

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before March 19, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** Responses should be submitted via email to [oceansummit@ostp.eop.gov](mailto:oceansummit@ostp.eop.gov). Include "Partnerships in Ocean Science and Technology" in the subject line of the message.

**Instructions:** Response to this RFI is voluntary. Respondents need not reply to all questions listed. For submissions via email, clearly indicate which questions are being answered. Email attachments will be accepted in plain text, Microsoft Word, or Adobe PDF formats only. Each individual or institution is requested to submit only one response. OSTP may post responses to this RFI, without change, on a Federal website. OSTP, therefore, requests that no business proprietary information, copyrighted information, or personally identifiable information be submitted in response to this RFI. Please note that the U.S. Government will not pay for response preparation, or for the use of any information contained in the response.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Deerin Babb-Brott, OSTP, [Deerin\\_S\\_Babb-Brott2@ostp.eop.gov](mailto:Deerin_S_Babb-Brott2@ostp.eop.gov), 202-456-4444.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In 2018, the Trump Administration issued Science and Technology for America's Oceans: A Decadal Vision (Decadal Vision), which identified five goals to advance U.S. ocean S&T in the coming decade, including: (1) Understand the ocean in the earth system; (2) promote economic prosperity; (3) ensure maritime security; (4) safeguard human health; and (5) develop resilient coastal communities. The Decadal Vision also described areas of immediate ocean research and technology opportunities, including (1) fully integrating Big Data approaches in Earth system science; (2) advancing monitoring and predictive modeling capabilities; (3) improving data integration in decision-support tools; (4) supporting ocean exploration and characterization; and (5) supporting ongoing research and technology partnerships.

On November 14, 2019, OSTP and CEQ hosted The White House Summit on Partnerships in Ocean Science and Technology (Ocean S&T Summit). The Ocean S&T Summit brought together over 100 leaders and experts from philanthropy, the private sector, academia, and the Federal government to identify opportunities for S&T partnerships that advance the goals framed by the Decadal Vision. The Ocean S&T Summit addressed the following specific themes: (1) Exploring

the Ocean; (2) Conserving Marine Living Resources; (3) Protecting Coastal Health and Safety; (4) Sustaining Ocean Observations; (5) Promoting Food Security; (6) Enabling Ocean Energy; (7) Characterizing Ocean Life; and (8) Leveraging Big Data. A summary of the Ocean S&T Summit is available at: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Ocean-ST-Summit-Readout-Final.pdf>.

OSTP is soliciting public input through this RFI to obtain information from a wide range of stakeholders, including academia, private sector, philanthropy, and other relevant organizations and institutions, in order to inform OSTP and CEQ as they prepare to identify these opportunities and develop recommendations for collaboration across the ocean S&T enterprise.

### Questions To Inform Development of the Recommendations

Through this RFI, OSTP seeks responses to the following questions to identify opportunities and inform development of recommendations that will address opportunities and barriers to partnerships in ocean science and technology across and among academia, private industry, philanthropy, and government sectors.

1. Please describe opportunities for cross-sector partnerships and collaborations in ocean S&T where the Federal government's participation or facilitation could advance the development and application of ocean S&T. The term "partnership" is defined broadly to include all Federal mechanisms available to engage, collaborate, and exchange resources, among other activities, with non-Federal organizations.

2. Please identify existing effective cross-sector partnerships in ocean S&T and the characteristics that cause them to be successful. Please specify what kinds of institutions (including the Federal government) are involved and describe their roles.

3. Please describe opportunities for the Federal government to strengthen or facilitate existing ocean S&T partnerships in the private, nonprofit, and other sectors. In what specific types of partnerships should they play a larger role and why?

4. Executive Order 13840, titled, *Ocean Policy to Advance the Economic, Security, and Environmental Interests of the United States*, highlights and supports Federal participation in projects conducted under the National Oceanographic Partnership Program ([www.nopp.org](http://www.nopp.org)) to maximize the effectiveness of agency investments in

ocean research. Please describe opportunities to enhance utilization of the program by both Federal agencies and non-Federal partners.

5. Please describe existing barriers or constraints that limit opportunities for cross-sector partnerships in ocean S&T, including barriers limiting partnerships with the Federal government. Barriers or constraints may include legal authorities, regulatory, policy, cultural, lack of expertise, or other procedural hurdles that limit or prevent partnership opportunities.

Dated: February 11, 2020.

