maintain written support of the estimated market value for transactions not required to have an appraisal. The use of their information by credit unions and NCUA helps ensure that federally insured credit unions are not exposed to risk of loss from inadequate appraisals.

Affected Public: Private Sector: Notfor-profit institutions.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 215,621.

OMB Number: 3133–0129. Title: Corporate Credit Unions, 12 CFR part 704.

Type of Review: Extension of a previously approved collection.

Abstract: Part 704 of NCUA's regulations established the regulatory framework for corporate credit unions. This includes various reporting and recordkeeping requirements as well as safety and soundness standards. NCUA has established and regulates corporate credit unions pursuant to its authority under sections 120, 201, and 209 of the Federal Credit Union Act, 12 U.S.C. 1766(a), 1781, and 1789. The collection of information is necessary to ensure that corporate credit unions operate in a safe and sound manner by limiting risk to their natural person credit union members and the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund.

Affected Public: Private Sector: Notfor-profit institutions.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 230.

Request for Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. The public is invited to submit comments concerning: (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the function of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of the information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

By the National Credit Union Administration Board.

#### Ji Kwon,

Acting Secretary of the Board.
[FR Doc. 2025–14297 Filed 7–28–25; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 7535–01–P

# NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC-2025-0001]

## **Sunshine Act Meetings**

TIME AND DATE: Weeks of July 28, August 4, 11, 18, 25, and September 1, 2025. The schedule for Commission meetings is subject to change on short notice. The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the internet at: https://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/public-meetings/schedule.html.

**PLACE:** The NRC provides reasonable accommodation to individuals with disabilities where appropriate. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in these public meetings or need this meeting notice or the transcript or other information from the public meetings in another format (e.g., braille, large print), please notify Anne Silk, NRC Disability Program Specialist, at 301-287-0745, by videophone at 240-428-3217, or by email at Anne.Silk@nrc.gov. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis. STATUS: Public.

Members of the public may request to receive the information in these notices electronically. If you would like to be added to the distribution, please contact the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of the Secretary, Washington, DC 20555, at 301–415–1969, or by email at Betty. Thweatt@nrc.gov or Samantha.Miklaszewski@nrc.gov.

# MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

# Week of July 28, 2025

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of July 28, 2025.

# Week of August 4, 2025—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of August 4, 2025.

#### Week of August 11, 2025—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of August 11, 2025.

#### Week of August 18, 2025—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of August 18, 2025.

# Week of August 25, 2025—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of August 25, 2025.

## Week of September 1, 2025—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of September 1, 2025.

# **CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:** For more information or to verify the status of meetings, contact Wesley Held at 301–287–3591 or via email at *Wesley.Held@nrc.gov.*

The NRC is holding the meetings under the authority of the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b.

Dated: July 25, 2025.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

#### Wesley W. Held,

Policy Coordinator, Office of the Secretary.
[FR Doc. 2025–14292 Filed 7–25–25; 11:15 am]
BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

# NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-255; NRC-2025-0346]

# Palisades Energy, LLC; Palisades Nuclear Plant; Exemption

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing an exemption in response to a September 28, 2023, request from Holtec Decommissioning International, LLC (HDI), on behalf of Holtec Palisades, LLC. The exemption supports the reauthorization of power operations at the Palisades Nuclear Plant (PNP), and allows for a one-time rescission of the docketed decommissioning certifications to remove the restriction that prohibits operation of the PNP reactor and emplacement and retention of fuel into the PNP reactor vessel. The NRC is also rescinding six exemptions that were previously granted based on PNP's decommissioning status.

**DATES:** The exemption was issued on July 24, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2025–0346 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may obtain publicly available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

• Federal Rulemaking Website: Go to https://www.regulations.gov and search for Docket ID NRC-2025-0346. Address questions about Docket IDs in Regulations.gov to Bridget Curran; telephone: 301-415-1003; email: Bridget.Curran@nrc.gov. For technical questions, contact the individuals listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

**CONTACT** section of this document.

• NRC's Agencywide Documents
Access and Management System
(ADAMS): You may obtain publicly
available documents online in the
ADAMS Public Documents collection at
https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/
adams.html. To begin the search, select
"Begin Web-based ADAMS Search." For
problems with ADAMS, please contact

the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, at 301–415–4737, or by email to PDR.Resource@nrc.gov. The exemption request to remove the prohibition against operations and emplacement of fuel in the reactor vessel is available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML23271A140.

