

Commission.⁵ 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

Nasdaq filed the proposed rule change to extend, through October 1, 2000, its pilot program which makes available several Nasdaq services and facilities until 6:30 p.m. Eastern Time. Nasdaq has designated this proposal as non-controversial, and requests that the Commission waive both the 5-day pre-filing notice requirement and the 30-day pre-operative waiting period contained in Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) under the Act,⁶ to allow the proposal to be both effective and operative immediately upon filing with the Commission.

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

In its filing with the Commission, Nasdaq included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for its proposal and discussed any comments it received regarding the proposal. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. Nasdaq 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

Nasdaq proposes to extend, through October 1, 2000, its after-hours pilot program that makes available certain Nasdaq systems and facilities until 6:30 p.m. Eastern Time.⁷ The Commission approved the pilot on October 13, 1999. The pilot will continue to operate under the same terms and conditions as set forth in SR-NASD-99-57.⁸

2. Statutory Basis

Nasdaq believes that the proposal is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act⁹ in that it

is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, and processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

Nasdaq does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants or Others

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not:

(i) Significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest;

(ii) Impose any significant burden on competition; and

(iii) Become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹⁰ and rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹¹ At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

Nasdaq has requested that the Commission accelerate the operative date. The Commission finds good cause to designate the proposal to become immediately operative upon filing, because such designation is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. Acceleration of the operative date will allow Nasdaq's after-hours pilot to operate without interruption through October 1, 2000, thereby allowing Nasdaq to continue to make available services and facilities that increase the transparency and oversight of trading taking place outside of traditional market hours. For these reasons, the Commission finds good

cause to waive the 5-day pre-filing requirement, and to designate that the proposal become operative immediately.¹²

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposal is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the NASD. All submissions should refer to file number SR-NASD-00-07 and should be submitted by March 29, 2000.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹³

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-5558 Filed 3-7-00; 8:45 am]

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Data Collection Available for Public Comments and Recommendations

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, these notices announces the Small Business Administration's intentions to request approval on a new, and/or currently approved information collection.

DATES: Submit comments on or before May 8, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Send all comments regarding whether this information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the function of the

¹² In reviewing this rule, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

¹³ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

⁵ Nasdaq provided written notice to the Commission on February 28, 2000, that it intended to file this proposal. The Commission agreed to waive the 5-day pre-filing notice requirement. See Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii). 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

⁶ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

⁷ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 42003 (October 13, 1999), 64 FR 56554 (October 20, 1999) (SR-NASD-99-57).

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78o-3(b)(6).

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

agency, whether the burden estimate is accurate, and if there are ways to minimize the estimated burden and enhance the quality of the collection, to Pam Swilling, Program Review Analyst, Office of Surety Guarantees, Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, SW, Suite 8600, Washington, DC 20416.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pam Swilling, Program Review Analyst, 202-205-6546 or Curtis B. Rich, Management Analyst, 202-205-7030.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title:* "Surety Bond Guaranty Agreement, Preferred Lenders Program".

Form No's: 990, 991, 994, 994B, 994C, 994F and 994H.

Description of Respondents: Small Business Contractors Applying for the Surety Bond Guaranty Program.

Annual Responses: 55,000.

Annual Burden: 28,837.

ADDRESSES: Send all comments regarding whether this information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the function of the agency, whether the burden estimate is accurate, and if there are ways to minimize the estimated burden and enhance the quality of the collection, to Betty J. Smith, Administrative Specialist, Office of Financial Assistance, Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, SW, Suite 8300, Washington, DC 20416.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Betty J. Smith, Administrative Specialist, 202-205-6491 or Curtis B. Rich, Management Analyst, 202-205-7030.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title:* "Lender Transcript of Account".

Form No: 1149.

Description of Respondents: SBA Guaranty Lenders.

Annual Responses: 3,752.

Annual Burden: 3,752.

ADDRESSES: Send all comments regarding whether this information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the function of the agency, whether the burden estimate is accurate, and if there are ways to minimize the estimated burden and enhance the quality of the collection, to Carol A. Cordova, Employment, Office of Human Resources, Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, SW, Suite 4200, Washington, DC 20416.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carol A. Cordova, Employment, 202-205-6162 or Curtis B. Rich, Management Analyst, 202-205-7030.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title:* "U.S. Small Business Administration's Applicant Survey".

Form No: 1843.

Description of Respondents: Persons seeking employment with SBA.

Annual Responses: 75.

Annual Burden: 13.

ADDRESSES: Send all comments regarding whether this information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the function of the agency, whether the burden estimate is accurate, and if there are ways to minimize the estimated burden and enhance the quality of the collection, to Gail A. McDonald, National Ombudsman, Office of the Ombudsman, Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, SW, Suite 8000A, Washington, DC 20416.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gail A. McDonald, Ombudsman, 202-205-7360 or Curtis B. Rich, Management Analyst, 202-205-7030.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title:* "Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Appraisal Form".

Form No: 1993.

Description of Respondents: Small Businesses that need to comment on Agencies Policies and Practices.

Annual Responses: 1000.

Annual Burden: 500.

Jacqueline White,
Chief, Administrative Information Branch.
[FR Doc. 00-5601 Filed 3-7-00; 8:45 am]

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster #3238]

State of Alaska

The Chugach Regional Education Attendance Area (REAA #21) and the contiguous political subdivisions of Copper River (REAA #17); the City and Borough of Yakutat; Matanuska/Susitna Borough; the Municipality of Anchorage, and Kenai Peninsula Borough in the State of Alaska constitute a disaster area as a result of damages caused by winter storms, heavy snow, high winds, and avalanches beginning on December 19, 1999. Applications for loans for physical damage as a result of this disaster may be filed until the close of business on April 24, 2000 and for economic injury until the close of business on November 24, 2000 at the address listed below or other locally announced locations: U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 4 Office, P.O. Box 13795, Sacramento, CA 95853-4795.

The interest rates are:

For Physical Damage

Homeowners With Credit Available Elsewhere: 7.625%
Homeowners Without Credit Available Elsewhere: 3.812%
Businesses With Credit Available Elsewhere: 8.000%
Businesses and Non-Profit Organizations Without Credit Available Elsewhere: 4.000%
Others (Including Non-Profit Organizations) With Credit Available Elsewhere: 6.750%

For Economic Injury

Businesses and Small Agricultural Cooperatives Without Credit Available Elsewhere: 4.000%
The numbers assigned to this disaster are 323811 for physical damage and 9G7200 for economic injury.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 59002 and 59008)

Dated: February 23, 2000

Aida Alvarez,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 00-5562 Filed 3-7-00; 8:45 am]

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster #3237]

State of Georgia (Amendment #1)

In accordance with a notice received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency dated February 22, 2000, the above-numbered Declaration is hereby amended to include Decatur County, Georgia as a disaster area due to damages caused by severe storms and tornadoes that occurred on February 14, 2000.

In addition, applications for economic injury loans from small businesses located in the contiguous Counties of Miller and Seminole in Georgia, and Jackson County, Florida may be filed until the specified date at the previously designated location. Any counties contiguous to the above-named primary county and not listed herein have been previously declared.

All other information remains the same, *i.e.*, the deadline for filing applications for physical damage is April 15, 2000 and for economic injury the deadline is November 15, 2000.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 59002 and 59008)

Date: February 24, 2000.

Bernard Kulik,
Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.

[FR Doc. 00-5563 Filed 3-7-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-U