

Dated: February 23, 2021.

**Vanessa A. Countryman,**  
Secretary.

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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  $\times$  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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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,<sup>1</sup> 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").<sup>2</sup> 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 215<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>1</sup> 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).

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

<sup>3</sup> 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.