

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 26th day of April, 2019. For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

David C. Cullison,

NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2019-08814 Filed 4-30-19; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC-2017-0237]

Criteria for Accident Monitoring Instrumentation for Nuclear Power Plants

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Regulatory guide; issuance.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing Revision 5 to Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.97, “Criteria for Accident Monitoring Instrumentation for Nuclear Power Plants.” This guide describes an approach that is acceptable to the staff of the NRC to meet regulatory requirements for instrumentation to monitor accidents in nuclear power plants. It endorses, with exceptions and clarifications, the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) Standard (Std.) 497-2016, “IEEE Standard Criteria for Accident Monitoring Instrumentation for Nuclear Power Generating Stations.”

DATES: Revision 5 to RG 1.97 is available on May 1, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Please refer to Docket ID NRC-2017-0237 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 <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2017-0237. Address questions about NRC docket IDs to Jennifer Borges; telephone: 301-287-9127; email: Jennifer.Borges@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 Document collection at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select “Begin Web-based ADAMS Search.” For problems with ADAMS, contact the NRC’s Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-

415-4737, or by email to pdr.resource@nrc.gov. Revision 5 to RG 1.97 and the regulatory analysis may be found in ADAMS under Accession Nos. ML18136A762 and ML17083A133, respectively. Regulatory guides are not copyrighted, and NRC approval is not required to reproduce them.

- *NRC’s PDR:* You may examine and purchase copies of public documents at the NRC’s PDR, Room O1-F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Pong Chung, telephone: 301-415-2363, email: Pong.Chung@nrc.gov and Stephen Burton, telephone: 301-415-7000, email: Stephen.Burton@nrc.gov. Both are staff of the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Discussion

The NRC is issuing a revision to an existing guide in the NRC’s “Regulatory Guide” series. This series was developed to describe and make available to the public information regarding methods that are acceptable to the NRC staff for implementing specific parts of the agency’s regulations, techniques that the NRC staff uses in evaluating specific issues or postulated events, and data that the NRC staff needs in its review of applications for permits and licenses.

Revision 5 of RG 1.97 was issued with a temporary identification of Draft Regulatory Guide, DG-1335 (ADAMS Accession No. ML17083A134). The staff is issuing Revision 5 of RG 1.97 to endorse IEEE Std. 497-2016 “Criteria for Accident Monitoring Instrumentation for Nuclear Power Plants,” with exceptions and clarifications. Revision 5 also makes further clarifying revisions by expressly expanding the applicability of RG 1.97 to holders of, or applicants for, power reactor design certifications or combined licenses under part 52 of title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), and by adding references to the NRC’s 10 CFR part 52 regulations and related NRC guidance documents.

II. Additional Information

The NRC published a notice of the availability of DG-1335 in the **Federal Register** on December 26, 2017 (82 FR 61043) for a 60-day public comment period. The public comment period closed on February 26, 2018. Public comments on DG-1335 and the staff responses to the public comments are available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML18136A761.

III. Congressional Review Act

This RG is a rule as defined in the Congressional Review Act (5 U.S.C. 801-808). However, the Office of Management and Budget has not found it to be a major rule as defined in the Congressional Review Act.

IV. Backfitting and Issue Finality

As discussed in the “Implementation” section of Revision 5 to RG 1.97, the NRC has no current intention to impose this draft regulatory guide on holders of current operating licenses or combined licenses. Revision 5 to RG 1.97 would endorse, with certain exceptions and clarifications, the 2016 revision of IEEE Std. 497, which contains a more technology-neutral approach and brings current guidance more in line with related international standards. This Revision introduces a new set of variables for parameters that may be monitored when following severe accident management guidelines. Applicants and licensees may voluntarily use the guidance in Revision 5 to RG 1.97 to demonstrate compliance with the underlying NRC regulations. Current licensees may continue to use guidance the NRC found previously acceptable for complying with the identified regulations as long as their current licensing basis remains unchanged. As such, this regulatory guide would not constitute backfitting as defined in 10 CFR 50.109 (the Backfit Rule) and is not otherwise inconsistent with the issue finality provisions in 10 CFR part 52, “Licenses, Certifications and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants.”

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, on April 25, 2019.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Thomas H. Boyce,

Chief, Regulatory Guidance and Generic Issues Branch, Division of Engineering, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.

[FR Doc. 2019-08819 Filed 4-30-19; 8:45 am]

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POSTAL SERVICE

International Product Change—GEPS 11 Contracts

AGENCY: Postal Service™.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Postal Service gives notice of filing a request with the Postal Regulatory Commission to add Global Expedited Package Services 11 to the Competitive Products List.

