

Agency name	Organization name	Position title	Request No.	Date vacated
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	Office of Legislative Affairs	Confidential Assistant	DJ180153	08/15/2020

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 3301 and 3302; E.O. 10577, 3 CFR, 1954–1958 Comp., p. 218.

Office of Personnel Management.

Alexys Stanley,

Regulatory Affairs Analyst.

[FR Doc. 2021-02260 Filed 2–3–21; 8:45 am]

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OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Excepted Service

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management (OPM).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice identifies Schedule A, B, and C appointing authorities applicable to a single agency that were established or revoked from October 1, 2020 to October 31, 2020.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julia Alford, Senior Executive Resources Services, Senior Executive Services and

Performance Management, Employee Services, 202–606–2246.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with 5 CFR 213.103, Schedule A, B, and C appointing authorities available for use by all agencies are codified in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). Schedule A, B, and C appointing authorities applicable to a single agency are not codified in the CFR, but the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) publishes a notice of agency-specific authorities established or revoked each month in the **Federal Register** at www.gpo.gov/fdsys/. OPM also publishes an annual notice of the consolidated listing of all Schedule A, B, and C appointing authorities, current as of June 30, in the **Federal Register**.

Schedule A

32. *Small Business Administration (Sch A, 213.3132)*

(a) When the President under 42 U.S.C. 5170–5189, the Secretary of

Agriculture under 7 U.S.C. 1961, or the Small Business Administration under 15 U.S.C. 636(b)(1) declares an area to be a disaster area, positions filled by time-limited appointment of employees to make and administer disaster loans in the area under the Small Business Act, as amended. Service under this authority may not exceed 7 years. Exception to this time limit may only be made with prior U.S. Office of Personnel Management approval. No one may be appointed under this authority to positions engaged in long-term maintenance of loan portfolios.

Schedule B

No Schedule B Authorities to report during October 2020.

Schedule C

The following Schedule C appointing authorities were approved during October 2020.

Agency name	Organization name	Position title	Authorization No.	Effective date
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ..	Office of the Secretary	Deputy White House Liaison	DA200154	10/20/2020
	Minority Business Development Agency.	Advisor	DC200151	10/29/2020
	Office of Public Affairs	Deputy Speech Writer	DC210001	10/05/2020
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE	Office of the Chief of Staff	Director, Center for Faith and Opportunity Initiatives.	DC200129	10/13/2020
	Office of the Secretary of Defense	Deputy White House Liaison	DD210003	10/13/2020
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY	Office Deputy Under Secretary of Army.	Special Assistant	DW200046	10/13/2020
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ..	Office of the General Counsel	Confidential Assistant	DB210001	10/09/2020
	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.	Deputy Chief of Staff	DE200204	10/05/2020
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY	Office of Management	Senior Advisor	DE200195	10/02/2020
	Office of the Secretary	Deputy White House Liaison	DE210002	10/05/2020

