

manage their risks. At this time, different disclosure practices and requirements for payments and settlement systems have resulted in varying levels of information being disseminated to users and others. Users and other persons may find it difficult to obtain access to sufficient information to understand and assess a particular system's approach to risk management against internationally accepted principles and minimum standards. Broadening the availability of information concerning a system's risk management controls, governance, and legal framework, for example, can facilitate this understanding and analysis and also assist those interested in a system in evaluating and managing any risk exposure.<sup>24</sup>

The Board believes that the implementation of the applicable principles and minimum standards by systemically important systems can foster greater financial stability in payments and settlement systems. The Board further believes that operators of systemically important systems are well positioned to assess and demonstrate the extent to which they have implemented the principles or minimum standards in this policy. Therefore, in furtherance of its policy objectives, the Board expects systemically important systems subject to its authority to complete comprehensive, objective self-assessments against the applicable principles or minimum standards in this policy and disclose publicly the results of these efforts. Adopting this self-assessment framework, however, does not preclude the Federal Reserve from independently assessing compliance of systemically important systems with relevant rules, regulations, and Federal Reserve policies.

The Board expects systemically important systems subject to its authority to complete self-assessments based on the following guidelines. First, systemically important systems are expected to document the basis for their self-assessment and support any conclusions regarding the extent to which they meet a particular principle or minimum standard.<sup>25</sup> System

operators should use one of the following assessment categories to describe the extent to which the system meets a particular principle or minimum standard: Observed, broadly observed, partly observed, or non-observed. The CPSS and CPSS-IOSCO have developed implementation guidelines and assessment methodologies that can assist system operators in structuring their self-assessments and assigning an assessment category. Accordingly, payment system operators are encouraged to consult Section 7 of the Core Principles for guidance when developing their self-assessments and in measuring the extent to which the system meets each principle.<sup>26</sup> Likewise system operators for securities settlement systems and central counterparties are encouraged to consult the assessment methodology for the relevant minimum standards for further guidance on each minimum standard and are encouraged to respond to the key questions included therein.<sup>27</sup> A system may consult the Board for assistance with respect to the principles and minimum standards and the completion of its assessment. Second, to further ensure system accountability for accuracy and completeness, the Board expects the system's senior management and board of directors to review and approve self-assessments upon completion. Third, to achieve broad disclosure, the system is expected to make its self-assessments readily available to the public, such as by posting the self-assessment on the system's public Web site. Finally, in order for self-assessments to reflect correctly the system's current rules, procedures, and operations, the Board expects a systemically important system to update the relevant parts of its self-assessment following material changes to the system or its environment. At a minimum, a systemically important system would be expected to review its

that would expose system vulnerabilities or otherwise put the system at risk (e.g., specific business continuity plans).

<sup>26</sup> The Core Principles include implementation guidelines and an implementation summary for each principle. The guidelines provide both detailed explanations of each principle and general examples of ways to interpret and implement them.

<sup>27</sup> In November 2002, CPSS-IOSCO published an Assessment Methodology for the Recommendations for SSS, which is available at <http://www.bis.org/publ/cpss51.htm>. In November 2004, CPSS-IOSCO published the CCP Recommendations and an Assessment Methodology, which are available at <http://www.bis.org/publ/cpss64.htm>. These assessment methodologies for the CPSS-IOSCO Recommendations include key questions to assist an assessor in determining to what extent a system meets a particular minimum standard.

self-assessment every two years to ensure continued accuracy.

As part of its ongoing oversight of systemically important payments and settlement systems, the Federal Reserve will review published self-assessments by systems subject to the Board's authority to ensure the Board's policy objectives and expectations are being met.<sup>28</sup> Where necessary, the Federal Reserve will provide feedback to these systems regarding the content of their self-assessments and their effectiveness in achieving the policy objectives discussed above.<sup>29</sup> The Board acknowledges that payments and settlement systems vary in terms of the scope of instruments they settle and markets they serve. It also recognizes that systems may operate under different legal and regulatory constraints and within particular market infrastructures or institutional frameworks. The Board will consider these factors when reviewing self-assessments and in evaluating how a systemically important system addresses a particular principle or minimum standard and complies with the policy generally. Where the Board does not have exclusive authority over a systemically important system, it will encourage appropriate domestic or foreign financial system authorities to promote self-assessments by systemically important systems as a means to achieve greater safety and efficiency in the financial system.

By order of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, January 11, 2007.

**Robert deV. Frierson,**

*Deputy Secretary of the Board.*

[FR Doc. E7-589 Filed 1-18-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6210-01-P**

## **FEDERAL RETIREMENT THRIFT INVESTMENT BOARD**

### **Sunshine Act; Notice of Meeting**

**TIME AND DATE:** 8:30 a.m. (EST), January 22, 2007.

<sup>28</sup> Any review of an assessment by the Federal Reserve should not be viewed as an approval or guarantee of the accuracy of a system's self-assessment. Furthermore, the contents of a review of a self-assessment would be subject to the Board's rules regarding disclosure of confidential supervisory information. Therefore, without the express approval of the Board, a system would not be allowed to state publicly that its self-assessment has been reviewed, endorsed, approved, or otherwise not objected to by the Federal Reserve.

<sup>29</sup> If the Federal Reserve materially disagrees with the content of a system's self-assessment, it will communicate its concerns to the system's senior management and possibly to its board of directors, as appropriate. The Federal Reserve may also discuss its concerns with other relevant financial system authorities, as appropriate.

<sup>24</sup> The Board considers self-assessments as only one resource for users and other persons to consider when evaluating any risks associated with a particular system. In order to effectively identify and manage risks, a user or other interested person may need to consider other relevant documentation such as the system's rules, operating procedures, or organizational documents. These materials may be publicly available or may need to be requested from the system directly.

