

Washington, DC 20549. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of GSCC. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-GSCC-2001-10 and should be submitted by April 17, 2002.

For the Commission by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>3</sup>

**Margaret H. McFarland,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 02-7291 Filed 3-26-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release 34-45607; File No. 600-22]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; MBS Clearing Corporation; Notice of Filing and Order Approving a Request for an Extension of Temporary Registration as a Clearing Agency

March 20, 2002.

Pursuant to section 19(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),<sup>1</sup> notice is hereby given that on February 8, 2002, MBS Clearing Corporation ("MBSCC") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") a request that the Commission grant MBSCC full registration as a clearing agency or in the alternative extend MBSCC's temporary registration as a clearing agency until such time as the Commission is able to grant MBSCC permanent registration.<sup>2</sup> The Commission is publishing this notice and order to solicit comments from interested persons and to extend MBSCC's temporary registration as a clearing agency through June 30, 2002.

On February 2, 1987, pursuant to sections 17A(b) and 19(a) of the Act<sup>3</sup> and Rule 17Ab2-1 promulgated thereunder,<sup>4</sup> the Commission granted MBSCC registration as a clearing agency on a temporary basis for a period of eighteen months.<sup>5</sup> The Commission subsequently has extended MBSCC's registration through March 31, 2002.<sup>6</sup>

The Commission today is extending MBSCC's temporary registration as a clearing agency so that MBSCC may continue to act as a clearing agency while the Commission seeks comment on granting MBSCC permanent registration as a clearing agency. The Commission expects to publish notice requesting comments on permanent registration as a clearing agency during the calendar year 2002.

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing application. Such written data, views, and arguments will be considered by the Commission in granting registration or institution proceedings to determine whether registration should be denied in accordance with section 19(a)(1) of the Act.<sup>7</sup> Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Copies of the amended application for registration and all written comments will be available for inspection at the Commission's Public Reference Room, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. All submissions should refer to File No. 600-22 and should be submitted by April 17, 2002.

*It is therefore ordered* that MBSCC's temporary registration as a clearing agency (File No. 600-22) be and hereby is extended through June 30, 2002.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>8</sup>

**Margaret H. McFarland,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 02-7292 Filed 3-26-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-45604; File No. SR-MBSCC-2001-06]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; MBS Clearing Corporation; Notice of Filing of a Proposed Rule Change Regarding the Monitoring of MBSCC Participants' Financial Condition and Activities

March 20, 2002.

Pursuant to section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(December 21, 1994), 59 FR 67743; 37372 (June 26, 1996), 61 FR 35281; 38784 (June 27, 1997), 62 FR 36587; 39776 (March 20, 1998), 63 FR 14740; 41211 (March 24, 1999), 64 FR 15854; 42568 (March 23, 2000), 65 FR 16980; 44089 (March 21, 2001), 66 FR 16961; and 44831 (September 21, 2001) 66 FR 49728.

<sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(a)(1).

<sup>8</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

("Act"),<sup>1</sup> notice is hereby given that on November 27, 2001, MBS Clearing Corporation ("MBSCC") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") a proposed rule change and on December 26, 2001, amended the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared primarily by MBSCC. 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

The proposed rule change strengthens the process regarding MBSCC's monitoring of its participants' financial condition and activities.

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

In its filing with the Commission, MBSCC included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. MBSCC has prepared summaries, set forth in sections (A), (B), and (C) below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.<sup>2</sup>

#### (A) Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

To strengthen MBSCC's monitoring of participants' financial condition and activities, as well as to conform to MBSCC's standard practices, MBSCC is proposing the following modifications to its rules: (i) Add a requirement that registered brokers and dealers submit copies of supplemental reports filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 17a-11 to MBSCC; (ii) establish a formal surveillance status mechanism; (iii) allow non-domestic participants to submit required financial statements prepared in accordance with their home country Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP"); and (iv) expand the financial criteria used by MBSCC for calculating a participant's financial ability.

The first proposed modification to the rules would require broker-dealer participants to submit copies of supplemental reports filed pursuant to

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>2</sup> The Commission has modified parts of these statements.

<sup>3</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

<sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(a).

<sup>2</sup> Letter from Jeffrey F. Ingber, Managing Director, General Counsel and Secretary, MBSCC (February 8, 2002).

<sup>3</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b) and 78s(a).

<sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 240.17Ab2-1.

