

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice serves as initial notification of a public workshop to provide for the exchange of information with all stakeholders regarding the staff's efforts to risk-inform the technical requirements of 10 CFR 50.46 (ECCS Acceptance Criteria), and the latest version of the framework for risk-informed changes to the technical requirements of 10 CFR Part 50. The meeting will focus on the current work being performed by the NRC staff to risk-inform the technical requirements of 10 CFR 50.46, and also on recent changes to the framework document.

This notice provides only the date, the location and a brief summary of the workshop; the workshop agenda and other details will be provided in a forthcoming **Federal Register** notice prior to the workshop.

**Workshop Meeting Information:** The staff intends to conduct a workshop to provide for an exchange of information related to (1) the staff's initial efforts to make risk-informed revisions to the technical requirements of 10 CFR 50.46, and (2) the latest version of the staff's framework for risk-informed changes to the technical requirements of 10 CFR Part 50. Persons other than NRC staff and NRC contractors interested in making a presentation at the workshop should notify Mary Drouin, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, MS: T10-E50, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington D.C. 20555-0001, (301) 415-6675, email: mxd@nrc.gov

**Date:** October 2, 2000.

**Time:** 8 am.

**Agenda:** To be provided.

**Location:** Auditorium, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

**Registration:** There is no registration fee for the workshop; however, so that adequate space, materials, etc., for the workshop can be arranged, please provide notification of attendance to Alan Kuritzky, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, MS: T10-E50, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001, (301) 415-6255, email: ask1@nrc.gov.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Alan Kuritzky, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, MS: T10-E50, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001, (301) 415-6255, email: ask1@nrc.gov.

Dated this 11th day of September 2000.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.  
**Mark A. Cunningham,**  
*Probabilistic Risk Analysis Branch, Division of Risk Analysis and Applications, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.*  
[FR Doc. 00-23786 Filed 9-14-00; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 7590-01-P**

## PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

### Interest Assumption for Determining Variable-Rate Premium; Interest Assumptions for Multiemployer Plan Valuations Following Mass Withdrawal

**AGENCY:** Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

**ACTION:** Notice of interest rates and assumptions.

**SUMMARY:** This notice informs the public of the interest rates and assumptions to be used under certain Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation regulations. These rates and assumptions are published elsewhere (or are derivable from rates published elsewhere), but are collected and published in this notice for the convenience of the public. Interest rates are also published on the PBGC's web site (<http://www.pbgc.gov>).

**DATES:** The interest rate for determining the variable-rate premium under part 4006 applies to premium payment years beginning in September 2000. The interest assumptions for performing multiemployer plan valuations following mass withdrawal under part 4281 apply to valuation dates occurring in October 2000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Harold J. Ashner, Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005, 202-326-4024. (For TTY/TDD users, call the Federal relay service toll-free at 1-800-877-8339 and ask to be connected to 202-326-4024.)

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Variable-Rate Premiums

Section 4006(a)(3)(E)(iii)(II) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and § 4006.4(b)(1) of the PBGC's regulation on Premium Rates (29 CFR part 4006) prescribe use of an assumed interest rate in determining a single-employer plan's variable-rate premium. The rate is the "applicable percentage" (currently 85 percent) of the annual yield on 30-year Treasury securities for the month preceding the beginning of the plan year for which premiums are being paid (the "premium payment year"). The yield

figure is reported in Federal Reserve Statistical Releases G.13 and H.15.

The assumed interest rate to be used in determining variable-rate premiums for premium payment years beginning in September 2000 is 4.86 percent (*i.e.*, 85 percent of the 5.72 percent yield figure for August 2000).

The following table lists the assumed interest rates to be used in determining variable-rate premiums for premium payment years beginning between October 1999 and September 2000.

| For premium payment years beginning in— | The assumed interest rate is— |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| October 1999 .....                      | 5.16                          |
| November 1999 .....                     | 5.32                          |
| December 1999 .....                     | 5.23                          |
| January 2000 .....                      | 5.40                          |
| February 2000 .....                     | 5.64                          |
| March 2000 .....                        | 5.30                          |
| April 2000 .....                        | 5.14                          |
| May 2000 .....                          | 4.97                          |
| June 2000 .....                         | 5.23                          |
| July 2000 .....                         | 5.04                          |
| August 2000 .....                       | 4.97                          |
| September 2000 .....                    | 4.86                          |

### Multiemployer Plan Valuations Following Mass Withdrawal

The PBGC's regulation on Duties of Plan Sponsor Following Mass Withdrawal (29 CFR part 4281) prescribes the use of interest assumptions under the PBGC's regulation on Allocation of Assets in Single-employer Plans (29 CFR part 4044). The interest assumptions applicable to valuation dates in October 2000 under part 4044 are contained in an amendment to part 4044 published elsewhere in today's **Federal Register**. Tables showing the assumptions applicable to prior periods are codified in appendix B to 29 CFR part 4044.

Issued in Washington, DC, on this 8th day of September 2000.

**David M. Strauss,**  
*Executive Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.*

[FR Doc. 00-23737 Filed 9-14-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7708-01-P**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 35-27227]

### Filing Under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, as Amended ("Act")

September 8, 2000.

