

Dated: November 25, 2008.

R. Michelle Schroll,

Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8-28557 Filed 11-26-08; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

PBGC Flat Premium Rates

AGENCY: Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

ACTION: Notice of flat premium rates.

SUMMARY: This notice informs the public of the PBGC flat premium rates for premium payment years beginning in 2009. These rates can be derived from information published elsewhere but are published in this notice for the convenience of the public.

DATES: The flat premium rates apply to premium payment years beginning in 2009.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Catherine B. Klion, Manager, Regulatory and Policy Division, Legislative and Regulatory Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005, 202-326-4024. (TTY/TDD users may call the Federal relay service toll-free at 1-800-877-8339 and ask to be connected to 202-326-4024.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) administers the pension plan termination insurance program under Title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). Pension plans covered by Title IV must pay premiums to PBGC. Section 4006 of ERISA deals with premium rates.

The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (Pub. L. 109-171) (DRA 2005) amended section 4006 of ERISA. DRA 2005 changed the per-participant flat premium rate for plan years beginning in 2006 from \$19 to \$30 for single-employer plans and from \$2.60 to \$8 for multiemployer plans and provided for inflation adjustments to the flat rates for future years. The adjustments are based on changes in the national average wage index as defined in section 209(k)(1) of the Social Security Act, with a two-year lag—for example, for 2009, the 2006 index is compared to the baseline (the 2004 index). The provisions were written in such a way that the premium rate can never go down; if the change in the national average wage index is negative, the premium rate remains the same as in the preceding year. Also, premium rates are rounded to the nearest whole dollar.

The baseline national average wage index, the 2004 index, was \$35,648.55. The 2007 index was \$40,405.48. The ratio of the 2007 index to the 2004 index is 1.133440. Multiplying this ratio by \$30.00 gives \$34.00. Multiplying the ratio by \$8.00 gives \$9.07, which rounds to \$9.00. Thus, the 2009 flat premium rates for PBGC's two insurance programs will be \$34.00 per participant for single-employer plans and \$9.00 per participant for multiemployer plans.

The PBGC will publish the flat premium rates annually for the convenience of the public.

Issued in Washington, DC, on this 21st day of November 2008.

Vincent K. Snowbarger,

Deputy Director for Operations, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

[FR Doc. E8-28411 Filed 11-28-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7709-01-P

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

[OMB Control No. 3206-0215; RI 25-49]

Proposed Information Collection; Request for Comments on an Existing Information Collection

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, May 22, 1995), this notice announces that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) intends to submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request for review of an existing information collection. This information collection, "Verification of Full-Time School Attendance" (OMB Control No. 3206-0215; form RI 25-49), is used to verify that adult student annuitants are entitled to payments. OPM must confirm that a full-time enrollment has been maintained.

Comments are particularly invited on whether this collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the Office of Personnel Management, and whether it will have practical utility; whether our estimate of the public burden of this collection is accurate and based on valid assumptions and methodology; and ways in which we can minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond through use of the appropriate technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Approximately 10,000 RI 25-49 forms are completed annually. This form will

take approximately 60 minutes to complete. The annual estimated burden is 10,000 hours.

For copies of this proposal, contact Cyrus S. Benson by telephone at (202) 606-4808, by FAX (202) 606-0910, or by e-mail at Cyrus.Benson@opm.gov. Please include a mailing address with your request.

DATES: Comments on this proposal should be received within 60 calendar days of the date of this publication.

ADDRESSES: *Send or deliver comments to:* Ronald W. Melton, Deputy Assistant Director, Retirement Services Program, Center for Retirement and Insurance Services, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street, NW., Room 3305, Washington, DC 20415-3500.

For information regarding Administrative Coordination contact: Cyrus S. Benson, Team Leader, Publications Team, RIS Support Services/Support Group, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street, NW., Room 4H28, Washington, DC 20415, (202) 606-0623.

Office of Personnel Management.

Howard Weizmann,

Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. E8-28441 Filed 11-28-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-38-P

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

[OMB Control No. 3206-0141; OPM Form 2809]

Proposed Information Collection; Request for Comments on an Existing Information Collection

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, May 22, 1995), this notice announces that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) intends to submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request for review of an existing information collection. This information collection, "Health Benefits Election Form" (OMB Control No. 3206-0141; OPM Form 2809), is used by annuitants and former spouses to elect, cancel, suspend, or change health benefits enrollment during periods other than open season.

Comments are particularly invited on: whether this information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the Office of Personnel Management, and whether it will have practical utility; whether our estimate of the

public burden of this collection of information is accurate, and based on valid assumptions and methodology; and ways in which we can minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

There are approximately 30,000 changes to health benefits coverage per year. Of these, 20,000 are submitted on OPM Form 2809 and 10,000 verbally or in written correspondence. Each form takes approximately 45 minutes to complete; data collection by telephone or mail takes approximately 10 minutes. The annual burden for the form is 15,000 hours; the burden not using the form is 1,667 hours. The total burden is 16,667 hours.