• NRC's PDR: The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of publicly available documents, is open by appointment. To make an appointment to visit the PDR, please send an email to PDR.Resource@nrc.gov or call 1–800–397–4209 or 301–415–4737, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. eastern time (ET), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Justin C. Poole, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001; telephone: 301–415– 2048; email: Justin.Poole@nrc.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The text of the exemption is attached.

Dated: July 25, 2025.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. **Justin Poole**,

Project Manager, Plant Licensing Branch III, Division of Operating Reactor Licensing, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

# Attachment—Exemption

# NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-255; NRC-2025-0346]

Palisades Energy, LLC; Palisades Nuclear Plant; Exemption

#### I. Background

PNP consists of a single pressurized-water reactor located in Covert Township, Michigan, along the shoreline of Lake Michigan. Originally licensed for operation on March 24, 1971, the NRC issued a renewed operating license for PNP on January 17, 2007, with the renewed operating license term expiring on March 24, 2031. By letter dated January 4, 2017 (ML17004A062), pursuant to title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), Section 50.82(a)(1)(i), "Termination of License," Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy), the previous licensee for PNP, certified to the NRC that it decided to permanently cease power operations at the PNP by October 1, 2018. By letters dated September 28, 2017 (ML17271A233), and October 19, 2017 (ML17292A032), Entergy certified to the NRC that it planned to permanently cease power operations at PNP no later than May 31, 2022. By application dated December 23, 2020 (ML20358A075), as supplemented, Entergy on behalf of itself, Entergy Nuclear Palisades, LLC; Holtec International; and HDI submitted a license transfer application to transfer the PNP license from Entergy to Holtec. By letter dated December 13, 2021 (ML21292A145), the NRC issued an order consenting to the license transfer.

On May 20, 2022, PNP permanently ceased power operations. Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.82(a)(1)(ii), by letter dated June 13, 2022 (ML22164A067), Entergy certified to the NRC that all fuel had been permanently removed from the PNP reactor vessel and placed in the spent fuel pool (SFP) on June 10, 2022. These certifications were docketed by the NRC. Upon docketing the 10 CFR 50.82(a)(1) certifications, 10 CFR 50.82(a)(2) no longer authorizes operation of the PNP reactor, or emplacement or retention of fuel into the PNP reactor vessel. Shortly after PNP transitioned to a permanently shut down and defueled facility in accordance with 10 CFR 50.82(a)(2), Holtec Palisades, LLC assumed ownership of PNP, and HDI became the licensed operator for decommissioning PNP (ML22173A173) and began the decommissioning process.

In early 2023, HDI engaged with the NRC staff regarding the potential restart of reactor operation at PNP. By letter dated March 13, 2023 (ML23072A404), HDI submitted its proposed regulatory path to resume power operations at PNP through a series of licensing and regulatory actions to restore the plant's licensing basis to the one in effect just prior to permanent shut down. Specifically, from September 2023 to May 2024, the NRC received the following licensing and regulatory requests related to the potential restart of Palisades:

- A September 28, 2023, request for an exemption "from the 10 CFR 50.82(a)(2) restriction that prohibits reactor power operations and retention of fuel in the reactor vessel . . . by allowing for a one-time rescission of the docketed 10 CFR 50.82(a)(1) certifications." (ML23271A140).
- A December 6, 2023, license transfer application, seeking NRC consent to, and a conforming amendment for, a transfer of operating authority from HDI to Palisades Energy, LLC under Renewed Facility Operating License No. DPR–20 for Palisades and the general license for the Palisades Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) (ML23340A161) (License Transfer Application).
- A December 14, 2023, license amendment request in support of resuming power operations that largely seeks to undo the changes made by the previously issued permanently defueled technical specifications amendment with some proposed differences from the previous operating reactor technical specifications (ML23348A148) (Power Operations TS Amendment).
- A February 9, 2024, license amendment request in support of resuming power operations that largely seeks to undo the changes made by the previously issued defueled administrative controls amendment with some proposed differences from the previous operating reactor technical specifications (ML24040A089) (Administrative Controls Amendment).
- A May 1, 2024, license amendment request to revise the Palisades site emergency plan to support resuming power operations (ML24122C666) (Emergency Plan Amendment).
- A May 24, 2024, license amendment request to revise the Palisades main steam

line break analysis to "support the Palisades restart project." (ML24145Å145) (MSLB Amendment).

While this exemption is a necessary part of Holtec's regulatory approach to support restoration of the PNP power operations licensing basis, the NRC's approval of this exemption is not sufficient to authorize operation of the reactor, or emplacement or retention of fuel into the reactor vessel. NRC approval of all the licensing and regulatory requests listed above is necessary to restore the PNP power operations licensing basis and reauthorize power operations at PNP.