**Suzanne H. Plimpton,**  
*Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.*

[FR Doc. 2020-03071 Filed 2-14-20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**

## POSTAL SERVICE

### Board of Governors; Sunshine Act Meeting

**TIME AND DATE:** February 7, 2020, at 8:00 a.m.

**PLACE:** Washington, DC

**STATUS:** Closed.

#### MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Administrative Matters.
2. Strategic Matters.

On February 7, 2020, a majority of the members of the Board of Governors of the United States Postal Service voted unanimously to hold and to close to public observation a special meeting in Washington, DC. The Board determined that no earlier public notice was practicable.

*General Counsel Certification:* The General Counsel of the United States Postal Service has certified that the meeting may be closed under the Government in the Sunshine Act.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Michael J. Elston, Secretary of the Board, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Washington, DC 20260-1000. Telephone: (202) 268-4800.

**Michael J. Elston,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2020-03254 Filed 2-13-20; 4:15 pm]

**BILLING CODE 7710-12-P**

## RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

*Summary:* In accordance with the requirement of Section 3506 (c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 which provides opportunity for public

comment on new or revised data collections, the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) will publish periodic summaries of proposed data collections.

*Comments are invited on:* (a) Whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the RRB's estimate of the burden of the collection of the information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden related to the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

1. *Title and purpose of information collection:* Placement Service; OMB 3220-0057. Section 12(i) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (RUIA), authorizes the RRB to establish, maintain, and operate free employment offices to provide claimants for unemployment benefits with job placement opportunities. Section 704(d)

of the Regional Railroad Reorganization Act of 1973, as amended, and as extended by the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985, required the RRB to maintain and distribute a list of railroad job vacancies, by class and craft, based on information furnished by rail carriers to the RRB. Although the requirement under the law expired effective August 13, 1987, the RRB has continued to obtain this information in keeping with its employment service responsibilities under Section 12(k) of the RUIA. Application procedures for the job placement program are prescribed in 20 CFR 325. The procedures pertaining to the RRB's obtaining and distributing job vacancy reports furnished by rail carriers are described in 20 CFR 346.1.

The RRB currently utilizes four forms to obtain information needed to carry out its job placement responsibilities. Form ES-2, *Central Register Notification*, is used by the RRB to obtain information needed to update a computerized central register of separated and furloughed railroad

employees available for employment in the railroad industry. Forms ES-21, *Referral to State Employment Service*, and ES-21c, *Report of State Employment Service Office*, are used by the RRB to provide placement assistance for unemployed railroad employees through arrangements with State Employment Service offices. Form UI-35, *Field Office Record of Claimant Interview*, is used primarily by the RRB to conduct in-person interviews of claimants for unemployment benefits.

Completion of these forms is required to obtain or maintain a benefit. In addition, the RRB also collects Railroad Job Vacancies information received voluntarily from railroad employers. The RRB no longer offers the Central Register as a basic employment service as of April 2017 and propose to obsolete Form ES-2. The RRB proposes no changes to Forms ES-21 and ES-21c and proposes minor changes to Form UI-35 to remove all reference to the obsolete Central Register and renumber accordingly.

ESTIMATE OF CURRENT ANNUAL RESPONDENT BURDEN

Form No.	Annual responses	Time (minutes)	Burden (hours)
ES-2 .....	3,750	0.25	16
ES-21 .....	80	0.68	0.9
ES-21c .....	25	1.50	0.6
*UI-35 in person .....	6,300	7.00	735
*UI-35 by mail .....	700	10.50	123
Job Vacancies .....	470	10.00	78
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>11,325</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>953</b>

ESTIMATE OF PROPOSED ANNUAL RESPONDENT BURDEN

Form No.	Annual responses	Time (minutes)	Burden (hours)
ES-21 .....	80	1.00	1
ES-21c .....	25	2.00	1
*UI-35 in person .....	6,300	7.00	735
*UI-35 by mail .....	700	11.00	128
Job Vacancies .....	470	10.00	78
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>7,575</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>943</b>

2. *Title and purpose of information collection:* Certification Regarding Rights to Unemployment Benefits; OMB 3220-0079.

Under Section 4 of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (RUIA), an employee who leaves work voluntarily is disqualified for

unemployment benefits unless the employee left work for good cause and is not qualified for unemployment benefits under any other law. RRB Form UI-45, *Claimant's Statement—Voluntary Leaving of Work*, is used by the RRB to obtain the claimant's statement when the claimant, the

claimant's employer, or another source indicates that the claimant has voluntarily left work.

