

other primary listing exchanges are able to implement their proposed rule changes simultaneously with the Exchange.²⁵

III. Discussion and Commission Findings

After careful review, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1, is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities exchange.²⁶ In particular, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,²⁷ which requires, among other things, that the rules of a national securities exchange be 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 facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. As noted above, the Commission received no comment letters regarding the proposed rule change.

The Commission notes that the proposed rule change is designed, together with the Twelfth Amendment to the Plan,²⁸ to address the issues experienced on August 24, 2015 by reducing the number of repeat Trading Pauses in a single NMS Stock.²⁹ The Commission notes that the proposed rule change is also designed to further the goal of establishing a standardized approach for how Primary Listing Exchanges would conduct certain aspects of an automated re-opening following a Trading Pause, which should provide certainty for market participants regarding how a security would re-open following a Trading Pause, regardless of the listing exchange.³⁰

With respect to the proposed Halt Auction Reference Price and Halt Auction Collars, the Commission finds reasonable the Exchange's belief that the price of the limit state that preceded the Trading Pause (*i.e.*, either the Lower or

Upper Price Band price) would better reflect the most recent price of the security, and therefore should be used as the Halt Auction Reference Price.³¹ Moreover, the Commission believes that the proposed method for calculating the initial Halt Auction Collars (*i.e.*, the Halt Auction Collar on the opposite side of the trading pressure would be the Price Band in place before the Trading Pause was triggered) would address the concept of mean reversion, as well as avoid a security from trading outside of a price that it would have been permitted to trade before the Trading Pause.³²

The Commission believes that extending the Trading Pause and widening the Halt Auction Collar on the side of the Impermissible Price would be a measured approach to provide additional time to attract offsetting interest, to help to address an imbalance that may not be resolved within the prior Halt Auction Collars, and to reduce the potential for triggering another Trading Pause.³³ Also, as the Exchange noted, widening the Halt Auction Collar only in the direction of the imbalance would address issues relating to the concept of mean reversion.³⁴ Moreover, the Commission notes that the proposal to cancel the Halt Auction at 3:50 p.m. and instead conduct the Volatility Closing Auction under BZX Rule 11.23(e) would be consistent with the Twelfth Amendment to the Plan.

The Commission believes that precluding members from requesting review of a Halt Auction as a clearly erroneous execution is appropriate. The Commission notes that the proposed re-opening procedures would allow for widened collars, which may result in a re-opening price away from prior trading prices, but the re-opening price would be a result of a measured and transparent process that reduces the potential that such trade would be considered erroneous.³⁵

The Commission believes that the proposed enhancements to the information that would be disseminated for a Halt Auction would further promote transparency around a Halt Auction.

Finally, the Commission notes that proposed BZX Rule 11.23(d)(2)(F) is consistent with the Twelfth Amendment to the Plan.

Based on the Exchange's representations mentioned above and in

the Notice, and for the foregoing reasons, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1, is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act³⁶ and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities exchange.

IV. Conclusion

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,³⁷ that the proposed rule change (SR-BatsBZX-2016-61), as modified by Amendment No. 1, be, and hereby is, approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.³⁸

Eduardo A. Aleman,

Assistant Secretary.

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. AB 32 (Sub-No. 107X) and Docket No. AB 355 (Sub-No. 43X)]

Boston & Maine Corporation—Abandonment Exemption—in Merrimack County, N.H. and Springfield Terminal Railway Company—Discontinuance of Service Exemption—in Merrimack County, N.H.

Boston & Maine Corporation (B&M) and Springfield Terminal Railway Company (ST) (collectively, applicants), have jointly filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR pt. 1152 subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service* for B&M to abandon, and for ST to discontinue service over, an approximately 6.36-mile line of railroad known as the Northern Main Line of the Northern Railroad in Merrimack County, N.H. (the Line). The Line traverses Concord, N.H. and Boscawen, N.H., between mileposts 74.32 and 80.68, and United States Postal Service Zip Codes 03301 and 03303.

Applicants have certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the Line for at least two years; (2) there is no overhead traffic on the Line; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the Line (or by a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the Line either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of complainant within

²⁵ See Amendment No. 1, *supra* note 5. For a more detailed description of the proposed rule change, see Notice, *supra* note 3.

²⁶ In approving this proposed rule change, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

²⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

²⁸ See, *supra* note 6.

²⁹ See Notice, *supra* note 3, at 75878.

³⁰ See *id.*

³¹ See *id.*

³² See *id.*

³³ See *id.*

³⁴ See *id.*

³⁵ See *id.*

³⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

³⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

³⁸ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

the two-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7(c) (environmental report), 49 CFR 1105.11 (transmittal letter), 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to these exemptions, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment or discontinuance shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, in Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) must be filed.

Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) has been received, these exemptions will be effective on March 3, 2017, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,¹ formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),² and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by February 13, 2017. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by February 21, 2017, with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicants' representative: Robert B. Burns, Pan Am Railways, Iron Horse Park, North Billerica, MA 01862.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemptions are void ab initio.

Applicants have filed a combined environmental and historic report that addresses the effects, if any, of the abandonment and discontinuance on the environment and historic resources. OEA will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by February 6, 2017. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to OEA (Room 1100, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423-0001) or by calling OEA at (202) 245-0305. Assistance for the hearing impaired is

¹ The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. See *Exemption of Out-of-Serv. Rail Lines*, 5 I.C.C.2d 377 (1989). Any request for a stay should be filed as soon as possible so that the Board may take appropriate action before the exemption's effective date.

² Each OFA must be accompanied by the filing fee, which is currently set at \$1,700. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339. Comments on environmental and historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public.

Environmental, historic preservation, public use, or trail use/rail banking conditions will be imposed, where appropriate, in a subsequent decision.

Pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), B&M shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned the Line. If consummation has not been effected by B&M's filing of a notice of consummation by February 1, 2018, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at "WWW.STB.GOV."

Decided: January 27, 2017.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Raina S. Contee,
Clearance Clerk.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

United States Mint

Pricing Changes for 2017 United States Mint Numismatic Products

AGENCY: United States Mint, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Mint is announcing pricing changes for some 2017 United States Mint Numismatic Products, in accordance with the list below:

- United States Mint Proof Set®—\$26.95
- United States Mint Silver Proof Set®—\$47.95
- United States Mint Uncirculated Set®—\$20.95

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Katrina McDow, Marketing Specialist, Numismatic and Bullion Directorate; United States Mint; 801 9th Street NW.; Washington, DC 20220; or call 202-354-8495.

Authority: 31 U.S.C. 5111, 5112, 5132 & 9701.

Dated: January 25, 2017.

David Motl,

Acting Deputy Director, United States Mint.

[FR Doc. 2017-02126 Filed 1-31-17; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0091]

Agency Information Collection Activity: (Application and Renewal for Health Benefits and Request for Hardship Determination)

AGENCY: Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed revision of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on information needed to identify areas for improvement in clinical training programs.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before April 3, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information through the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at www.Regulations.gov; or to Brian McCarthy, Office of Regulatory and Administrative Affairs, Veterans Health Administration (10B4), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420 or email: Brian.McCarthy4@va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0091" in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian McCarthy at (202) 461-6345.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501-3521), Federal agencies must obtain approval from OMB for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.