

Dated: February 23, 2021.

Vanessa A. Countryman,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2021-04049 Filed 2-23-21; 4:15 pm]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[SEC File No. 270-118, OMB Control No. 3235-0095]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon Written Request Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of FOIA Services, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-2736

Extension:

Rule 236

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") has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget this request for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

Rule 236 (17 CFR 230.236) under the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77a *et seq.*) ("Securities Act") provides an exemption from registration under the Securities Act for the offering of shares of stock or similar securities to provide funds to be distributed to security holders in lieu of fractional shares, scrip certificates or order forms, in connection with a stock dividend, stock split, reverse stock split, conversion, merger or similar transaction. Issuers wishing to rely upon the exemption are required to furnish specified information to the Commission at least 10 days prior to the offering. The information is needed to provide notice that the issuer is relying on the exemption. Public companies are the likely respondents. All information provided to the Commission is available to the public for review upon request. Approximately 10 respondents file the information required by Rule 236 at an estimated 1.5 hours per response for a total annual reporting burden of 15 hours (1.5 hours per response × 10 responses).

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.

The public may view background documentation for this information collection at the following website: www.reginfo.gov. Find this particular

information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to (i) www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain and (ii) David Bottom, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Cynthia Roscoe, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, or by sending an email to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov.

Dated: February 22, 2021.

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2021-03884 Filed 2-24-21; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[SEC File No. 270-625, OMB Control No. 3235-0686]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon Written Request Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of FOIA Services, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-2736

Extension:

Form TCR and Form WB-APP—
Implementing the Whistleblower Provisions of Section 21F of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) ("PRA"), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") is soliciting comments on the collection of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit an extension for this current collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for approval.

In Release No. 34-64545,¹ the Commission adopted rules ("Rules") and forms to implement Section 21F of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 entitled "Securities Whistleblower Incentives and Protection," which was created by Section 922 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act ("Dodd-Frank Act").² The Rules describe the whistleblower program that the Commission has established pursuant to the Dodd-Frank

Act which requires the Commission to pay an award, subject to certain limitations and conditions, to whistleblowers who voluntarily provide the Commission with original information about a violation of the federal securities laws that leads to the successful enforcement of a covered judicial or administrative action, or of a related action. The Rules define certain terms critical to the operation of the whistleblower program, outline the procedures for applying for awards and the Commission's procedures for making decisions on claims, and generally explain the scope of the whistleblower program to the public and to potential whistleblowers.

Form TCR is a form submitted by whistleblowers who wish to provide information to the Commission and its staff regarding potential violations of the securities laws. Form TCR is required for submission of information under the Rules. The Commission estimates that it takes a whistleblower, on average, one and one-half hours to complete Form TCR. Based on the receipt of an average of approximately 560 annual Form TCR submissions for the past three fiscal years, the Commission estimates that the annual reporting burden of Form TCR is 840 hours.

Form WB-APP is a form that is submitted by whistleblowers filing a claim for a whistleblower award. Form WB-APP is required for application for an award under the Rules. On December 4, 2020, the Commission approved an updated version of the WB-APP in conjunction with its newly amended rules. The updated WB-APP removes the requirement for the filer to submit their Social Security Number and modified the order of the questions on the form. No substantive changes were made to the WB-APP. The Commission estimates that it takes a whistleblower, on average, two hours to complete Form WB-APP. The completion time depends largely on the complexity of the alleged violation and the amount of information the whistleblower possesses in support of his or her application for an award. Based on the receipt of an average of approximately 215³ annual Form WB-APP submissions for the past six fiscal years, the Commission estimates that the annual reporting burden of Form WB-APP is 430 hours.

Estimated annual reporting burden = 1,270 hours.

¹ Implementation of the Whistleblower Provisions of Section 21F of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Release No. 34-64545; File No. S7-33-10 (adopted May 25, 2011).

² Public Law 111-203, 922(a), 124 Stat 1841 (2010).

³ This figure does not include Form WB-APP submissions which were facially deficient, subsequently withdrawn, or submitted by individuals who have been barred by the Commission from participation in the whistleblower program.

