

Technology Management, at 703-292-3692 or by fax at 703-292-4073.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 27, 2005, the Postal Service published its notice of intention to resume testing of the concept of Customized Postage for a period of 1 year in **Federal Register**, Volume 70, Number 80, Pages 21821-21822. As a result of that notice, three companies were authorized to conduct a 1 year market test of Customized Postage beginning in May 2005. This test, now referred to as Phase II, precluded the use of commercial images in Customized Postage.

As a result of a recent amendment to 18 U.S.C. § 475, the Postal Service is providing notice of its intention to conduct further market tests of the Customized Postage concept to include commercial images. These further market tests will be referred to as Phase III. Therefore, the Postal Service invites interested parties to submit proposed concepts for consideration.

While each concept will be evaluated on its own merits, particular conditions may be required and agreed to by the Postal Service and the provider regarding the testing of that concept. The following conditions will be applied in common to all concepts:

1. The provider must be an authorized PC Postage® provider, authorized postage meter manufacturer or distributor, or a company affiliated with an authorized postage provider under conditions respecting postage revenue security approved by the Postal Service in accordance with 39 CFR 501.1 and subject to all procedures and regulations set forth throughout 39 CFR part 501.

2. The Customized Postage indicia and other printed matter must meet all Postal Service requirements respecting placement on a mailpiece, readability, avoidance of interference with and facilitation of mail processing, and identification of fraudulent indicia, as well as all regulations pertaining to PC Postage products and services.

3. The provider will be responsible for ensuring that all images to appear in the ad plate area meet the requirements of 39 CFR 501.6(g) and 501.23(d); are not obscene, deceptive, or defamatory of any person, entity, or group; do not advocate unlawful action; do not emulate any form of valid postage, government, or other official indicia, or payment of postage; and do not harm the public image, reputation, or good will of the Postal Service. The provider will also have full responsibility for ensuring that a customer acknowledges, agrees, and warrants in writing that it bears full responsibility and liability for obtaining authorization to reproduce

and otherwise use an image as proposed, and that it, in fact, has the legal authority to reproduce and otherwise use the image as proposed. It is the Postal Service's declared intent not to allow its Customized Postage program to become a public forum for dissemination, debate, or discussion of public issues.

4. The test will be limited to full-rate single piece First-Class Mail® service, Priority Mail® service, and Express Mail® service.

5. The provider must agree that it has obtained all intellectual property licenses (from customers or elsewhere) necessary to provide the approved service and that it will indemnify the Postal Service for any costs and damages it may incur as a result of its failure to honor this representation.

6. The provider must acknowledge that it understands (and agrees) that the Postal Service has not invoked or exercised 28 U.S.C. 1498 with respect to any aspect of the Customized Postage product or services.

7. The provider must design its Customized Postage indicia in a manner that avoids the likelihood that the public will be misled into believing that the product image originated with the Postal Service.

8. The Postal Service may suspend or cancel without prior notice and without liability for any costs incurred or losses sustained by a provider or customer, the approval of any customer as a test participant, or the Customized Postage test itself, in the event there is sufficient cause to believe that the test presents unacceptable risk to Postal Service revenues, degradation of the ability of the Postal Service to process or deliver mail produced by test participants, an assessment that continuation of the test may expose the Postal Service or its customers to legal liability, or an assessment that continuation of the test will cause public or political embarrassment or harm to the Postal Service in any way.

9. The Postal Service will require approved providers of Customized Postage to pay an annual fee to participate in the test.

10. Additional conditions and requirements may be set forth in individual product test approval letters.

Persons interested in obtaining Postal Service authorization to participate in the Phase III Customized Postage market test should contact: Manager, Postage Technology Management, U.S. Postal Service, 1735 North Lynn Street, Room 5011, Arlington, VA 22209-6030; (703)

292-3592 (Telephone); (703) 292-4073 (Fax).

Neva Watson,

Attorney, Legislative.

[FR Doc. 06-2397 Filed 3-10-06; 8:45 am]

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RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Agency Forms Submitted for OMB Review

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) has submitted the following proposal(s) for the collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for review and approval.

Summary of Proposal(s):

(1) *Collection title:* Pension Plan Reports.

(2) *Form(s) submitted:* G-88p, G-88r and G-88r.1.

(3) *OMB Number:* 3220-0089.

(4) *Expiration date of current OMB clearance:* 05/31/2006.

(5) *Type of request:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

(6) *Respondents:* Business or other for-profit.

(7) *Estimated annual number of respondents:* 500.

(8) *Total annual responses:* 765.

(9) *Total annual reporting hours:* 103.

(10) *Collection description:* The Railroad Retirement Act provides for payment of a supplemental annuity to a qualified railroad retirement annuitant. The collection obtains information from the annuitant's employer to determine (a) the existence of a railroad employer pension plans and whether such plans, if they exist, require a reduction to supplemental annuities paid to the employer's former employees and the (b) the amount of supplemental annuities due railroad employees.

Additional Information or Comments: Copies of the forms and supporting documents can be obtained from Charles Mierzwa, the agency clearance officer at (312-751-3363) or Charles.Mierzwa@rrb.gov.

Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Ronald J. Hodapp, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60611-2092 or Ronald.Hodapp@rrb.gov and to the OMB Desk Officer for the RRB, at the Office of Management and Budget,

Room 10230, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Charles Mierzwa,
Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E6-3476 Filed 3-10-06; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting Notice

FEDERAL REGISTER CITATION OF PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT: [71 FR 11249, March 6, 2006].

STATUS: Closed Meeting.

PLACE: 100 F Street, NW., Washington, DC.

DATE AND TIME OF PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED MEETING: Thursday, March 9, 2006 at 2 p.m.

CHANGE IN THE MEETING: Deletion of Item.

The following item will not be considered during the Closed Meeting on March 9, 2006: Consideration of amicus participation.

The Commission determined that no earlier notice thereof was possible.

At times, changes in Commission priorities require alterations in the scheduling of meeting items. For further information and to ascertain what, if any, matters have been added, deleted or postponed, please contact the Office of the Secretary at (202) 551-5400.

Dated: March 9, 2006.

J. Lynn Taylor,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 06-2457 Filed 3-9-06; 3:54 pm]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-53427; File No. PCAOB-2006-01]

Public Company Accounting Oversight Board; Notice of Filing of Proposed Ethics and Independence Rules Concerning Independence, Tax Services, and Contingent Fees

March 7, 2006.

Pursuant to Section 107(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (the "Act"), notice is hereby given that on August 2, 2005, the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (the "Board" or the "PCAOB") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission" or "SEC") the proposed rule described in Items I, and II below, which items have been prepared by the Board. On November 22, 2005, the Board adopted certain technical

amendments to the rule and amended its filing on November 23, 2005. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule from interested persons.

I. Board's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule

On July 26, 2005, the Board adopted Rules 3501—*Definitions of Terms Employed in Section 3, Part 5 of the Rules*; 3502—*Responsibility Not to Cause Violations*; 3520—*Auditor Independence*; 3521—*Contingent Fees*; 3522—*Tax Transactions*; 3523—*Tax Services for Persons in Financial Reporting Oversight Roles*; and 3524—*Audit Committee Pre-approval of Certain Tax Services* ("the proposed rules"). On November 22, 2005, the Board adopted certain technical amendments to Rule 3502, including its title, and Rule 3522. The proposed rule text is set out below.

SECTION 3. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS—Part 5—Ethics

Rule 3501. Definitions of Terms Employed in Section 3, Part 5 of the Rules

When used in Section 3, Part 5 of the Rules, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a)(i) Affiliate of the Accounting Firm

The term "affiliate of the accounting firm" (or "affiliate of the registered public accounting firm" or "affiliate of the firm") includes the accounting firm's parents; subsidiaries; pension, retirement, investment or similar plans; and any associated entities of the firm, as that term is used in Rule 2-01 of the Commission's Regulation S-X, 17 CFR 210.2-01(f)(2).

(a)(ii) Affiliate of the Audit Client

The term "affiliate of the audit client" means—

(1) An entity that has control over the audit client, or over which the audit client has control, or which is under common control with the audit client, including the audit client's parents and subsidiaries;

(2) An entity over which the audit client has significant influence, unless the entity is not material to the audit client;

(3) An entity that has significant influence over the audit client, unless the audit client is not material to the entity; and

(4) Each entity in the investment company complex when the audit client is an entity that is part of an investment company complex.

(a)(iii) Audit and Professional Engagement Period

The term "audit and professional engagement period" includes both—

(1) The period covered by any financial statements being audited or reviewed (the "audit period"); and

(2) The period of the engagement to audit or review the audit client's financial statements or to prepare a report filed with the Commission (the "professional engagement period")—

(A) The professional engagement period begins when the registered public accounting firm either signs an initial engagement letter (or other agreement to review or audit a client's financial statements) or begins audit, review, or attest procedures, whichever is earlier; and

(B) The professional engagement period ends when the audit client or the registered public accounting firm notifies the Commission that the client is no longer that firm's audit client.

(3) For audits of the financial statements of foreign private issuers, the "audit and professional engagement period" does not include periods ended prior to the first day of the last fiscal year before the foreign private issuer first filed, or was required to file, a registration statement or report with the Commission, provided there has been full compliance with home country independence standards in all prior periods covered by any registration statement or report filed with the Commission.

(a)(iv) Audit Client

The term "audit client" means the entity whose financial statements or other information is being audited, reviewed, or attested and any affiliates of the audit client.

(c)(i) Confidential Transaction

The term "confidential transaction" means—

(1) In general. A confidential transaction is a transaction that is offered to a taxpayer under conditions of confidentiality and for which the taxpayer has paid an advisor a fee.

(2) Conditions of confidentiality. A transaction is considered to be offered to a taxpayer under conditions of confidentiality if the advisor who is paid the fee places a limitation on disclosure by the taxpayer of the tax treatment or tax structure of the transaction and the limitation on disclosure protects the confidentiality of that advisor's tax strategies. A transaction is treated as confidential even if the conditions of confidentiality are not legally binding on the taxpayer.