

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 at the Commission's Public Reference Section, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-Phlx-95-77 and should be submitted by April 17, 1996.

V. Conclusion

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,¹³ that the proposed rule change (SR-Phlx-95-77) is approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁴

Jonathan G. Katz,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-7392 Filed 3-26-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[License No. 01/10-0076]

Central Texas Small Business Investment Corporation; Notice of Surrender of Licensee

Notice is hereby given that Central Texas Small Business Investment Corporation ("Central Texas"), One Canterbury Green, P.O. Box 120013 Stamford, Connecticut 06912-0013 has surrendered its License to operate as a small business investment company under the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as amended (Act). Central Texas was licensed by the Small Business Administration on March 29, 1962.

Under the authority vested by the Act and Pursuant to the Regulations promulgated thereunder, the surrender of the license was accepted on February 20, 1996, and accordingly, all rights, privileges, and franchises derived therefrom have been terminated.

¹³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

¹⁴ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 59.011, Small Business Investment Companies)

Don A. Christenson,

Associate Administrator for Investment.

[FR Doc. 96-7320 Filed 3-26-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Notice of Proposed Change in Magnetic Media Filing Requirements for Form W-2 Wage Reports; Request for Comments

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that SSA is currently considering a change to its Technical Instruction Bulletin for Magnetic Media Reporting (TIB-4) under which SSA would no longer accept annual Form W-2 wage reports filed on 8 inch diskettes. Instead, such wage reports would have to be filed by employers or third-party preparers on 5¼ inch or 3½ inch diskettes; on ½ inch magnetic tape; or on 3480 cartridges. Before further consideration is given to this proposal, SSA would like to receive any comments the public may offer on the proposed change.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 26, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments on this proposal should be mailed or delivered to Norman Goldstein, Senior Financial Executive, Social Security Administration, Room 451 Altmeyer Building, Baltimore, MD 21235; or sent by telefax to (410) 966-8753.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Harron, Chief, Earnings Records and Reporting Branch, Office of Program Benefits Policy, Social Security Administration, 3-F-26 Operations Building, Baltimore, MD 21235, telefax (410) 966-9214.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under section 6011(e) of the Internal Revenue Code and section 301.6011-2 of Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Regulations, employers who file 250 or more Form W-2 (Wage and Tax Statement) returns in a year after 1986 must file them on magnetic media. Employers with fewer returns may file on magnetic media on a voluntary basis.

Pursuant to an agreement with the IRS, SSA receives and processes employers' Form W-2 wage returns for use by both agencies. Each tax year, SSA sets out the requirements for filing magnetic media Form W-2 reports in its TIB-4 publication, which is sent to each employer who filed such reports in the preceding year. Magnetic media reports that do not meet these requirements are returned unprocessed to the submitter.

Most diskette reports filed by employers with SSA are filed on 3½ inch or 5¼ inch diskettes based upon an MS-DOS operating system. About 15% of the diskettes received by SSA are 8 inch diskettes produced by older computer equipment which is more expensive to repair and uses a different operating system. Equipment for the 8 inch diskettes is rapidly becoming obsolete and the number of returns filed in this manner is declining. SSA's continued processing of diskettes based on the two different operating systems requires the maintenance of equipment for both systems and special handling to "translate" 8 inch diskette data to a usable form. Moreover, the TIB-4 requirements for all filers are of necessity more complex. The consequence is slower and more costly wage reporting processes, with the additional costs having to be borne, in part, by other employers using more up-to-date equipment.

SSA is also exploring ways to simplify its disk reporting process as well as to receive more Form W-2 wage reports by electronic data transmission over telephone lines. SSA's objective is to achieve a more efficient process for both the Agency and employers. However, such efforts cannot be fully effective so long as SSA maintains requirements based on two operating systems. For these reasons and the readily available alternatives for diskette filers in the computer market, SSA is considering the possibility of eliminating 8 inch diskette from its list of acceptable magnetic media reporting formats.

Dated: March 20, 1996.
Norman Goldstein,
Senior Financial Executive.
[FR Doc. 96-7377 Filed 3-26-96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4190-29-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

[CGD 96-011]

National Environmental Policy Act: Agency Procedures for Categorical Exclusions

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.
ACTION: Notice of agency policy.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is announcing a change to its procedures and policies concerning agency actions which do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment under the National Environmental Policy Act

(NEPA). The change concerns the issuance of regatta and marine parade event permits and the promulgation of regulations issued in conjunction with those permits. The change is needed to avoid unnecessary or duplicative environmental analyses.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Kebby Hardy, Environmental Management Division, (202) 267-6034.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background and Purpose