Agency name	Organization name	Position title	Authorization No.	Effective date
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.	Office of Public Affairs	Deputy Associate Administrator for Policy.	EP200109	10/17/2020
	Office of the Administrator	Senior Advisor	EP200102	10/02/2020
		White House Liaison	EP210001	10/02/2020
	Office of the Assistant Administrator for Mission Support.	Senior Advisor	EP200119	10/09/2020
	Office of the Associate Administrator for Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations.	Assistant Deputy Associate Administrator for Senate Affairs.	EP200090	10/02/2020
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.	Office of the General Counsel	Special Advisor for the Office of General Counsel.	EP200116	10/02/2020
	Office of Global Affairs	Chief of Staff	DH200186	10/16/2020
	Office of Refugee Resettlement/Office of the Director.	Special Assistant	DH210003	10/17/2020
	Confidential Assistant	DH210004	10/17/2020
	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health.	Policy Advisor	DH200184	10/09/2020
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Legislation.	Policy Advisor	DH200185	10/17/2020
	Office of Management Directorate	Communications Specialist	DM210009	10/13/2020
	Office of Strategy, Policy, and Plans.	Special Assistant	DM210014	10/19/2020
	Office of the General Counsel	Oversight Counsel	DM190073	10/17/2020
	United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement.	Press Assistant	DM210004	10/13/2020
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.	Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations.	Congressional Relations Specialist	DU200133	10/29/2020
	Office of Public Affairs	Special Assistant	DU210009	10/29/2020
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.	Office of the Assistant Secretary—Policy, Management and Budget.	Senior Advisor	DI200099	10/26/2020
	Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs.	Senior Advisor	DI200102	10/26/2020
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	Secretary's Immediate Office	White House Liaison	DI200122	10/05/2020
	Office of Justice Programs	Advisor for Research and Statistics	DJ200157	10/09/2020
	Office of the Attorney General	Advisor	DJ200171	10/20/2020
		Deputy White House Liaison and Advisor.	DJ210002	10/20/2020
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR	Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs.	Senior Legislative Officer	DL200160	10/09/2020
	Office of Wage and Hour Division	Policy Advisor	DL200190	10/17/2020
NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION.	Office of Communications	Communication Specialist	NN200040	10/01/2020
	Office of the Director	Special Assistant	BO200036	10/09/2020
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.	Office of Health Division	Special Assistant	BO200046	10/09/2020
	Natural Resource Programs	Confidential Assistant	BO210002	10/29/2020
	Office of Investment and Innovation.	Senior Advisor	SB210001	10/09/2020
SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.	Office of Field Operations	Senior Advisor	SB210002	10/17/2020
	Office of Public Affairs	Press Secretary and Senior Public Affairs Advisor.	DT200133	10/07/2020
	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology.	Economic Advisor	DT200145	10/07/2020
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.	Secretary of the Treasury	Associate Director of Scheduling and Advance.	DY200123	10/09/2020
	Office of the Under Secretary for International Affairs.	Senior Advisor	DY200125	10/09/2020
DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY.	Office of Intergovernmental Affairs	Special Assistant	DV200105	10/01/2020
	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Legislative Affairs.	Special Assistant	DV200097	10/17/2020
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.				

There were no Schedule C appointing authorities revoked during October 2020.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 3301 and 3302; E.O. 10577, 3 CFR, 1954–1958 Comp., p. 218.

Office of Personnel Management.

Alexys Stanley,

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–91016; File No. SR–IEX–2020–18]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Investors Exchange, LLC; Order Granting Approval of Proposed Rule Change To Amend IEX Rule 11.510 To Reduce the Outbound Latency That Presently Applies to All Messages Sent From IEX Back to Users of the Exchange

January 29, 2021.

I. Introduction

On December 9, 2020, the Investors Exchange LLC (“Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)¹ and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,² a proposed rule change to amend IEX Rule (“Rule”) 11.510 to reduce the outbound latency that presently applies to all messages sent from IEX to users of the Exchange, as well as to make conforming changes to the outbound latency that applies to all trading messages sent from the IEX order book to the system routing logic with respect to routable orders. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the *Federal Register* on December 17, 2020.³ The Commission received no comment letters on the proposed rule change. This order approves the proposed rule change.

II. Description of the Proposal

The Exchange proposed to amend Rule 11.510 to eliminate the “coil” delay that is currently applied to outbound order execution messages and IEX proprietary market data sent to IEX users and the IEX system routing logic used by IEX’s affiliated routing broker-

dealer, IEX Services LLC (“IEXS”).⁴ Currently, users access IEX through the Exchange-provided network interface at the IEX Point-of-Presence, or “POP,” located in Secaucus, New Jersey.⁵ Electronic messages that users send inbound to the IEX system, and order execution messages and IEX proprietary market data sent outbound to users, traverse the IEX coil, which is a box containing approximately 38 miles of compactly coiled optical fiber cable, and travel an additional geographic and physical distance between the POP and the IEX system located at the Exchange’s primary data center in Weehawken, New Jersey.⁶ The time required for such communications to traverse the coil combined with the geographic and physical distance (and related networking) currently equates to an equivalent 350 microseconds of latency.⁷ IEXS is a member of the Exchange and its associated routing logic currently is subject to the same 350 microseconds of latency as other members when sending order messages to the IEX order book and when receiving order execution messages and IEX proprietary market data.⁸ As a result, IEXS has no speed or informational advantage compared to other Exchange members and data recipients.⁹

IEX’s proposed elimination of the coil delay on outbound order execution messages and proprietary market data will reduce the latency on outbound communications to 37 microseconds, which latency will be due to geographic

and physical distance and network connectivity.¹⁰ The proposed elimination of the coil delay on outbound order execution messages and proprietary market data will affect IEXS in the same manner that it effects other Exchange users, thus ensuring that the Exchange’s affiliated routing broker-dealer is similarly situated and not competitively advantaged vis-à-vis any non-affiliated routing broker-dealer.¹¹