Completion of Form UI-45 is required to obtain or retain benefits. One response is received from each respondent. The RRB proposes no changes to Form UI-45.

ESTIMATE OF ANNUAL RESPONDENT BURDEN

Form No.	Annual responses	Time (minutes)	Burden (hours)
UI-45 .....	200	15	50
Total .....	200	.....	50

3. Title and purpose of information collection: Self-Employment and Substantial Service Questionnaire; OMB 3220-0138.

Section 2 of the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA) provides for payment of annuities to qualified employees and their spouses. In order to receive an age and service annuity, Section 2(e)(3) states that an applicant must stop all railroad work and give up any rights to return to such work. However, applicants are not required to stop nonrailroad work or self-employment.

The RRB considers some work claimed as “self-employment” to actually be employment for an employer. Whether the RRB classifies a particular activity as self-employment or as work for an employer depends upon the circumstances of each case. These

circumstances are prescribed in 20 CFR 216.

Under the 1988 amendments to the RRA, an applicant is no longer required to stop work for a “Last Pre-Retirement Nonrailroad Employer” (LPE). However, Section 2(f)(6) of the RRA requires that a portion of the employee’s Tier II benefit and supplemental annuity be deducted for earnings from the “LPE.”

The “LPE” is defined as the last person, company, or institution with whom the employee or spouse applicant was employed concurrently with, or after, the applicant’s last railroad employment and before their annuity beginning date. If a spouse never worked for a railroad, the LPE is the last person for whom he or she worked.

The RRB utilizes Form AA-4, *Self-Employment and Substantial Service*

*Questionnaire*, to obtain information needed to determine if the work the applicant claims is self-employment is really self-employment or work for an LPE or railroad service. If the work is self-employment, the questionnaire identifies any month in which the applicant did not perform substantial service. One response is requested of each respondent. Completion is voluntary. However, failure to complete the form could result in the nonpayment of benefits. The RRB proposes to the following changes to Form AA-4:

- Update the officer title and RRB zip code in the Paperwork Reduction Act/ Privacy Act Notices section;
- update the example date in Section 1—General Instructions; and
- update the RRB office hours in Section 7—Certification.

ESTIMATE OF ANNUAL RESPONDENT BURDEN

Form No.	Annual responses	Time (minutes)	Burden (hours)
AA-4 (With assistance) .....	570	40	380
AA-4 (Without assistance) .....	30	70	35
Total .....	600	.....	415

4. Title and purpose of information collection: Withholding Certificate for Railroad Retirement Monthly Annuity Payments; OMB 3220-0149.

The Internal Revenue Code requires that all payers of tax liable private pensions to U.S. citizens or residents: (1) Notify each recipient at least concurrent with initial withholding that the payer is, in fact, withholding benefits for tax liability and that the recipient has the option of electing not to have the payer withhold, or to withhold at a specific rate; (2) withhold benefits for tax purposes (in the absence of the recipient’s election not to withhold benefits); and (3) notify all beneficiaries, at least annually, that they have the option to change their

withholding status or elect not to have benefits withheld.

The RRB provides Form RRB-W4P, Withholding Certificate for Railroad Retirement Payments, to its annuitants to exercise their withholding options. Completion of the form is required to obtain or retain a benefit. One response is requested of each respondent. The RRB proposes no changes to Form W-4P.

The RRB estimates that 25,000 annuitants utilize Form RRB W-4P annually. The completion time for Form RRB W-4P varies depending on individual circumstances. The estimated average completion time for Form RRB W-4P is 39 minutes for recordkeeping, 24 minutes for learning about the law or the form, and 59 minutes for preparing the form.

5. Title and purpose of information collection: Designation of Contact Officials; 3220-0200 Coordination between railroad employers and the RRB is essential to properly administer the payment of benefits under the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA) and the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (RUIA). In order to enhance timely coordination activity, the RRB utilizes Form G-117a, *Designation of Contact Officials*. Form G-117a is used by railroad employers to designate employees who are to act as point of contact with the RRB on a variety of RRA and RUIA-related matters.

Completion is voluntary. One response is requested from each respondent. The RRB proposes no changes to Form G-117a.