Under regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508), each Federal agency is required to adopt procedures to supplement those regulations (40 CFR 1507.3). The Coast Guard's procedures and policies are published as a Commandant Manual Instruction entitled "National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures and Policy for Considering Environmental Impacts" (COMDTINST M16475.1 series). On July 29, 1994, the Coast Guard published a notice in the Federal Register (59 FR 38654) announcing the revision of section 2.B.2. of the instruction. Section 2.B.2.e. lists the proposed agency actions that are categorically excluded from the requirement that the actions undergo the analysis that accompanies preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

This notice announces further changes to 2.B.2.e. (35), the categorical exclusion that addresses the approval of regatta and marine parade event permits ("CE 35"), and section 2.B.2.e. (34)(h), the categorical exclusion that addresses the promulgation of regulations (special local regulations, regulated navigation areas, security zones, or safety zones, etc.) issued in conjunction with regatta or marine parade event permits ("CE 34(h)").

CE 35 and CE 34(h) are revised. These revisions are needed to avoid unnecessary environmental analyses under CE 34 and duplicative analyses under CE 34(h).

Discussion of Changes

(1) Changes to CE 35.

After conducting numerous environmental analyses (including programmatic environmental assessments) of regatta and marine parade events, the Coast Guard has concluded that these events do not normally have a significant impact on the environment if held away from environmentally sensitive areas. These areas may include, but are not limited to, wildlife refuges, wetlands, historic

areas, and other, similar areas designated as environmentally sensitive by governmental environmental agencies. The Coast Guard also concluded that some events held in or near these areas, by their nature, do not have a significant impact. For example, it may be acceptable to hold an event in an area designated as environmentally sensitive if the event is rowing, sailing, or swimming event.

The previous CE 35 (i.e., as amended on July 29, 1994) was based on the type of event; the number, type and size of the vessels expected to participate in the event; and the number of spectator vessels expected. Based on additional environmental analyses and documentation prepared for permitting regatta and marine parade events since the previous CE 35 took effect, the Coast Guard concluded that the location of the event, in relation to environmentally sensitive areas, was a more accurate determining factor than the type of event or the size and number of vessels involved. As previously written, CE 35 tended to cause the preparation of unnecessary environmental assessments for larger events that should have been categorically excluded and, in turn, tended to exclude smaller events that, because of their location, might have justified closer environmental scrutiny.

New CE 35(a) establishes a qualitative, environmentally-based threshold to categorically exclude Coast Guard approval of all regatta and marine parade event permits for events held in areas that are not environmentally sensitive. New CE 35(b) establishes a qualitative, environmentally-based threshold to categorically exclude Coast Guard approval of regatta and marine parade event permits for events to be held in environmentally sensitive areas when the proposed marine event is determined to have no significant environmental effects. New CE 35 eliminates the need for additional time and resources to analyze the environmental effects of marine event permits that were found to be environmentally benign.

2. CE 34(h).

CE 34(h) is amended to provide that, if the environmental analysis conducted for a regatta or marine parade event permit includes an analysis of the impact of regulations, if any, issued in conjunction with the permit, the regulations themselves do not have to be analyzed again. The previous CE 34(h) was not clear on this point and could be construed to require duplicate analyses.

Relation of New Provisions to the Rest of Section 2.B.2

New CE 34(h) and CE (35) will continue to be applied in conjunction with the requirements of section 2.B.2., including section 2.B.2.b., which sets forth the limitations on using categorical exclusions, and section 2.B.2.c., which sets forth the documentation requirements. The limitations in section 2.B.2.b. will continue to require either an environmental assessment or impact statement when the event will result in potentially significant impacts resulting from either the participants (e.g., noise or emissions) or the spectators (e.g., air impacts of potential traffic jams or solid waste generation).

For the reasons set out in the preamble, the Coast Guard announces the following amendments to sections 2.B.2.e.(34)(h) and 2.B.2.e.(35) of COMDTINST M16475.1B:

2.B.2.e. Categorical Exclusion List

* * * * *

(34) * * *

(h) Special local regulations issued in conjunction with a regatta or marine parade; provided that, if a permit is required, the environmental analysis conducted for the permit included an analysis of the impact of the regulations. (Checklist and CED not required.)

* * * * *

(35) Approvals of regatta and marine parade event permits for the following events:

(a) Events that are not located in, proximate to, or above an area designated as environmentally sensitive by an environmental agency of the Federal, State, or local government. For example, environmentally sensitive areas may include such areas as critical habitats or migration routes for endangered or threatened species or important fish or shellfish nursery areas.

(b) Events that are located in, proximate to, or above an area designated as environmentally sensitive by an environmental agency of the Federal, State, or local government and for which the Coast Guard determines, based on consultation with the Governmental agency, that the event will not significantly affect the environmentally sensitive area. (Checklist and CED required.)

Dated: March 22, 1996

E.J. Barrett,

RADM, Chief, Systems Directorate.

[FR Doc. 96-7456 Filed 3-26-96; 8:45 am]

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