

to waive the five-day pre-filing requirement and believes that it is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest to accelerate the operative date since the proposed rule change, as amended, is similar to the programs of other options exchanges, and raises no new regulatory issues.¹⁷ For these reasons, the Commission designates the proposal to be effective and operative upon filing with the Commission.¹⁸

At any time within sixty days of the filing of such proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change, as amended, is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Phlx. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-Phlx-2003-27 and should be submitted by May 30, 2003.

¹⁷ For purposes of accelerating the operative date of the proposal, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

¹⁸ For purposes of determining the effective date and calculating the sixty-day period within which the Commission may summarily abrogate the proposed rule change under Section 19(b)(3)(C) of the Act, the Commission considers that period to commence on April 30, 2003, the date Phlx filed Amendment No. 1. See 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(C).

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁹

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster #3495]

State of Texas

Johnson County and the contiguous counties of Bosque, Ellis, Hill, Hood, Parker, Somervell and Tarrant in the State of Texas constitute a disaster area due to severe thunderstorms that occurred on April 23, 2003.

Applications for loans for physical damage as a result of this disaster may be filed until the close of business on July 3, 2003, and for economic injury until the close of business on February 3, 2004, at the address listed below or other locally announced locations: U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 3 Office, 4400 Amon Carter Boulevard, Suite 102, Forth Worth, TX 76155.

The interest rates are:

For Physical Damage:	
Homeowners with credit available elsewhere	5.625
Homeowners without credit available elsewhere	2.812
Businesses with credit available elsewhere	5.906
Businesses and non-profit organizations without credit available elsewhere	2.953
Others (including non-profit organizations) with credit available elsewhere	5.500
For Economic Injury:	
Businesses and small agricultural cooperatives without credit available elsewhere	2.953

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 349511 and for economic injury the number is 9V1400.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 59002 and 59008.)

Dated: May 2, 2003.

Hector V. Barreto,

Administrator.

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¹⁹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Region VI—Houston District Advisory Council Meeting; Public Meeting

The U.S. Small Business Administration, Region VI, Houston District Advisory Council, located in the geographical area of Houston, Texas will hold a public meeting at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, May 28, 2003. The meeting will be held in the Conference Room at the Small Business Administration, 87011 S. Gessner, Suite 1200, Houston, Texas 77074. The meeting will be conducted to discuss such matters that may be presented by members of the District Advisory Council, staff of the U.S. Small Business Administration, and others attending. Anyone wishing to make an oral or written presentation to the Board must contact Mr. Milton Wilson in writing by letter or fax no later than May 19, 2003, in order to be put on the agenda. Mr. Milton Wilson, District Director, U.S. Small Business Administration, 87011 S. Gessner, Suite 1200 Houston, TX 77074, (713) 773-6500 ph. or (713) 773-6550 fax.

Candace H. Stoltz,

Director, Advisory Councils.

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Region V Regulatory Fairness Board; Public Federal Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Hearing

The Small Business Administration Region V Regulatory Fairness Board and the SBA Office of the National Ombudsman will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, May 22, 2003 at 2 p.m. in the COSE conference room located at 200 Tower City Center, 50 Public Square, Cleveland, OH 44113-2291, to receive comments and testimony from small business owners, small government entities, and small non-profit organizations concerning regulatory enforcement and compliance actions taken by federal agencies.

Anyone wishing to attend or to make a presentation must contact Gilbert Goldberg in writing or by fax, in order to be put on the agenda. Gilbert Goldberg, District Director, U.S. Small Business Administration, Cleveland District Office, 1111 Superior Avenue East, Suite 630, Cleveland, OH 44114, phone (216) 522-4182, fax (216) 522-2038, e-mail gilbert.goldberg@sba.gov.

For more information, see our Web site at www.sba.gov/ombudsman.

Dated: May 5, 2003.

Michael L. Barrera,

National Ombudsman.

[FR Doc. 03-11599 Filed 5-8-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 4188]

Shipping Coordinating Committee; Notice of Meeting

The Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC) will conduct a joint, open meeting at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 22, 2003, at the Island Grand Beach Resort and Conference Center; 5600 Gulf Boulevard, St. Pete Beach, Florida. The meeting will be held in connection with the Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services (RTCM) 2003 Annual Assembly Meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to review the outcome of the Seventh Session of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Subcommittee on Radiocommunications and Search and Rescue (COMSAR), that occurred in January 13-17, 2003, at IMO headquarters in London, England. Additionally, the meeting is to prepare for the 49th session of the IMO Subcommittee on Safety of Navigation (NAV 49), which is scheduled for June 30-July 4, 2003, at the IMO Headquarters in London.