The Exchange also proposed to make several non-substantive clarifying changes to add further detail to Rule 11.510 to: (i) Define the term “POP”;¹² (ii) reference the 350 microsecond latency on inbound communications from the POP to the IEX system and from the system routing logic to the order book separately from the proposed 37 microsecond latency on outbound communications from the system to the

¹⁰ See proposed Rule 11.510(a); see also Notice, *supra* note 3, at 81984. Specifically, the Exchange proposed to amend Rule 11.510(a) to state that outbound communications from the IEX system to the POP will not traverse the physical distance provided by coiled optical fiber and instead will be subject to an equivalent 37 microseconds of latency due to traversing the geographic distribution and network connectivity between the system at the primary data center and the network access point of the POP. See proposed Rule 11.510(a). Relatedly, the Exchange proposed to amend Rule 11.510(b)(2) to state that, for outbound communications (including, without limitation, execution report messages found in the Exchange’s FIX Specification, quote and trade update messages found in the Exchange’s TOPS and DEEP specifications, and DROP messages), the Exchange’s connectivity infrastructure is designed to provide an equivalent 37 microseconds of latency from the system at the primary data center to the Exchange-provided network interface at the POP. See proposed Rule 11.510(b)(2).

¹¹ See Notice, *supra* note 3, at 81986. Specifically, the Exchange proposed to amend Rule 11.510(c)(1) to state that all outbound communications (including, without limitation, execution report messages found in the Exchange’s FIX specification) from the order book to the system routing logic are subject to 37 microseconds of latency, which is in addition to the 37 microsecond latency on outbound communications from the IEX system to the POP described in proposed Rule 11.510(b)(2). See proposed Rule 11.510(c)(1); see also proposed Supp. .03 (stating that all responses from the IEX order book to the system routing logic are subject to 37 microseconds of latency and all messages from the system routing logic to users are subject to an additional 37 microseconds of outbound latency). Users connected to IEX at the POP therefore would experience a cumulative delay of 74 microseconds on outbound messages from the IEX system regarding their routable orders. See proposed Rule 11.510(c)(1); see also proposed Supp. .03. Users would continue to experience a cumulative latency of 700 microseconds on inbound routable order messages. See proposed Rule 11.510(c)(1); proposed Supp. .03; Notice, *supra* note 3, at 81984. In addition, the Exchange proposed to amend Rule 11.510(c)(2)(A) to specify that the IEX routing logic may only receive Exchange data products subject to 37 microseconds of latency, equivalent to the outbound latency applicable to all other data product recipients that is described in proposed Rule 11.510(b)(2). See proposed Rule 11.510(c)(2)(A).

¹² See proposed Rule 11.510(a).

⁴ See proposed Rule 11.510; Notice, *supra* note 3, at 81982. The Exchange did not propose any changes to the coil delay that applies to inbound order messages, including order cancellations and modifications, from users at the POP to the IEX system and from the system routing logic to the order book. See proposed Rule 11.510; Notice, *supra* note 3, at 81984. The Exchange does not apply a coil delay to its communications with the Securities Information Processors (“SIP(s)”) or away trading centers, and those aspects of the Exchange likewise are not changing under the proposal. See Notice, *supra* note 3, at 81983.

⁵ See Notice, *supra* note 3, at 81983.

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ *Id.* If a user sends a routable order to the Exchange, after traversing the inbound latency (including the coil) from the POP to the IEX system, the order is directed to the system routing logic. *Id.* The current 350 microsecond latency on order messages between the IEX routing logic and order book is implicated when the routing logic has determined to route to the IEX order book all or part of the routable order submitted by the user, and is in addition to the 350 microsecond latency between the POP and the IEX system. *Id.* As a result, currently, users connected at the POP experience a cumulative, one-way latency of 700 microseconds on routable order messages to and from the IEX system. *Id.* at 81983–84; see also Rule 11.230(b), 11.510(c)(1), and proposed Supplementary Material (“Supp.”) .03 to Rule 11.510.

⁹ See Notice, *supra* note 3, at 81983.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

³ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 90645 (December 11, 2020), 85 FR 81982 (December 17, 2020) (“Notice”).