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. The Commission believes that by extending the Moratorium the Exchange can discontinue relying on factors that no longer provide meaningful objective measures of a specialist’s performance in the Hybrid Market environment.

Furthermore, the Commission finds good cause to approve the proposed rule change prior to the thirtieth day after the date of publication of the notice of filing. By extending the Moratorium from December 31, 2007 until March 31, 2008, the Exchange should have sufficient time to allow it to propose changes to its allocation policy that reflects its current market structure. The Commission notes that the Exchange advised that it expects to submit a proposal to amend its rules governing the allocation of securities to specialist firms and related rules by February 1, 2008. In addition, the Commission believes that allowing the extension of the Moratorium to take effect retroactively as of December 31, 2007 will allow the Moratorium to occur uninterrupted until March 31, 2008.

V. Conclusion

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,12 that the proposed rule change (SR–NYSE–2008–02) be and hereby is approved on an accelerated basis.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.13

Florence E. Harmon,
Deputy Secretary.

Notes:

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, this notice 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 March 31, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Send all comments regarding whether this information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the function of the agency, whether the burden estimates are accurate, and if there are ways to minimize the estimated burden and enhance the quality of the collection, to Barbara Brannan, Special Assistant, Office of Surety Bond Guarantee Program, Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street SW., 8th Floor, Wash., DC 20416.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barbara Brannan, Special Assistant, Office of Surety Bond Guarantee Program, 202–205–6545 barbara.brannan@sba.gov Curtis B. Rich, Management Analyst, 202–205–7030 curtis.rich@sba.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: “Surety Bond Guarantee Assistance”.

Description of Respondents: Surety Bond Companies.

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

Annual Responses: 31,113.

Annual Burden: 2,012.

ADDRESSES: Send all comments regarding whether this information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the function of the agency, whether the burden estimates are accurate, and if there are ways to minimize the estimated burden and enhance the quality of the collection, to Sandra Johnston, Program Analyst, Office of Financial Assistance, Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street SW., 8th Floor, Wash., DC 20416.


Title: “Lenders Transcript of Account”.

Description of Respondents: Lenders requesting SBA to provide the Agency with breakdown of payments.

Form No.: 1050.

Annual Responses: 36,000.

Annual Burden: 27,000.

Title: “Lenders Transcript of Account”.

Description of Respondents: SBA Lenders.

Form No.: 1149.

Annual Responses: 3,600.

Annual Burden: 3,600.

Jacqueline White,
Chief, Administrative Information Branch.

Notes:
15 13 CFR 121.406(b).
16 8(a)(17) of the Small Business Act (Act), 15 U.S.C. 637(a)(17), requires that recipients of Federal contracts set aside for small businesses, service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses, or SBA’s 8(a) Business Development Program provide the product of a small business manufacturer or processor, if the recipient is other than the actual manufacturer or processor of the product.

As implemented in SBA’s regulations at 13 CFR 121.1202(c), in order to be
considered available to participate in the Federal market for a class of products, a small business manufacturer must have submitted a proposal for a contract solicitation or received a contract from the Federal government within the last 24 months. The SBA defines “class of products” based on six digit coding system. The coding system is the Office of Management and Budget North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

The SBA received a request on October 23, 2007, to waive the Nonmanufacturer Rule for Irradiation Apparatus Manufacturing, Computerized axial tomography (CT/CAT) scanners manufacturing; CT/CAT (computerized axial tomography) scanners manufacturing; Fluoroscopes manufacturing; Fluoroscopic X-ray apparatus and tubes manufacturing; Generators, X-ray, manufacturing; Irradiation equipment manufacturing; X-ray generators manufacturing; and X-ray irradiation equipment manufacturing, North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 334517 product number 6525. In response, On November 15, 2007, SBA published in the Federal Register a notice of intent to waive the Nonmanufacturer Rule for Irradiation Apparatus Manufacturing, Computerized axial tomography (CT/CAT) scanners manufacturing; CT/CAT (computerized axial tomography) scanners manufacturing; Fluoroscopes manufacturing; Fluoroscopic X-ray apparatus and tubes manufacturing; Generators, X-ray, manufacturing; Irradiation equipment manufacturing; X-ray generators manufacturing; and X-ray irradiation equipment manufacturing. SBA explained in the notice that it was soliciting comments and sources of small business manufacturers of this class of products.

In response to this notice, two (2) comments were received from interested parties. However, none of the interested parties are small business manufacturers of Irradiation Apparatus Manufacturing, Computerized axial tomography (CT/CAT) scanners manufacturing; CT/CAT (computerized axial tomography) scanners manufacturing; Fluoroscopes manufacturing; Fluoroscopic X-ray apparatus and tubes manufacturing; Generators, X-ray, manufacturing; Irradiation equipment manufacturing; X-ray generators manufacturing; and X-ray irradiation equipment manufacturing.

Background: The Federal-aid highway program has always been based on a strong State-Federal partnership. At the core of that partnership is a philosophy of trust and flexibility, and a belief that the States are in the best position to make investment decisions that are based on the needs and priorities of their citizens. The FHWA noise regulations give each State highway agency flexibility in determining the reasonableness and feasibility of noise abatement and, thus, in balancing the benefits of noise abatement against the overall adverse social, economic, and environmental effects and costs of the noise abatement measures. The State highway agencies base their determination on the interest of the overall public good, keeping in mind all the elements of the highway program.

The flexibility in noise abatement decisionmaking is reflected by data indicating that not all States have built noise barriers. Through the end of 2004, 45 State Departments of Transportation (SDOT) and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico have constructed over 2,205 linear miles of barriers at a cost of over $2.6 billion ($3.4 billion in 2004 dollars). Five States and the District of Columbia have not constructed noise barriers. Ten State highway agencies account for approximately 64 percent of total barrier length and 72 percent of total barrier cost. The previously distributed listing can be found at http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/noise/barrier/summary.htm. This listing continues to be extremely useful in the management of the highway traffic noise program, in our technical assistance efforts for State highway agencies, and in responding to inquiries from congressional sources, Federal, State, and local agencies, and the general public. An updated listing of noise barriers will be distributed nationally for use in the highway traffic noise program. This collection request is for all noise barriers constructed by December 31, 2007. This would include all funding sources and material types. Although the collection concentrates on the 2005, 2006, and 2007 calendar years, a State highway agency may, after review of the “Summary of Noise Barriers Constructed by December 31, 2004” document, delete, modify, or add information to any calendar year.

Respondents: Each of the 50 SDOTs, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Estimated Average Burden per Response: It is estimated that on average it would take 8 hours to respond to this request. The actual response time will be dependent on the number of noise barriers constructed, the availability of

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Highway Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities: Request for Comments for New Information Collection

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The FHWA has forwarded the information collection request described in this notice to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval of a new information collection. We published a Federal Register Notice with a 60-day public comment period on this information collection on September 27, 2007. We are required to publish this notice in the Federal Register by the Papercr Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Please submit comments by February 28, 2008.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments within 30 days to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington DC, 20503, Attention DOT Desk Officer. You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including:

- Whether the proposed collection is necessary for the FHWA’s performance;
- The accuracy of the estimated burden;
- Ways for the FHWA to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the collected information; and
- Ways that the burden could be minimized, including the use of electronic technology, without reducing the quality of the collected information.

All comments should include the Docket number FHWA–2007–0006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Mark Ferroni, 202–366–3233, Office of Natural and Human Environment (HEPN–20), Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 6 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Noise Barriers Inventory Request.


Arthur E. Collins, Jr., Director for Government Contracting.