

after the new treatment technology is installed.

2. EPA requests comment on whether it is more appropriate to base its affordability determination on the incremental costs of treatment for the system at the 10th percentile or the 50th percentile of system size in each small system category.

3. EPA requests comment on what the most appropriate national-level percentage threshold is (i.e., 0.25 percent, 0.50 percent, or 0.75 percent of the median MHI among small systems within a size category).

4. EPA requests comment on the key factors considered in developing affordability methodology options as described in section III.C of this notice. Do commenters believe these are the appropriate factors to consider? Are there other factors commenters would suggest the Agency consider?

5. EPA requests comment on whether the Agency should use a two-part test to screen at the national and county levels for systems that cannot afford compliance. Additionally, EPA seeks comment on whether the county or a different level is the appropriate unit of analysis for the second part of this test. The approach would first compare the incremental household cost of compliance to a national income-based threshold. If EPA were to find compliance affordable at the national level, we would then identify counties that are economically at-risk based on three socioeconomic triggers (MHI less than or equal to 65 percent of the national MHI, a U.S. Census Bureau-defined poverty rate at least twice the national average, or a two-year average unemployment rate at least twice the two-year national average). EPA also requests comment on the specific triggers that should be used to identify economically at-risk counties.

6. EPA requests comment upon its interpretation of affordability in section III.D.3 of today's notice. That is, should EPA consider variance technologies affordable even when they do not fall below the affordability threshold in cases where there would otherwise be no affordable variance technologies to list.

7. EPA requests comment on implementation challenges to States in reviewing and issuing small system variances.

8. EPA requests comment on finding a variance technology to be protective of public health if the concentration of the target contaminant after treatment by the variance technology is no more than three times the MCL unless unusual factors associated with the contaminant or EPA's risk assessment suggest that an

alternate level is appropriate, in which case EPA would explain its basis for the alternate level and request public comment in the proposed rule. EPA requests comment on whether a finding that variance technologies are protective of public health if they achieve a contaminant level within three times the MCL should be "capped" at a particular risk level (i.e., 10^{-3}) in order to provide further assurance that variance technologies are in fact protective.

The Agency also requests comment on any other issue raised by this notice on options for revising its national-level affordability methodology or its methodology for determining if a variance technology is protective of public health.

VII. References

- National Drinking Water Advisory Council (NDWAC). 2003. Recommendations of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council to U.S. EPA on Its National Small Systems Affordability Criteria. Available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ndwac/council.html>.
- Rubin, Scott, J. 2001. White Paper for National Rural Water Association, Criteria to Assess the Affordability of Water Service. Available at <http://www.nrwa.org>.
- Rubin, Scott, J. 2002. White Paper for National Rural Water Association, Criteria to Assess Affordability Concerns in Conference Report for H.R. 2620. Available at <http://www.nrwa.org>.
- U.S. EPA. 1998. Announcement of Small System Compliance Technology Lists for Existing National Primary Drinking Water Regulations and Findings Concerning Variance Technologies. Notice. **Federal Register** Vol 63, No. 151, p. 42032. August 6, 1998. Available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/standard/clistfrn.pdf>.
- U.S. EPA Science Advisory Board (SAB). 2002. Affordability Criteria for Small Drinking Water Systems: An EPA Science Advisory Report. EPA-SAB-EEAC-03-004, U.S. EPA Science Advisory Board, Washington, DC, December 2002. Available at <http://www.epa.gov/sab>.

Dated: February 14, 2006.

Benjamin H. Grumbles,

Assistant Administrator, Office of Water.

[FR Doc. 06-1917 Filed 3-1-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Notice of Meetings; Sunshine Act

AGENCY: Federal Election Commission.

PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED DATE AND TIME: Thursday, February 23, 2006, meeting open to the public. The following item was withdrawn from the agenda: Final audit report on CWA COPE political contributions committee.

PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, February 28, 2006. Meeting open to the public. This meeting was cancelled.

DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, March 7, 2006 at 10 a.m.

PLACE: 999 E Street, NW., Washington, DC.

STATUS: This meeting will be closed to the public.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

Compliance matters pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 437g.

Audits conducted pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 437g, § 438(b), and Title 26, U.S.C. Matters concerning participation in civil actions or proceedings or arbitration. Internal personnel rules and procedures or matters affecting a particular employee.

* * * * *

DATE AND TIME: Thursday, March 9, 2006 at 10 a.m.

PLACE: 999 E Street, NW., Washington, DC (Ninth floor).

STATUS: This meeting will be open to the public.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

Correction and Approval of Minutes. Advisory Opinion 2006-01: Pac for a Change by Douglas Boxer, Committee Director. Advisory Opinion 2006-02: Robert Titley by counsel, Robert F. Bauer and Judith L. Corley. Advisory Opinion 2006-06: Francine Busby for Congress by Brandon Hall, Campaign Manager. Final Rules and Explanation and Justification for the Definitions of "To Solicit" and "To Direct" (11 CFR 300.2(m) and (n)). Explanation and Justification for the Final Rules on Municipal Elections (11 CFR 100.24(a)). Routine Administrative Matters. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Robert Biersack, Press Officer. Telephone: (202) 694-1220.