Accordingly, separate from this exemption, the NRC staff has reviewed and approved the License Transfer Application (ML25167A245), the Power Operations TS Amendment (ML25157A127), the Administrative Controls TS Amendment (ML25157A107), the Emergency Plan Amendment (ML25150A281), and the MSLB Amendment (ML25156A045). The staff is issuing its approval of these actions concurrently with its approval of this exemption to reauthorize power operations at PNP.

#### II. Request/Action

By letter dated September 28, 2023 (ML23271A140), Holtec Decommissioning International LLC, on behalf of Holtec Palisades LLC<sup>1</sup> (collectively, Holtec), requested exemption from portions of 10 CFR 50.82(a)(2) to allow for a one-time rescission of the docketed 10 CFR 50.82(a)(1) certifications to remove the restriction that prohibits operation of the PNP reactor and emplacement and retention of fuel into the  $\overrightarrow{PNP}$  reactor vessel. The regulation in 10 CFR 50.82(a)(2) states, Upon docketing of the certifications for permanent cessation of operations and permanent removal of fuel from the reactor vessel, or when a final legally effective order to permanently cease operations has come into effect, the 10 CFR part 50 license no longer authorizes operation of the reactor or emplacement or retention of fuel into the reactor vessel. Therefore, Holtec states that a one-time exemption to this requirement is needed for PNP to transition from a facility in decommissioning back to a power operations plant. Holtec also states that the exemption would allow resumption of power operations at PNP after NRC approval of the License Transfer Application and license amendment requests necessary to reinstate the PNP power operations licensing basis. By letter dated July 1, 2025 (ML25182A066), Holtec submitted a notification reporting the licensing and regulatory activities needed to support the resumption of power operations at PNP and its readiness to transition to the power operations licensing basis on August 25, 2025. Holtec stated in the exemption request that four exemptions granted to PNP based on a facility in a decommissioning status are to be rescinded coincident with implementation of this exemption. Those

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On July 24, 2025, the NRC issued an order approving and conforming amendment reflecting the transfer of operating authority from HDI to Palisades Energy, LLC (Package ML25167A245). Holtec Palisades, LLC, remains the licensed owner of PNP.

exemptions are related to Certified Fuel Handlers Severe Weather Authority (ML17216A802), Record Keeping (ML21195A368, package), Use of Decommissioning Funds for Spent Fuel Management (ML21286A581, package), and the Permanently Defueled Emergency Plan (ML23263A977). In addition, by letter dated October 9, 2024 (ML24283A094), Holtec requested rescission of two additional exemptions related to Offsite Primary and Secondary Liability Insurance (ML23192A077) and Onsite Property Damage Insurance (ML23191A522) coincident with implementation of this exemption.

#### III. Discussion

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12, "Specific exemptions," the Commission may, upon application by any interested person or upon its own initiative, grant exemptions from the requirements of 10 CFR part 50: (1) when the exemptions are authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to the public health and safety, and are consistent with the common defense and security; and (2) when any of the special circumstances listed in 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2) are present. These special circumstances include, among others:

(ii) Application of the regulation in the particular circumstances would not serve the underlying purpose of the rule or is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule:

# A. The Exemption Is Authorized by Law

The requested exemption from 10 CFR 50.82(a)(2) would allow for a one-time rescission of the docketed 10 CFR 50.82(a)(1) certifications to remove the restriction that prohibits operation of the PNP reactor and emplacement and retention of fuel into the PNP reactor vessel. As stated above, 10 CFR 50.12, allows the NRC to grant exemptions from the requirements of 10 CFR part 50 when the exemptions are authorized by law. The NRC staff has determined that granting the proposed one-time exemption will not result in a violation of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended; other laws; or the Commission's regulations. Therefore, the exemption is authorized by law.

#### B. The Exemption Presents No Undue Risk to Public Health and Safety

The requested exemption, by itself, does not authorize plant operation or change the conditions of the plant in any manner. The one-time exemption from 10 CFR 50.82(a)(2) would allow Holtec the ability to rescind the 10 CFR 50.82(a)(1) certifications, such that the current restrictions that prohibit operation of the PNP reactor and emplacement and retention of fuel into the PNP reactor vessel would no longer be in place. These regulatory restrictions in 10 CFR 50.82(a)(2) in would no longer be in place once the certifications are rescinded; however, as discussed in Section I, the NRC has concurrently reviewed and approved the transfer of operating authority and the license amendment requests associated with restoring the power operations licensing basis (i.e., restored operating license conditions, technical specifications, etc.) to allow for and ensure the safe loading of fuel into the reactor and operation of the plant.