The public may view background documentation for this information collection at the following website: www.reginfo.gov. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to (i) www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain and (ii) David Bottom, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Cynthia Roscoe, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, or by sending an email to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov.

Dated: February 22, 2021.

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,

Assistant Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-91166; File No. SR-ICEEU-2021-005]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; ICE Clear Europe Limited; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to Amendments to Part BB of the ICE Clear Europe Delivery Procedures

February 19, 2021.

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 February 12, 2021, ICE Clear Europe Limited (“ICE Clear Europe” or the “Clearing House”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) the proposed rule changes described in Items I, II and III below, which Items have been prepared by ICE Clear Europe. ICE Clear Europe filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(4)(ii)⁴ thereunder, such that the proposed rule change was immediately effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Clearing Agency’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The principal purpose of the proposed amendments is for ICE Clear Europe to make certain amendments to Part BB of its Delivery Procedures to clarify the delivery specifications relating to Containerised White Sugar futures contracts in order to facilitate identification of sugar eligible for delivery under the contract.⁵

II. Clearing Agency’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

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

(A) Clearing Agency’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

(a) Purpose

ICE Clear Europe is proposing to amend Part BB of its Delivery Procedures to clarify the delivery specifications relating to Containerised White Sugar contracts. The proposed amendments would provide that such contracts relate to specified sugar of any origin of the crop or production current on the first day of the delivery period (instead of referencing the crop at the time of delivery). The change would facilitate identification of sugar eligible for delivery under the contract.

(b) Statutory Basis

ICE Clear Europe believes that the proposed amendments to Part BB of the Delivery Procedures are consistent with the requirements of Section 17A of the Act⁶ and the regulations thereunder applicable to it. In particular, Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Act⁷ requires, among other things, that the rules of a clearing agency be designed to promote the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions and, to the extent applicable, derivative agreements, contracts, and transactions, the safeguarding of securities and funds in the custody or control of the clearing

agency or for which it is responsible, and the protection of investors and the public interest. The proposed changes to the Delivery Procedures are designed to strengthen ICE Clear Europe’s arrangements and delivery procedures relating to Containerised White Sugar contracts. The amendments would clarify that Containerised White Sugar contracts relate to specified sugar of any origin of the crop or production current on the first day of the delivery period (rather than at the time of delivery). The amendments do not otherwise change the terms and conditions of the contracts, and the contracts will continue to be cleared by ICE Clear Europe in the same manner as they are currently. In ICE Clear Europe’s view, the amendments are thus consistent with the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of cleared contracts and the protection of investors and the public interest. (ICE Clear Europe would not expect the amendments to affect the safeguarding of securities and funds in ICE Clear Europe’s custody or control or for which it is responsible). Accordingly, the amendments satisfy the requirements of Section 17A(b)(3)(F).⁸

In addition, Rule 17Ad-22(e)(10)⁹ requires that each covered clearing agency “establish and maintain transparent written standards that state its obligations with respect to the delivery of physical instruments, and establish and maintain operational practices that identify, monitor and manage the risks associated with such physical deliveries.” As discussed above, the amendments would clarify the delivery specifications for Containerised White Sugar contracts to facilitate identification of sugar eligible for delivery under the contracts. The amendments would not otherwise change the manner in which the contracts are cleared or in which delivery is made, as supported by ICE Clear Europe’s existing financial resources, risk management, systems and operational arrangements. The amendments thus clarify the role and responsibilities of the Clearing House and Clearing Members with respect to physical delivery. As a result, ICE Clear Europe believes the amendments are consistent with the requirements of Rule 17Ad-22(e)(10).¹⁰

(B) Clearing Agency’s Statement on Burden on Competition

ICE Clear Europe does not believe the proposed amendments would have any

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(4)(ii).

⁵ Capitalized terms used but not defined herein have the meanings specified in the ICE Clear Europe Clearing Rules (the “Rules”).

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1.

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(F).

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(F).

⁹ 17 CFR 240.17Ad-22(e)(10).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 240.17Ad-22(e)(10).