DATES: Date of notice: May 1, 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher C. Meyerson, (202) 268-7820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States Postal Service® hereby gives notice that, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3642, on April 24, 2019, it filed with the Postal Regulatory Commission a *Request of The United States Postal Service to add Global Expedited Package Services 11 to the Competitive Products List*. Documents are available at www.prc.gov, Docket Nos. MC2019-132 and CP2019-142.

Christopher C. Meyerson

Attorney, Corporate and Postal Business Law.

[FR Doc. 2019-08769 Filed 4-30-19; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-85715; File No. SR-FINRA-2019-012]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.; Notice of Filing of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend FINRA Rule 5110 (Corporate Financing Rule—Underwriting Terms and Arrangements) To Make Substantive, Organizational and Terminology Changes

April 25, 2019.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on April 11, 2019, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (“FINRA”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by FINRA. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

FINRA is proposing to amend FINRA Rule 5110 (Corporate Financing Rule—Underwriting Terms and Arrangements) (the “Rule”) to make substantive, organizational and terminology changes to the Rule. The proposed rule change is intended to modernize Rule 5110 and to simplify and clarify its provisions while maintaining important protections for market participants, including issuers and investors

participating in offerings. The proposed rule change would also update cross-references and make other non-substantive changes within FINRA rules due to the proposed amendments to Rule 5110.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on FINRA’s website at <http://www.finra.org>, at the principal office of FINRA and at the Commission’s Public Reference Room.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

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

A. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The ability of small and large businesses to raise capital efficiently is critical to job creation and economic growth. Since its adoption in 1992 in response to persistent problems with underwriters dealing unfairly with issuers, Rule 5110 has played an important role in the capital raising process by prohibiting unfair underwriting terms and arrangements in connection with the public offering of securities. Moreover, Rule 5110 continues to be important to ensuring investor protection and market integrity through effective and efficient regulation that facilitates vibrant capital markets.

Rule 5110 requires a member that participates in a public offering to file documents and information with FINRA about the underwriting terms and arrangements.³ FINRA’s Corporate Financing Department (“Department”) reviews this information prior to the commencement of the offering to

determine whether the underwriting compensation and other terms and arrangements meet the requirements of the applicable FINRA rules.⁴

Rule 5110 was last revised in 2004 to better reflect the various financial activities of multi-service members.⁵ After years of experience with those amendments, and subsequent narrower amendments that addressed industry practices regarding particular underwriting terms and arrangements, FINRA recently conducted the equivalent of a retrospective review⁶ to further modernize the Rule by, among other things, significantly improving the administration of the Rule and simplifying the Rule’s provisions while maintaining important protections for market participants, including issuers and investors participating in offerings.

As part of this retrospective review, FINRA engaged in extensive consultation with the industry to better understand what aspects of the Rule needed to be modernized, simplified and clarified. This retrospective review, including its industry consultation component and comments FINRA received in response to *Regulatory Notice 17-15* (April 2017) (“*Notice 17-15 Proposal*”) (as further discussed in Items II.B. and II.C. *infra*), has shaped and informed this proposed rule change. The proposed rule change includes a range of amendments to Rule 5110, including reorganizing and improving the readability of the Rule. FINRA proposes changes to the following areas: (1) Filing requirements; (2) filing requirements for shelf offerings; (3) exemptions from filing and substantive requirements; (4) underwriting

⁴ FINRA does not approve or disapprove an offering; rather, the review relates solely to the FINRA rules governing underwriting terms and arrangements and does not purport to express any determination of compliance with any federal or state laws, or other regulatory or self-regulatory requirements regarding the offering. A member may proceed with a public offering only if FINRA has provided an opinion that it has no objection to the proposed underwriting terms and arrangements. See current Rule 5110(b)(4)(B)(ii). See also proposed Rule 5110(a)(1)(C)(ii).

⁵ In recognition of the expansion in the variety of services provided by members to their corporate financing clients, such as venture capital investment, financial consulting, commercial lending, hedging risk through derivative transactions and investment banking services, the Rule was revised in 2004 to accommodate the expanded corporate financing activities of members, while protecting issuers and investors from unreasonable or coercive practices. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 48989 (December 23, 2003), 68 FR 75684 (December 31, 2003) (Order Approving File No. SR-NASD-2000-04). See also *Notice to Members 04-13* (February 2004).

⁶ Because the review began before FINRA initiated formal retrospective review procedures, it did not follow the specific procedures that are now followed.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ The following are examples of public offerings that are routinely filed: (1) Initial public offerings (“IPOs”); (2) follow-on offerings; (3) shelf offerings; (4) rights offerings; (5) offerings by direct participation programs (“DPPs”) as defined in FINRA Rule 2310(a)(4) (Direct Participation Programs); (6) offerings by real estate investment trusts (“REITs”); (7) offerings by a bank or savings and loan association; (8) exchange offerings; (9) offerings pursuant to SEC Regulation A; and (10) offerings by closed-end funds.