Each of these actions were subject to individual review and approval by the NRC to ensure that there is reasonable assurance of public health and safety to support the resumption of power operations at PNP. Therefore, this exemption will not present an undue risk to public health and safety.

# C. The Exemption Is Consistent With the Common Defense and Security

The requested exemption would allow for a one-time rescission of the decommissioning certifications in 10 CFR 50.82(a)(1), and would not, by itself, alter the design, function, or operation of any structures or plant equipment that is necessary to maintain the safe and secure status of the plant, and will not adversely affect Holtec's ability to physically secure the site or protect special nuclear material. As discussed in Section I, the NRC has reviewed and approved the transfer of operating authority and the license amendment requests associated with restoring the power operations licensing basis to allow for and ensure the safe loading of fuel into the reactor and operation of the plant. As part of this review, the NRC determined that PNP's safeguards and security programs, as found in the Physical Security Plan, will meet the regulatory requirements necessary to support the resumption of power operations at PNP (ML25157A127). Therefore, the proposed exemption is consistent with the common defense and security.

#### D. Special Circumstances

Special circumstances, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii), are present whenever, '[a]pplication of the regulation in the particular circumstances would not serve the underlying purpose of the rule or is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule." The regulation at 10 CFR 50.82(a)(2) prohibits operation of the reactor and emplacement and retention of fuel in the reactor vessel upon docketing the decommissioning certifications described in 10 CFR 50.82(a)(1). The underlying purpose of this regulation is to provide the licensee with a key means of communicating to the NRC and the public the licensee's plans for decommissioning the reactor, as discussed in NRC-2015-0070, Regulatory Improvements for Power Reactors Transitioning to Decommissioning, Regulatory Basis Document, dated November 20, 2017 (ML17215A010).

Additionally, the certifications identify the point in time when a reactor formally enters the decommissioning process. Specifically, the docketing of the 10 CFR 50.82(a)(1) certifications serves as a discrete date to transition the inspection program for the plant from an operating to a decommissioning status, to restructure the NRC fees associated with operating a facility, and to allow the licensee to begin the process of implementing reductions to various site programs (i.e., emergency preparedness and physical security) based on the reduced risk profile of a reactor in decommissioning.

As stated above, the underlying purpose of the rule is for communication regarding a licensee's formal entrance into the decommissioning process and to provide a

discrete point in time to mark the transition from operations to decommissioning. Application of the rule as written would not permit a licensee in decommissioning for which the § 50.82(a) certifications have been docketed, in this particular circumstance, Holtec, to seek to restart the reactor and exit the decommissioning process. Moreover, it would prohibit Holtec from exiting the decommissioning process regardless of the outcome of the NRC's review of Holtec's licensing requests seeking the restoration of the PNP's power operations licensing basis. As noted in Section I, the NRC staff has concurrently reviewed and approved the transfer of operating authority and the license amendment requests associated with restoring the power operations licensing basis to support the reauthorization of power operations at PNP. There is nothing in the rulemaking basis for 10 CFR 50.82(a)(2) to indicate that the prohibitions prescribed by the regulation were intended to be irreversible. Additionally, in denying a petition for rulemaking, the Commission stated that "the NRC may consider requests from licensees to resume operations under the existing regulatory framework" Criteria To Return Retired Nuclear Power Reactors to Operations, (86 FR 24362; May 6, 2021). Finally, even if PNP resumes power operations, the facility would still need to be decommissioned, following submission and docketing of the 10 CFR 50.82(a)(1)certifications after any subsequent period of operation. Therefore, the NRC staff concludes that application of the regulation, in the particular circumstances of Holtec seeking to resume power operations at PNP, does not serve the underlying purpose of the rule. Accordingly, the special circumstances in 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii) exist and support approval of the requested exemption.

#### E. Environmental Considerations

In accordance with 10 CFR 51.30, 51.31, and 51.32, the Commission has determined that the granting of this exemption will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment as discussed in the NRC staff's Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact issued on May 30, 2025 (90 FR 23071).

# IV. Conclusions

Accordingly, the Commission has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12, the exemption is authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to the public health and safety, and is consistent with the common defense and security. Also, special circumstances are present. Therefore, the Commission hereby grants Holtec a one-time exemption from 10 CFR 50.82(a)(2) to allow for a one-time rescission of the PNP docketed 10 CFR 50.82(a)(1) certifications to remove the restriction that prohibits operation of the PNP reactor and emplacement and retention of fuel into the PNP reactor vessel.