Notice is hereby given that the following filing(s) has/have been made with the Commission pursuant to

provisions of the Act and rules promulgated under the Act. All interested persons are referred to the application(s) and/or declaration(s) for complete statements of the proposed transaction(s) summarized below. The application(s) and/or declaration(s) and any amendment(s) is/are available for public inspection through the Commission's Branch of Public Reference.

Interested persons wishing to comment or request a hearing on the application(s) and/or declaration(s) should submit their views in writing by October 3, 2000, to the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, DC 20549-0609, and serve a copy on the relevant applicant(s) and/or declarant(s) at the address(es) specified below. Proof of service (by affidavit or, in the case of an attorney at law, by certificate) should be filed with the request. Any request for hearing should identify specifically the issues of facts or law that are disputed. A person who so requests will be notified of any hearing, if ordered, and will receive a copy of any notice or order issued in the matter. After October 3, 2000, the application(s) and/or declaration(s), as filed or as amended, may be granted and/or permitted to become effective.

#### **Entergy Corporation (70-8839)**

Entergy Corporation ("Entergy"), 639 Loyola Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana 70113, a registered holding company, has filed a post-effective amendment under sections 6(a) and 7 of the Act and rules 42 and 54 under the Act to its declaration previously filed under the Act.

By prior Commission orders dated June 6, 1996 and March 25, 19997 (HCAR Nos. 26541 and 26693) ("Orders"), Entergy was authorized, through December 30, 2000, to issue and sell up to 30 million shares of its authorized but unissued common stock, par value \$0.01 ("Common Stock") or Common Stock acquired through public or private transactions, under its Dividend Reinvestment and Stock Purchase Plan ("Plan"). As of June 28, 2000, Entergy had 13,139,294 shares of Common Stock authorized to be issued under the Plan. Entergy now proposes to extend the time in which it may sell up to 30 million shares of its Common Stock under the Plan through June 30, 2006. All other provisions of the Plan will remain as authorized in the Orders.

The purchase price of the newly issued shares of Common Stock issued under the plan will generally be the weighted average of the daily high and low sales prices of the Common Stock on the New York Stock Exchange during

each pricing period, consisting of the twelve trading days immediately preceding the monthly investment date. The purchase price for shares purchased on the open market will be the weighted average price paid by the Plan, including brokerage fees and commissions.

For the Commission by the Division of Investment Management, pursuant to delegated authority.

**Margaret H. McFarland,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 00-23736 Filed 9-14-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8010-01-Mcent,**

## **SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**[Release No. 34-43277; File No. SR-OCC-00-07]**

### **Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Options Clearing Corporation; Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of a Proposed Rule Change Relating to Adjustment Increments and Decimalization**

September 11, 2000.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),<sup>1</sup> notice is hereby given that on August 9, 2000, The Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") filed with the Securities Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which items have been prepared primarily by OCC. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested parties.

#### **I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change**

The proposed rule change clarifies OCC's existing policies on minimum adjustment increments and rounding and proposes new minimum adjustment increments and rounding provisions with respect to decimal strike prices. The proposed rule change also states OCC's intention to restate existing strike prices in decimals when decimal strike prices are introduced for new series in the same class of options.

#### **II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change**

In its filing with the Commission, OCC included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any

comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. OCC has prepared summaries, set forth in sections (A), (B), and (C) below, of the most significant aspects of these statements.<sup>2</sup>

#### **(A) Self-Regulatory Organization's Statements of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change**

The purpose of the proposed amendments to Article I, Section 1 and Article VI, Section 11 of OCC's By-Laws is to clarify OCC's existing policies regarding minimum adjustment increments and rounding and to state the minimum adjustment increments and rounding provisions that will apply during and after the transition to decimal strike prices. The proposed amendments also announce OCC's intention to restate existing strike prices in decimals when decimal strike prices are introduced for new series in the same class of options so long as that can be done without changing the absolute value of the existing strike prices.

Article VI, Section 11 of OCC's By-Laws currently states that, "as a general rule," OCC will adjust to the "nearest trading increment," which is defined in Article I of the By-Laws as the minimum trading increment specified by the primary exchange for the underlying security. OCC's practice, as disclosed in the options disclosure document, is to round to the nearest eighth when making adjustments. OCC follows this practice even where the trading increment for the underlying security may be one-sixteenth rather than one-eighth. With decimalization, the potential exists for even smaller minimum trading units. OCC intends to continue its disclosed policy of rounding to the nearest eighth in the case of fractional prices and to round to the nearest cent in the case of decimal prices. Thus, adjustments will be made to the nearest eighth or cent even if the trading increment is more or less than an eighth or a cent. Accordingly, OCC is proposing to define a new term "adjustment increment" and to change the reference in Article VI, Section 11 to refer to "adjustment increment" rather than "trading increment."

OCC rounds up when an adjusted exercise price is equidistant between two adjustment increments. OCC proposes to amend Article VI, Section 11 accordingly.

The existing text of Interpretation and Policy .09 is being replaced by a

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>2</sup> The Commission has modified the text of the summaries prepared by OCC.