## ESTIMATE OF ANNUAL RESPONDENT BURDEN

Form No.	Annual responses	Time (minutes)	Burden (hours)
G-117a .....	100	15	25
Total .....	100	.....	25

*Additional Information or Comments:* To request more information or to obtain a copy of the information collection justification, forms, and/or supporting material, contact Kennisha C. Tucker at (312) 469-2591 or [Kennisha.Tucker@rrb.gov](mailto:Kennisha.Tucker@rrb.gov). Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Brian Foster, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-1275 or emailed to [Brian.Foster@rrb.gov](mailto:Brian.Foster@rrb.gov). Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

**Brian D. Foster,**  
Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2020-03107 Filed 2-14-20; 8:45 am]

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-88164; File No. SR-CBOE-2020-005]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend Its Fees Schedule in Connection With Migration

February 11, 2020.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”),<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on January 28, 2020, Cboe Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “Cboe Options”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. 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 the Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

Cboe Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “Cboe Options”) proposes to amend its Fees Schedule in connection with

migration. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Exchange’s website (<http://www.cboe.com/AboutCBOE/CBOELegalRegulatoryHome.aspx>), at the Exchange’s Office of the Secretary, 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, the Exchange 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. The Exchange 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 Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

###### 1. Purpose

In 2016, the Exchange’s parent company, Cboe Global Markets, Inc. (formerly named CBOE Holdings, Inc.) (“Cboe Global”), which is also the parent company of Cboe C2 Exchange, Inc. (“C2”), acquired Cboe EDGA Exchange, Inc. (“EDGA”), Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc. (“EDGX” or “EDGX Options”), Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. (“BZX” or “BZX Options”), and Cboe BYX Exchange, Inc. (“BYX” and, together with Cboe Options, C2, EDGX, EDGA, and BZX, the “Affiliated Exchanges”). The Cboe Affiliated Exchanges recently aligned certain system functionality, including with respect to connectivity, retaining only intended differences between the Affiliated Exchanges, in the context of a technology migration. The Exchange migrated its trading platform to the same system used by the Affiliated Exchanges, which the Exchange completed on October 7, 2019 (the “migration”). As a result of this migration, the Exchange’s pre-migration connectivity architecture was rendered

obsolete, and as such, the Exchange now offers new functionality, including new logical connectivity, and therefore proposes to adopt corresponding fees.<sup>3</sup> In determining the proposed fee changes, the Exchange assessed the impact on market participants to ensure that the proposed fees would not create an undue financial burden on any market participants, including smaller market participants. While the Exchange has no way of predicting with certainty the impact of the proposed changes, the Exchange had anticipated its post-migration connectivity revenue<sup>4</sup> to be approximately 1.75% lower than connectivity revenue pre-migration.<sup>5</sup> In addition to providing a consistent technology offering across the Cboe Affiliated Exchanges, the migration also provided market participants a latency equalized infrastructure, improved system performance, and increased sustained order and quote per second capacity, as discussed more fully below. Accordingly, in connection with the migration and in order to more closely align the Exchange’s fee structure with that of its Affiliated Exchanges, the Exchange intends to update and simplify its fee structure with respect to access and connectivity and adopt new access and connectivity fees.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>3</sup> As of October 7, 2019, market participants no longer have the ability to connect to the old Exchange architecture.

<sup>4</sup> Connectivity revenue post-migration includes revenue from physical port fees (other than for disaster recovery), Cboe Data Services Port Fee, logical port fees, Trading Permit Fees, Market-Maker EAP Appointment Unit fees, Tier Appointment Surcharges and Floor Broker Trading Surcharges, less the Floor Broker ADV discounts and discounts on BOE Bulk Ports via the Affiliate Volume Plan and the Market-Maker Access Credit program.

<sup>5</sup> The Exchange does not anticipate realizing the projected revenue reduction prior to February 2020, as the Exchange’s legacy physical ports will not be decommissioned until January 31, 2020 and firms may still be in the process of transitioning their connectivity. As such, the Exchange believes any changes in revenue until such time are not reflective of the predicted and modeled impact.

<sup>6</sup> The Exchange initially filed the proposed fee changes on October 1, 2019 (SR-CBOE-2019-077). On business date October 2, 2019, the Exchange withdrew that filing and submitted SR-CBOE-2019-082, *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 87304 (October 15, 2019), 84 FR 56240, (October 21, 2019) (“Original Filing”). On business date November 29, 2019, Securities Exchange Act Release No. 87727 (December 12, 2019), 84 FR

Continued

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.