The Commission also considered Holtec's request that the NRC rescind the six exemptions discussed in Section II coincident with the implementation of this exemption. The Commission concludes that these six exemptions should be rescinded upon the effectiveness of this exemption

because the six exemptions were granted based on PNP's status as a facility in decommissioning, and therefore the supporting bases for these exemptions are no longer met. Accordingly, the Commission hereby grants Holtec's request to rescind the six exemptions discussed in Section II.

By letter dated July 1, 2025 (ML25182A066), Holtec submitted a notification reporting its readiness to implement the power operations licensing basis. In this letter Holtec stated that they planned to transition to the power operations licensing basis on August 25, 2025. Therefore, this exemption is effective on August 25, 2025.

Dated: July 24, 2025.

Jamie Pelton,

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Acting Director, Division of Operating Reactor Licensing, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 2025-14334 Filed 7-28-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

#### **POSTAL SERVICE**

International Product Change—Priority Mail Express International, Priority Mail International & First-Class Package **International Service Agreements** 

**AGENCY:** Postal Service.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Postal Service gives notice of filing requests with the Postal

Regulatory Commission to add certain Priority Mail Express International, Priority Mail International & First-Class Package International Service contracts to the list of Negotiated Service Agreements in the Competitive Product List in the Mail Classification Schedule.

DATES: Date of notice: July 29, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher C. Meyerson, (202) 268-

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States Postal Service hereby gives notice that, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3642 and 3632(b)(3), it filed with the Postal Regulatory Commission the following requests:

Date filed with postal regulatory commission	Negotiated service agreement product category and No.	MC docket No.	K docket No.
7/18/2025	PMEI, PMI&FCPIS 79	MC2025-1577	K2025–1570.
7/21/2025	PMEI, PMI & FCPIS 80	MC2025-1581	K2025–1574.

Documents are available at www.prc.gov.

#### Colleen Hibbert-Kapler,

Attorney, Ethics and Legal Compliance. [FR Doc. 2025-14316 Filed 7-28-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710-12-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-103542; File No. SR-NSCC-2025-011]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; **National Securities Clearing** Corporation; Notice of Filing of **Proposed Rule Change Concerning Enhancements to the Automated Customer Account Transfer Service** 

July 24, 2025.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,2 notice is hereby given that on July 16, 2025, National Securities Clearing Corporation ("NSCC") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II and III below, which Items have been prepared by the clearing agency. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

# I. Clearing Agency's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The proposed rule change consists of amendments to the NSCC Rules & Procedures ("Rules") to enhance the **Automated Customer Account Transfer** Service ("ACATS") account transfer process.3

# II. Clearing Agency's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the **Proposed Rule Change**

In its filing with the Commission, the clearing agency 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. The clearing agency has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

(A) Clearing Agency's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

# 1. Purpose

The purpose of this proposed rule change is to amend the NSCC Rules to accommodate proposed enhancements to ACATS to improve the efficiency of the account transfer process. Specifically, the proposed rule change would modify NSCC Rule 50

(Automated Customer Account Transfer Service) to reflect the removal of (i) the settlement preparation stage of the ACATS process ("Settle Prep" or the "Settle Prep Day") and (ii) the second day of the Fund/SERV® 4 pending acknowledgement process from the ACATS transfer process. The proposed rule change is discussed in detail below.

# Background

#### **ACATS Overview**

ACATS is a non-guaranteed service provided by NSCC that enables Members to effect transfers of customer accounts among themselves. ACATS complements Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") Rule 11870 regarding customer account transfers, which requires FINRA members to use automated clearing agency customer account transfer services and to effect customer account transfers within specified time frames.<sup>5</sup> ACATS automates and standardizes procedures for the transfer of assets in a customer account, allowing Members to efficiently and automatically enter, review, and generate instructions to settle customer account transfers. The

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

<sup>2 17</sup> CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Capitalized terms not defined herein shall have the meaning assigned to such terms in the NSCC Rules, available at www.dtcc.com/legal/rules-andprocedures.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Fund/SERV is an NSCC service that serves as the U.S. industry standard for processing and settling mutual fund, bank collective fund and other pooled investment product transactions between fund companies and distributors.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See FINRA Rule 11870, available at www.finra.org/rules-guidance/rulebooks/finrarules/11870. NSCC also permits Qualified Securities Depositories (i.e., The Depository Trust Company ("DTC")) to utilize ACATS on behalf of their participants (e.g., DTC member banks) on a voluntary basis. See Section 1 of Rule 50, supra note 3.