

Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nadene G. Kennedy at the above address or (703) 306-1030.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-541), has developed regulations that implement the "Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora" for all United States citizens. The Agreed Measures, developed by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties, recommended establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas as requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Specially Protected Areas and Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

Description of Permit Modification Requested:

1. The Foundation issued a permit (99-010) to Dr. Rennie S. Holt on September 25, 1998. The issued permit allows for the censuring, capture, handling and release of up to 80 adult and 1500 Antarctic fur seal (*Arctocephalus gazella*) pups. In addition, up to 40 female/pup pairs would be captured for measurements of energy expenditure, foot intake, dive depth, duration, time of day and dive frequency, swim speed and foraging location, as well as attendance-related factors of pup growth using milk extraction and gastric lavage. The permit holder requests to modify his permit to include teeth extractions for age determinations, involving up to 100 adults per annum. To minimize the number of takes, effort will be made such that the majority of tooth extractions will be from animals already captured for other permitted procedures. Also, specimens may be collected opportunistically; animals will not be killed for any collection purposes (i.e.: samples may be collected from dead animals found on the beach or washed ashore). A further modification request is for import of samples collected opportunistically from cetacean species found dead. All specimens will be imported to the United States and inventoried with the Antarctic Marine Living Resources Program in La Jolla, CA.

Location

Cape Shirreff, Livingston Island (SSSI #32), Byers Peninsula (SSSI #6), South Shetland Islands, Antarctic Peninsula.

Dates

January 10, 2000 to April 2, 2001.

Nadene G. Kennedy

Permit Officer, Office of Polar Programs.

[FR Doc. 99-33270 Filed 12-22-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting; Notice

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

DATE: Weeks of December 20 and 27, 1999, January 3 and 10, 2000.

PLACE: Commissioners' Conference Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

STATUS: Public and closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Week of December 20

Wednesday, December 22
11:30 a.m.—Affirmation Session
(Public Meeting) (if needed)

Week of December 27—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of December 27

Week of January 3—Tentative

Wednesday, January 5
9:55 a.m.—Affirmation Session
(Public Meeting) (if needed)

Week of January 10—Tentative

Monday, January 10
10:00 a.m.—Meeting with D. C. Cook
(Public Meeting) (Contact: John Stang, 301-415-1345)

Tuesday, January 11
9:30 a.m.—Briefing on Status of Research Programs, Performance, and Plans (including Status of Thermo-Hydraulics) (Public Meeting) (Contact: Jocelyn Mitchell, 301-415-5289)

Wednesday, January 12
9:55 a.m.—Affirmation Session
(Public Meeting) (if needed)
10:00 a.m.—Briefing on Status of NRR Programs, Performance, and Plans
(Public Meeting) (Contact: Mike Case, 301-415-1134)

*THE SCHEDULE FOR COMMISSION MEETINGS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE ON SHORT NOTICE. TO VERIFY THE STATUS OF MEETINGS CALL (RECORDING)—(301) 415-1292. CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Bill Hill (301) 415-1661.

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The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the Internet at: <http://www.nrc.gov/SECY/smj/schedule.htm>

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This notice is distributed by mail to several hundred subscribers; if you no longer wish to receive it, or would like to be added to it, please contact the Office of the Secretary, Attn: Operations Branch, Washington, D.C. 20555 (301-415-1661). In addition, distribution of this meeting notice over the Internet system is available. If you are interested in receiving this Commission meeting schedule electronically, please send an electronic message to wmmh@nrc.gov or dkw@nrc.gov.

Dated: December 20, 1999.

William M. Hill, Jr.,

SECY Tracking Officer, Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-33460 Filed 12-21-99 2:39 pm]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-M

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available

From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

Rule 204-3, SEC File No. 270-42, OMB Control No. 3235-0047

Extension:

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") is soliciting comments on the collection of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for extension and approval.

Rule 204-3 requires investment advisers to deliver, or offer to deliver, to their clients a written disclosure statement, or "brochure," of specified information concerning the background and business practices of the adviser. Investors use this information to determine whether to retain or continue to employ the investment adviser. There are currently approximately 8,300 investment advisers subject to this rule; the estimated burden resulting from the rule is 203,350 total annual hours.

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the

information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

Please direct your written comments to Michael E. Bartell, Associate Executive Director, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 5th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549.

Dated: December 13, 1999.

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-33347 Filed 12-22-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. IC-24204; File No. 812-11814]

Aetna Life Insurance and Annuity Company, et al.

December 16, 1999.

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission").

ACTION: Notice of application for an order under section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended ("Act") granting exemptions from the provisions of Sections 2(a)(32), 22(c), and 27(i)(2)(A) of the Act and Rule 22c-1 thereunder to permit the recapture of bonuses applied to purchase payments made under certain deferred variable annuity contracts.