<sup>25</sup> While the Board expects self-assessments to be robust, it does not expect payments and settlement systems to disclose publicly sensitive information

**PLACE:** 4th Floor Conference Room,  
1250 H Street, NW., Washington, DC.

**STATUS:** Closed to the public.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:** Personnel.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
Thomas J. Trabucco, Director, Office of  
External Affairs, (202) 942-1640.

Dated: January 16, 2007.

**Thomas K. Emswiler,**

*Secretary to the Board, Federal Retirement  
Thrift Investment Board.*

[FR Doc. 07-220 Filed 1-16-07; 4:42 pm]

**BILLING CODE 6760-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; Decision to Evaluate a Petition To Designate a Class of Employees at Hanford Nuclear Reservation, Richland, WA, To Be Included in the Special Exposure Cohort

**AGENCY:** National Institute for  
Occupational Safety and Health  
(NIOSH), Department of Health and  
Human Services (HHS).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Health and  
Human Services (HHS) gives notice as  
required by 42 CFR 83.12(e) of a  
decision to evaluate a petition to  
designate a class of employees at the  
Hanford Nuclear Reservation, Richland,  
Washington, to be included in the  
Special Exposure Cohort under the  
Energy Employees Occupational Illness  
Compensation Program Act of 2000. The  
initial proposed definition for the class  
being evaluated, subject to revision as  
warranted by the evaluation, is as  
follows:

*Facility:* Hanford Nuclear Reservation.  
*Location:* Richland, Washington.

*Job Title and/or Job Duties:* All former  
Dupont production workers in the 100  
area and the 300 area and all 200 area  
production workers and all guards and  
construction workers.

*Period of Employment:* January 1,  
1943 through September 1, 1946 for  
former Dupont production workers in  
the 100 and 300 areas and December 1,  
1944 through September 1, 1946 for all  
200 area production workers and all  
guards and construction workers.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Larry Elliott, Director, Office of  
Compensation Analysis and Support,  
National Institute for Occupational  
Safety and Health (NIOSH), 4676  
Columbia Parkway, MS C-46,  
Cincinnati, OH 45226, Telephone 513-  
533-6800 (this is not a toll-free  
number). Information requests can also  
be submitted by e-mail to  
[OCAS@CDC.GOV](mailto:OCAS@CDC.GOV).

Dated: January 12, 2007.

**John Howard,**

*Director, National Institute for Occupational  
Safety and Health.*

[FR Doc. 07-194 Filed 1-18-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4163-19-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[30Day-07-0004]

### Agency Forms Undergoing Paperwork Reduction Act Review

The Centers for Disease Control and  
Prevention (CDC) publishes a list of  
information collection requests under  
review by the Office of Management and  
Budget (OMB) in compliance with the  
Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C.  
Chapter 35). To request a copy of these  
requests, call the CDC Reports Clearance  
Officer at (404) 639-5960 or send an e-  
mail to [omb@cdc.gov](mailto:omb@cdc.gov). Send written  
comments to CDC Desk Officer, Office of  
Management and Budget, Washington,  
DC or by fax to (202) 395-6974. Written  
comments should be received within 30  
days of this notice.

### Proposed Project

National Disease Surveillance  
Program—II. Disease Summaries (0920-  
0004)—Revision—National Center for  
Preparedness, Detection, and Control of  
Infectious Diseases (proposed)  
(NCPDCID), Centers for Disease Control  
and Prevention (CDC).

### Background and Brief Description

Surveillance of the incidence and  
distribution of disease has been an  
important function of the U.S. Public  
Health Service (PHS) since 1878.  
Through the years, PHS/CDC has  
formulated practical methods of disease

control through field investigations. The  
CDC National Disease Surveillance  
Program is based on the premise that  
diseases cannot be diagnosed,  
prevented, or controlled until existing  
knowledge is expanded and new ideas  
developed and implemented. Over the  
years, the mandate of CDC has  
broadened to include preventive health  
activities and the surveillance systems  
maintained have expanded.

CDC and the Council of State and  
Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE)  
collect data on disease and preventable  
conditions in accordance with jointly  
approved plans. Changes in the  
surveillance program and in reporting  
methods are effected in the same  
manner. At the onset of this surveillance  
program in 1968, the CSTE and CDC  
decided on which diseases warranted  
surveillance. These diseases are  
reviewed and revised based on  
variations in the public's health.  
Surveillance forms are distributed to the  
State and local health departments who  
voluntarily submit these reports to CDC  
at variable frequencies, either weekly or  
monthly. CDC then calculates and  
publishes weekly statistics via the  
Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report  
(MMWR), providing the states with  
timely aggregates of their submissions.

The following diseases/conditions are  
included in this program: Diarrheal  
disease surveillance (includes  
campylobacter, salmonella, and  
shigella), foodborne outbreaks, arboviral  
surveillance (ArboNet), Influenza virus  
(includes the annual survey and  
influenza-like illness), Respiratory and  
Enterovirus surveillance, rabies,  
waterborne diseases, cholera and other  
vibrio illnesses, calicivirus surveillance,  
and Listeria case form. These data are  
essential on the local, state, and Federal  
levels for measuring trends in diseases,  
evaluating the effectiveness of current  
prevention strategies, and determining  
the need for modifying current  
prevention measures.

This request is for approval of the  
data collection for three years. Because  
of the distinct nature of each of the  
diseases, the number of cases reported  
annually is different for each. There is  
no cost to respondents other than their  
time. The total estimated annualized  
burden hours are 21,107.

## ESTIMATE OF ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS

Form	Number of respondents	Number of responses	Avg. burden
Diarrheal Disease Surveillance: —Campylobacter (electronic) .....	53	52	3/60