<sup>5</sup> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 24046 (February 2, 1987), 52 FR 4218.

<sup>6</sup> Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 25957 (August 2, 1988), 53 FR 29537; 27079 (July 31, 1989), 54 FR 34212; 28492 (September 28, 1990), 55 FR 41148; 29751 (September 27, 1991), 56 FR 50602; 31750 (January 21, 1993), 58 FR 6424; 33348 (December 15, 1993), 58 FR 68183; 35132

Rule 17a-11 to MBSCC concurrently with their submission to the Commission. Rule 17a-11 requires registered broker-dealers to notify the Commission of a decline in net capital below minimum requirements. Such notices should provide MBSCC with early warnings of such broker-dealers' potential financial problems.

The second proposed modification would enhance MBSCC's policies and procedures regarding its participant surveillance procedures by establishing a formal surveillance status mechanism. The proposed rule change would establish a tiered surveillance mechanism wherein the degree of risk posed by a participant would be appropriately categorized so MBSCC would be able to react more swiftly to changes in a participant's condition.

The third proposed modification would allow non-domestic participants to meet their financial reporting requirements to MBSCC by submitting financial statements prepared in accordance with their home country GAAP. MBSCC's rules currently require these participants to submit financial statements prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP. MBSCC has found this requirement to be burdensome and unnecessarily restrictive. MBSCC also proposes to permit these participants to use another recognized accounting standard (such as, for example, International Accounting Standards) deemed acceptable by MBSCC. In both cases (when a participant submits financial statements prepared in accordance with their home country GAAP and when a participant submits financial statements prepared in accordance with some other recognized accounting standard deemed acceptable by MBSCC), the participant must provide MBSCC with a discussion of the material variations of the accounting standards used from U.S. GAAP.

The fourth proposed modification allows MBSCC to use net asset value or other applicable indicia in calculating a participant's financial ability. MBSCC's rules do not currently specify the types of financial indicia that MBSCC may use to calculate a participant's net worth for determining whether the participant meets MBSCC's minimum financial requirements. MBSCC's analysts currently use the appropriate financial indicia for each type of participant. For example, shareholders equity is used to determine the financial ability of a bank whereas net asset value is more appropriate for determining the financial ability of certain types of funds, such as most registered investment companies. The proposed rule change would expand the language

in MBSCC's rules to permit use of the appropriate financial indicia.

The proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder because it will enhance MBSCC's monitoring of participants' financial condition and activities and thereby should protect MBSCC and its participants.

*(B) Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition*

MBSCC does not believe that the proposed rule change will have any impact or impose any burden on competition.

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

Written comments relating to the proposed rule change have not yet been solicited or received. MBSCC will notify the Commission of any written comments received by MBSCC.

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

Within thirty-five days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to ninety days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which MBSCC consents, the Commission will:

- (a) By order approve the proposed rule change or
- (b) Institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

**IV. Solicitation of Comments**

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule 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

Section, 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20549. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of MBSCC. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-MBSCC-2001-06 and should be submitted by April 17, 2002.

For the Commission by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>3</sup>

**Margaret H. McFarland,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 02-7295 Filed 3-26-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

[Release No. 34-45602; File No. SR-NYSE-2001-40]

**Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing of a Proposed Rule Change and Amendment No. 1 and Amendment No. 2 Thereto by the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. Regarding Method of Delivery of Annual Reports and Proxy Materials**

March 20, 2002.

Pursuant to section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on October 11, 2001, the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. ("Exchange" or "NYSE") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which items have been prepared by the NYSE. The Exchange submitted Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change on January 15, 2002.<sup>3</sup> The Exchange submitted Amendment No. 2 to the proposed rule change on March 5, 2002.<sup>4</sup> The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change, as amended, from interested persons.

<sup>3</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>3</sup> In Amendment No. 1, NYSE made technical changes to its rule text. See letter to Nancy Sanow, Assistant Director, Division of Market Regulation ("Division"), Commission, from Darla C. Stuckey, Corporate Secretary, NYSE, dated January 11, 2002 ("Amendment No. 1").

<sup>4</sup> In Amendment No. 2, NYSE made additional minor technical changes to its rule text. See letter to Nancy Sanow, Assistant Director, Division, Commission, from Darla C. Stuckey, Corporate Secretary, NYSE, dated March 4, 2002 ("Amendment No. 2").