Items of principal interest on the COMSAR agenda are:

- Maritime Safety Information for GMDSS;
- Development of a procedure for recognition of mobile satellite systems;
- Revision of performance standards for NAVTEX equipment;
- Emergency radiocommunications, including false alerts and interference;
- Large passenger ship safety;
- Issues related to maritime security;
- Developments in maritime radiocommunication systems and technology, including long-range tracking;
- Matters concerning Search & Rescue;
- Planning for the 8th session of COMSAR.

Items of principal interest on the NAV 49 agenda are:

- Routing of ships, ship reporting and related matters;
- Requirements for the display and use of Automatic Identification System (AIS) information on shipborne navigational displays;
- Places of refuge;
- Anchoring, mooring and towing equipment;
- Revision of performance standards for radar reflectors;

- Review of performance standards for radar equipment;
- International Telecommunication Union (ITU) matters, including Radiocommunication ITU-R Study Group 8 matters;
- Large passenger ship safety: Effective voyage planning for large passenger ships;
- Measures to enhance maritime security;
- World-wide radionavigation system;
- Casualty analysis;
- Guidance on early abandonment for bulk carriers.

Members of the public may attend these meetings up to the seating capacity of the rooms. Interested persons may seek information, including meeting room numbers, by writing; Mr. Russell S. Levin, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, Commandant (G-SCT-2), Room 6509, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001, by calling: (202) 267-1389, or by sending Internet electronic mail to rlevin@comdt.uscg.mil.

Information for the RTCM meeting can be found at <https://www.rtcn.org/index2.html>.

Dated: May 1, 2003.

Frederick J. Kenney,

Executive Secretary, Shipping Coordinating Committee, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 03-11606 Filed 5-8-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 4307]

Shipping Coordinating Committee; Notice of Meeting

The Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC) will conduct an open meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 20, 2003, in Room 2415, at U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC. The purpose of the meeting is for members of the SHC to discuss and decide upon changes to the SHC charter regarding SHC subcommittee structure. The proposed change to the subcommittee structure is described below.

The SHC has presently established six subcommittees, the Subcommittee for the Prevention of Marine Pollution, the Subcommittee on Safety of Life at Sea, the Maritime Law Subcommittee, the Subcommittee on Tonnage and Measurement, the Subcommittee on the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Subcommittee on Ocean Dumping. This subcommittee structure was established

at the time of the original SHC charter in 1958, and has not been amended since the mid-1970's. The Subcommittees on Tonnage Measurement and UNCTAD have not met in over 10 years. The primary focus of the SHC is to assist in the development of and receive public input on U.S. negotiating positions at the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and on various international instruments (*i.e.*, treaties, conventions and protocols) administered by the IMO. Over the last 15 years, the IMO has added a number of committees and subcommittees, whose functions are not directly addressed by the current subcommittees contained in the SHC Charter.

At this meeting SHC members will be asked to discuss and decide whether to:

1. Disestablish the Subcommittee on Tonnage and Measurement and the Subcommittee on UNCTAD.

2. Establish the following new subcommittees:

a. The Subcommittee on IMO Administration and Budgeting. The purpose of the subcommittee would be to ascertain views and make recommendations consistent with paragraphs (1) and (2) of Article I of the SHC Charter for matters before the IMO Assembly and Council.

b. The Subcommittee on IMO Technical Cooperation. The purpose of the subcommittee would be to ascertain views and make recommendations consistent with paragraphs (1) and (2) of Article I of the SHC Charter for matters before the IMO Technical Cooperation Committee.

c. The Subcommittee on Facilitation. The purpose of the subcommittee would be to ascertain views and make recommendations consistent with paragraphs (1) and (2) of Article I of the SHC Charter in regards to United States participation in the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic, 1965, and for matters before the IMO Facilitation Committee.

d. The Subcommittee on the Carriage of Bulk Liquids and Gases. The purpose of the subcommittee would be to ascertain views and make recommendations consistent with paragraphs (1) and (2) of Article I of the SHC Charter for matters before the IMO Bulk Liquids and Gases Subcommittee.

e. The Subcommittee on Ship Design and Equipment. The purpose of the subcommittee would be to ascertain views and make recommendations consistent with paragraphs (1) and (2) of Article I of the SHC Charter for matters before the IMO Design and Equipment Subcommittee.