For copies of this proposal, contact Cyrus S. Benson on (202) 606-4808, FAX (202) 606-0910 or via E-mail to Cyrus.Benson@opm.gov. Please include a mailing address with your request.

DATES: Comments on this proposal should be received within 60 calendar days from the date of this publication.

ADDRESSES: Send or deliver comments to—Ronald W. Melton, Deputy Assistant Director, Retirement Services Program, Center for Retirement and Insurance Services, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street, NW., Room 3305, Washington, DC 20415-3500.

For Information Regarding Administrative Coordination—Contact: Cyrus S. Benson, Team Leader, Publications Team, RIS Support Services/Support Group, (202) 606-0623.

Office of Personnel Management.

Howard Weizmann,

Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. E8-28442 Filed 11-28-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-38-P

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Actuarial Advisory Committee With Respect to the Railroad Retirement Account; Notice of Public Meeting

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Public Law 92-463 that the Actuarial Advisory Committee will hold a meeting on December 16, 2008, at 12:30 p.m. at the office of the Chief Actuary of the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois, on the conduct of the 24th Actuarial Valuation of the Railroad Retirement System. The agenda for this meeting will include a discussion of the assumptions to be used in the 24th Actuarial Valuation. A report containing

recommended assumptions and the experience on which the recommendations are based will have been sent by the Chief Actuary to the Committee before the meeting.

The meeting will be open to the public. Persons wishing to submit written statements or make oral presentations should address their communications or notices to the RRB Actuarial Advisory Committee, c/o Chief Actuary, U.S. Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092.

Dated: November 20, 2008.

Beatrice Ezerski,

Secretary to the Board.

[FR Doc. E8-28440 Filed 11-28-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7905-01-M

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 17f-2, SEC File No. 270-233, OMB Control No. 3235-0223.

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 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.

Rule 17f-2 (17 CFR 270.17f-2) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act") (15 U.S.C. 80a-1) is entitled: "Custody of Investments by Registered Management Investment Company." Rule 17f-2 establishes safeguards for arrangements in which a registered management investment company ("fund") is deemed to maintain custody of its own assets, such as when the fund maintains its assets in a facility that provides safekeeping but not custodial services. The rule includes several recordkeeping or reporting requirements. The fund's directors must prepare a resolution designating not more than five fund officers or responsible employees who may have access to the fund's assets. The designated access persons (two or more of whom must act jointly when handling fund assets) must prepare a

written notation providing certain information about each deposit or withdrawal of fund assets, and must transmit the notation to another officer or director designated by the directors. Independent public accountants must verify the fund's assets at least three times a year and two of the examinations must be unscheduled.

The requirement that directors designate access persons is intended to ensure that directors evaluate the trustworthiness of insiders who handle fund assets. The requirements that access persons act jointly in handling fund assets, prepare a written notation of each transaction, and transmit the notation to another designated person are intended to reduce the risk of misappropriation of fund assets by access persons, and to ensure that adequate records are prepared, reviewed by a responsible third person, and available for examination by the Commission's examination staff. The requirement that auditors verify fund assets without notice twice each year is intended to provide an additional deterrent to the misappropriation of fund assets and to detect any irregularities.

The Commission staff estimates that each fund makes 941 responses and spends an average of 271 hours annually in complying with the rule's requirements.¹ Commission staff estimates that on an annual basis it takes: (i) 0.5 hours of fund accounting personnel at a total cost of \$75.50 to draft director resolutions; ² (ii) 0.5 hours of the fund's board of directors at a total cost of \$1000 to adopt the resolution; (iii) 263 hours for the fund's accounting personnel at a total cost of \$60,864 to prepare written notations of transactions; ³ and (iv) 7 hours for the fund's accounting personnel at a total cost of \$1057 to assist the independent public accountants when they perform

¹ The 941 responses are: 1 (one) response to draft and adopt the resolution and 940 notations. Estimates of the number of hours are based on conversations with individuals in the mutual fund industry. The actual number of hours may vary significantly depending on individual fund assets.

² This estimate is based on the following calculation: 0.5 (burden hours per fund) × \$151 (fund senior accountant's hourly rate) = \$75.50.

³ Respondents estimated that each fund makes 941 responses on an annual basis and spent a total of 0.28 hours per response. The fund personnel involved are Fund Payable Manager (\$156 hourly rate), Fund Operations Manager (\$252 hourly rate) and Fund Accounting Manager (\$285 hourly rate). The weighted hourly rate of these personnel is \$231. The estimated cost of preparing notations is based on the following calculation: 941 × 0.28 × \$231 = \$60,863.88.