

Rule 10b-17; SEC File No. 270-427; OMB Control No. 3235-0476.

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 ("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 10b-17, Untimely announcements of record dates (17 CFR 240.10b-17)

Rule 10b-17 requires any issuer of a class of securities publicly traded by the use of any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce or of the mails or of any facility of any national securities exchange to give notice of the following actions relating to such class of securities: (1) A dividend; (2) a stock split; or (3) a rights or other subscription offering. Notice shall be (1) given to the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.; (2) in accordance with the procedures of the national securities exchange upon which the securities are registered; or (3) may be waived by the Commission.

The information required by Rule 10b-17 is necessary for the execution of the Commission's mandate under the Exchange Act to prevent fraudulent, manipulative, and deceptive acts and practices by broker-dealers. The consequence of not requiring the information collection pursuant to Rule 10b-17 is that sellers who have received distributions as recordholders may dispose of the cash or stock dividends or other rights received as recordholders without knowledge of possible claims of purchasers.

It is estimated that, on an annual basis, there are approximately 29,430 respondents and that each response takes about 10 minutes to complete, thus imposing approximately 4,905 burden hours annually (29,430 × 10 minutes). We believe that the average hourly cost to produce and file a response under the rule is about \$50. Therefore, the annual reporting cost burden for complying with this rule is about \$245,250 (4,905 × \$50).

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions 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; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

Please direct your written comments to R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549.

Dated: October 7, 2005.

Jill M. Peterson,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. E5-5725 Filed 10-17-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

Extension: Rule 17a-5(c); SEC File No. 270-199; OMB Control No. 3235-0199.

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 ("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 17a-5(c) [17 CFR 240.17a-5(c)] under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 requires certain broker-dealers who carry customer accounts to provide statements of the broker-dealer's financial condition to their customers. Paragraph (5) of Rule 17a-5(c) provides a conditional exemption from this requirement. It is estimated that approximately 375 broker-dealer respondents with approximately 109 million public customer accounts incur an average burden of 130,000 hours per year to comply with this rule.

Rule 17a-5(c) does not contain record retention requirements. Compliance with the rule is mandatory. Responses

are not confidential. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number.

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (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 information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

Direct your written comments to R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549.

Dated: October 7, 2005.

Jill M. Peterson,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. E5-5727 Filed 10-17-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

Extension:

Form 10-SB; OMB Control No. 3235-0419; SEC File No. 270-367.

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 ("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.

Form 10-SB is used to register classes of securities of small business issuers pursuant to Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to provide material information necessary for

informed investment decisions. Every issuer subject to Sections 13(a) and 15(d) under the Exchange Act must file a periodic report with the Commission containing information about its business and financial condition. We estimate that Form 10-SB takes approximately 133 hours per response and is filed by 254 respondents. It is estimated that 25% of the 33,782 annual burden hours (8,446 burden hours) would be prepared by the company.

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether this collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collections of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

Please direct your written comments to R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549.

Dated: October 7, 2005.

Jill M. Peterson,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. E5-5729 Filed 10-17-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. IC-27116; 812-13116]

ING Partners, Inc., et al.; Notice of Application

October 12, 2005.

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission").

ACTION: Notice of an application under sections 6(c) and 17(b) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act") exempting applicants from section 17(a) of the Act and under section 12(d)(1)(f) of the Act exempting applicants from sections 12(d)(1)(A) and 12(d)(1)(B) of the Act.

Summary of the Application: The order would permit certain registered open-end management investment companies to acquire shares of other registered open-end management

investment companies or unit investment trusts that are within or outside the same group of investment companies as well as a guaranteed rate investment contract issued by an affiliated insurance company.

Applicants: ING Partners, Inc. ("IPI"), ING Investors Trust ("IIT"), ING Variable Insurance Trust ("IVIT"), ING Variable Products Trust ("IVPT"), ING VP Emerging Markets Fund, Inc. ("IVPEMF"), ING VP Natural Resources Trust ("IVPNRT") (the "ING Investment Companies"), ING Life Insurance and Annuity Company ("ILAC"), ING Investments, LLC ("IIL") and Directed Services, Inc. (the "Advisers").¹

Filing Dates: The application was filed on August 13, 2004 and amended on April 7, 2005, and September 28, 2005. Applicants have agreed to file an amendment during the notice period, the substance of which is reflected in this notice.

Hearing or Notification of Hearing: An order granting the application will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the Commission's Secretary and serving applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. on November 7, 2005, and should be accompanied by proof of service on applicants, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by writing to the Commission's Secretary.

ADDRESSES: Secretary, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F St., NE., Washington, DC 20549-9303. Applicants, c/o Huey P. Falgout, Jr., Chief Counsel, ING Americas U.S. Legal Services, 7337 E. Doubletree Ranch Rd., Scottsdale, Arizona 85258.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marilyn Mann, Senior Counsel, at (202) 551-6813, or Mary Kay Frech, Branch

¹ All entities that currently intend to rely on the requested order are named as applicants and any other entity that relies on the order in the future will comply with the terms and conditions of the application. Applicants request that the relief also apply to any existing or future registered open-end management investment company that is part of the same group of investment companies as defined in section 12(d)(1)(G) of the Act as the ING Investment Companies (included in the term "ING Investment Companies") and any existing or future insurance company controlling, controlled by or under common control with ILIAC that may issue a guaranteed rate investment contract (each an "ING Insurance Company"). Each series of an ING Investment Company is referred to as a "Fund" and collectively as "Funds."

Chief, at (202) 551-6821 (Division of Investment Management, Office of Investment Company Regulation).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following is a summary of the application. The complete application may be obtained for a fee at the Commission's Public Reference Branch, 100 F St., NE., Washington, DC 20549-0102 (tel. (202) 551-5850).

Applicants' Representations

1. IPI is a Maryland corporation and is registered under the Act as an open-end management investment company. IPI currently consists of 25 Funds, each with its own investment objective and policies. The shares of each IPI Fund are offered and sold through registered separate accounts of insurance companies that are affiliates of the Advisers ("Registered Separate Accounts") and unregistered separate accounts of insurance companies that are affiliates of the Advisers ("Unregistered Separate Accounts" and, together with the Registered Separate Accounts, the "Separate Accounts"), which are used to fund variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance contracts, and may be offered and sold to retirement plans and certain investment advisers, pursuant to an order granted by the Commission.² IPI has created 5 new Funds known as the Solutions Portfolios, which will be managed by ILIAC and each of which will be a fund of funds ("Funds of Funds"). The Solutions Portfolios are the only Funds of Funds that currently intend to rely on the requested relief.

2. IIT is a Massachusetts business trust and is registered under the Act as an open-end management investment company. IIT currently consists of 46 Funds, each with its own investment objective and policies. The shares of each IIT Fund currently are offered and sold through Separate Accounts which are used to fund variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance contracts, and may be offered and sold to retirement plans, pursuant to an order granted by the Commission.³

3. IVIT is a Delaware statutory trust and is registered under the Act as an open-end management investment company. IVIT currently consists of 11 Funds, each with its own investment objective and policies. IVPT is a Massachusetts business trust and is registered under the Act as an open-end management investment company. IVPT currently consists of 10 Funds, each

² Aetna Variable Fund, Investment Company Act Release Nos. 23545 (Nov. 23, 1998) (notice) and 23616 (Dec. 21, 1998) (order).

³ *Id.*