APPLICANTS: Aetna Life Insurance and Annuity Company ("ALIAC") and its Variable Annuity Account B ("VA B"), Aetna Insurance Company of America ("AICA" together with ALIAC, "Aetna"), and any other separate accounts of ALIAC or AICA ("Future Accounts") that support in the future deferred variable annuity and certificates that are substantially similar in all material respects to the VA B contracts described herein (collectively, "Applicants").

SUMMARY OF APPLICATION: Applicants seek an order under Section 6(c) of the Act to the extent necessary to permit, under specified circumstances, the recapture of bonuses applied to purchase payments made under: (i) deferred variable annuity contracts and certificates that ALIAC will issue through VA B (the contracts and certificates, including certificate data pages and endorsements, are collectively referred to herein as the

"VA B Contracts"), and (ii) deferred variable annuity contracts and certificates, that Aetna may issue in the future through VA B or any Future Account (collectively, the "Accounts"), that are substantially similar to the VA B Contracts in all material respects (the "Future Contracts" together with the VA B Contracts, "Contracts"). Applicants also request that the order being sought extend to any National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD") member broker-dealer controlling or controlled by, or under common control with, Aetna, whether existing or created in the future, that serves as a distributor or principal underwriter of the Contracts offered through the Accounts (collectively "Aetna Broker-Dealers").

FILING DATE: The application was filed on October 15, 1999, and amended and restated on December 14, 1999 ("Application").

HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING: An order granting the Application will be issued unless the SEC orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the SEC's Secretary and serving Applicants with a copy of the request, in person or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the SEC by 5:30 p.m. on January 10, 2000 and should be accompanied by proof of service on the Applicants, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by writing to the SEC's Secretary.

ADDRESSES: Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609. Applicants, c/o Aetna Life Insurance and Annuity Company, 151 Farmington Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06156, Attn: J. Neil McMurdie, Esq.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ann L. Vlcek, Senior Counsel, or Susan M. Olson, Branch Chief, Office of Insurance Products, Division of Investment Management, at (202) 942-0670.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following is a summary of the Application. The complete Application may be obtained for a fee from the SEC's Public Reference Branch, 450 Fifth St., NW., Washington, DC 20549-0102 (tel. (202) 942-8090).

Applicants' Representations

1. ALIAC is a stock life insurance company organized under the laws of the State of Connecticut. ALIAC serves as depositor for VA B, which was established in 1976 pursuant to

authority granted under a resolution of ALIAC's Board of Directors. ALIAC also serves as depositor for several currently existing Future Accounts, one or more of which may support obligations under Future Contracts. ALIAC may establish one or more additional Future Accounts for which it will serve as depositor.

2. ALIAC is a stock life insurance company organized under the laws of the State of Connecticut. ALIAC serves as depositor for several currently existing Future Accounts, one or more of which may support obligations under Future Contracts. ALIAC may establish one or more additional Future Accounts for which it will serve as depositor.

3. ALIAC is the principal underwriter of VA B. ALIAC is registered with the Commission as a broker-dealer under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "1934 Act") and is a member of the NASD. ALIAC will enter into arrangements with one or more registered broker-dealers, which may be affiliated with ALIAC, to offer and sell VA B Contracts. ALIAC also may enter into these arrangements with banks that may be acting as broker-dealers without separate registration under the 1934 Act pursuant to legal and regulatory exceptions. Further, ALIAC may distribute VA B Contracts directly. ALIAC may enter into similar arrangements for Future Contracts. ALIAC may act as principal underwriter for Future Accounts and distributor for Future Contracts. A successor entity also may act as principal underwriter for any of the Accounts and distributor for any of the Contracts.

4. VA B is a segregated asset account of ALIAC. VA B is registered with the Commission as a unit investment trust under the Act. VA B will fund the variable benefits available under the VA B Contracts. Units of interest in VA B will be registered under the Securities Act of 1933 (the "1933 Act"). ALIAC may issue Future Contracts through VA B. ALIAC and AICA also may issue Future Contracts through Future Accounts. The assets of VA B that are equal to the reserves and VA B Contract liabilities are not chargeable with liabilities arising out of any other business of ALIAC. Any income, gains or losses, realized or unrealized, from assets allocated to VA B are, in accordance with the VA B's Contracts, credited to or charged against VA B, without regard to other income, gains or losses of ALIAC. The same will be true of any Future Account of ALIAC or AICA.

5. The following is a discussion of the VA B Contracts. Future Contracts funded by VA B or any Future Account of ALIAC or AICA will be substantially