Mary W. Dove,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 06-2027 Filed 2-28-06; 2:56 pm]

BILLING CODE 6715-01-M

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR part 225), and all other applicable statutes

and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a bank or bank holding company and all of the banks and nonbanking companies owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The application also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1843). Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States. Additional information on all bank holding companies may be obtained from the National Information Center Web site at <http://www.ffiec.gov/nic/>.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than March 27, 2006.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco (Tracy Basinger, Director, Regional and Community Bank Group) 101 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94105-1579:

1. *Canyon Bancorp*, Palm Springs, California; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of Canyon National Bank, Palm Springs, California.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, February 27, 2006.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. E6-2941 Filed 3-1-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-S

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

[File No. 052 3148]

CardSystems Solutions, Inc.; Analysis of Proposed Consent Order To Aid Public Comment

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.

ACTION: Proposed consent agreement.

SUMMARY: The consent agreement in this matter settles alleged violations of Federal law prohibiting unfair or deceptive acts or practices or unfair

methods of competition. The attached Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes both the allegations in the draft complaint and the terms of the consent order—embodied in the consent agreement—that would settle these allegations.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before March 27, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties are invited to submit written comments. Comments should refer to “CardSystems Solutions, File No. 052 3148,” to facilitate the organization of comments. A comment filed in paper form should include this reference both in the text and on the envelope, and should be mailed or delivered to the following address: Federal Trade Commission/Office of the Secretary, Room 135-H, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20580. Comments containing confidential material must be filed in paper form, must be clearly labeled “Confidential,” and must comply with Commission Rule 4.9(c), 16 CFR 4.9(c) (2005).¹ The FTC is requesting that any comment filed in paper form be sent by courier or overnight service, if possible, because U.S. postal mail in the Washington area and at the Commission is subject to delay due to heightened security precautions. Comments that do not contain any nonpublic information may instead be filed in electronic form as part of or as an attachment to e-mail messages directed to the following e-mail box: consentagreement@ftc.gov.

The FTC Act and other laws the Commission administers permit the collection of public comments to consider and use in this proceeding as appropriate. All timely and responsive public comments, whether filed in paper or electronic form, will be considered by the Commission, and will be available to the public on the FTC Web site, to the extent practicable, at <http://www.ftc.gov>. As a matter of discretion, the FTC makes every effort to remove home contact information for individuals from the public comments it receives before placing those comments on the FTC Web site. More information, including routine uses permitted by the Privacy Act, may be found in the FTC’s privacy policy, at <http://www.ftc.gov/ftc/privacy.htm>.

¹ The comment must be accompanied by an explicit request for confidential treatment, including the factual and legal basis for the request, and must identify the specific portions of the comment to be withheld from the public record. The request will be granted or denied by the Commission’s General Counsel, consistent with applicable law and the public interest. See Commission Rule 4.9(c), 16 CFR 4.9(c).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jessica Rich or Alain Sheer, Bureau of Consumer Protection, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20580, (202) 326-3224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 6(f) of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 38 Stat. 721, 15 U.S.C. 46(f), and § 2.34 of the Commission Rules of Practice, 16 CFR 2.34, notice is hereby given that the above-captioned consent agreement containing a consent order to cease and desist, having been filed with and accepted, subject to final approval, by the Commission, has been placed on the public record for a period of thirty (30) days. The following Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes the terms of the consent agreement, and the allegations in the complaint. An electronic copy of the full text of the consent agreement package can be obtained from the FTC Home Page (for February 23, 2006), on the World Wide Web, at <http://www.ftc.gov/os/2006/02/index.htm>. A paper copy can be obtained from the FTC Public Reference Room, Room 130-H, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20580, either in person or by calling (202) 326-2222.

Public comments are invited, and may be filed with the Commission in either paper or electronic form. All comments should be filed as prescribed in the **ADDRESSES** section above, and must be received on or before the date specified in the **DATES** section.

Analysis of Agreement Containing Consent Order To Aid Public Comment

The Federal Trade Commission has accepted, subject to final approval, a consent agreement from CardSystems Solutions Inc. (“CardSystems”) and its successor, Solidus Networks, Inc., doing business as Pay By Touch Solutions (“Pay By Touch”).

The consent agreement has been placed on the public record for thirty (30) days for receipt of comments by interested persons. Comments received during this period will become part of the public record. After thirty (30) days, the Commission will again review the agreement and the comments received, and will decide whether it should withdraw from the agreement and take appropriate action or make final the agreement’s proposed order.

According to the Commission’s proposed complaint, CardSystems provides merchants with products and services used in “authorization processing”—obtaining approval for credit and debit card purchases from banks that issued the cards. Last year, it processed about 210 million card purchases, totaling more than \$15