

discussed. The information corrected and actions taken will be included in the Boards Section 515 annual report to OMB.

Definitions

Quality: An encompassing term comprising utility, objectivity, and integrity, as defined below.

Utility: The usefulness of the information to its intended users.

Objectivity: A focus on ensuring that information is accurate, reliable, and unbiased, and that information products are presented in an accurate, clear, complete, and unbiased manner.

Integrity: The security of information from unauthorized access or revision to ensure that the information is not compromised through corruption or falsification.

Information: Any communication or representation of knowledge, such as facts or data, in any form. This does not include individual Board member or staff opinions, where the agency makes it clear that what is being offered is someone's opinion rather than fact or the Board's view.

Dissemination: Agency-instituted or agency-sponsored distribution of information to the public. Dissemination under these guidelines does not include distributions limited to government employees or agency contractors or grantees; interagency or intraagency use or sharing of government information; and responses to requests for agency records under the Freedom of Information Act, the Privacy Act, the Federal Advisory Committee Act, or other similar law.

Influential: The Board can reasonably determine that dissemination of the information will have or does have a clear and substantial effect on important public policies.

Reproducibility: The information is capable of being substantially reproduced, subject to an acceptable degree of imprecision.

Dated: September 25, 2002.

William D. Barnard,

Executive Director, Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board.

[FR Doc. 02-24866 Filed 9-30-02; 8:45 am]

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OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality, Objectivity, Utility, and Integrity of Information Disseminated by Federal Agencies

AGENCY: Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is giving notice of availability of its Information Quality Guidelines. These Information Quality Guidelines describe OMB's predissemination information quality control and an administrative mechanism for requests for correction of information publicly disseminated by OMB. The Information Quality Guidelines are posted on OMB's Web site: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg/infopoltech.html>.

DATES: OMB's predissemination review applies to information that OMB first disseminates on or after October 1, 2002. OMB's administrative mechanism for correcting information that OMB disseminates applies to information that OMB disseminates on or after October 1, 2002, regardless of when OMB first disseminated the information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brooke J. Dickson, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. Telephone (202) 395-3785 or e-mail to: informationquality@omb.eop.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: OMB published a notice of availability for proposed information quality guidelines in the **Federal Register** on May 1, 2002 (67 FR 21779). OMB amended its proposed guidelines to reflect guidance provided to all the agencies in a Memorandum from John D. Graham for the President's Management Council, "Agency Draft Information Quality Guidelines" (June 10, 2002) and a Memorandum from John D. Graham to the President's Management Council, "Agency Final Information Quality Guidelines" (September 5, 2002). These memoranda are available on OMB's Web site: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg/infopoltech.html>. OMB also received a few agency-specific textual comments that were helpful in clarifying the guidelines. A summary of significant amendments to the proposed guidelines follows, in order of the text.

In the introductory paragraph to these guidelines, OMB establishes these guidelines as its performance standard,

as called for at page 7 in the June 10, 2002 memorandum. (*See also*, paragraph III.1 of the Agency-wide Guidelines, 67 FR 8452 (February 22, 2002)).

In a new paragraph I.A.6, OMB adds more specific language involving the dissemination of influential scientific, financial, or statistical information. (*See* June 10, 2002 memorandum, page 9; Agency-wide Guidelines, paragraph V.b.ii.B).

OMB clarified its predissemination review procedures in renumbered paragraph I.A.7.

In a new paragraph I.A.9, OMB links its clearance of proposed collections of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act with ongoing implementation of these information quality guidelines (*See* June 10, 2002 memorandum, p. 10).

In the introduction to section II, OMB stresses that the purpose of any corrective action will be to serve the genuine and valid needs of OMB without disrupting OMB processes, and to deal with information quality matters, not to resolve underlying substantive policy or legal issues. (*See* **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** to interim final Agency-wide Guidelines, 66 FR 49718, 49721 (September 28, 2001)).

In paragraph II.1, OMB stresses that the person seeking correction of information has the burden of proof with respect to the necessity for correction as well as with respect to the type of correction requested. (*See* June 10, 2002 memorandum, page 11). In addition, OMB adds a description of the kinds of information that a person seeking correction of information needs to provide to help meet that burden of proof.

In paragraph II.9, OMB points out that if it needs to extend the time it will take to notify the person seeking correction, it will provide a reasoned basis for the extension and an estimated decision date. (*See* September 5, 2002 memorandum, Appendix, topic (3)).

In a new paragraph II.10, OMB adds a provision stating that requests for correction of information will be considered, in cases where OMB disseminates a study, analysis, or other information for public comment, prior to disseminating the final OMB action or information product if (1) an earlier response would not unduly delay dissemination of the OMB action or information product; and (2) the requestor had shown a reasonable likelihood of suffering actual harm from the dissemination if the correction were not made until dissemination of the final OMB action or information

product. (See September 5, 2002 memorandum, Appendix, topic (2)).

In paragraph III.3, OMB points out that if it needs to extend the time it will take to notify the person seeking reconsideration of an OMB response to a request for correction, it will provide a reasoned basis for the extension and an estimated decision date. (See September 5, 2002 memorandum, Appendix, topic (3)).

In paragraph IV.2, OMB modifies the exemption for a press release to provide that the information in the press release has been previously disseminated by OMB or another Federal agency in compliance with the Agency-wide Guidelines or the these OMB guidelines. (See June 5, 2002 memorandum, page 4).

In paragraph IV.4, OMB deletes from the exclusion from the definition of "information" the provision referring to statements that may reasonably be expected to become the subject of litigation. (See June 5, 2002 memorandum, page 5).

Otherwise, the OMB amendments were technical and conforming textual edits, designed to clarify the OMB guidelines and conform them to the Agency-wide Guidelines.

Dated: September 20, 2002.

John D. Graham,

Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs.

[FR Doc. 02-24459 Filed 9-30-02; 8:45 am]

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PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

Notice of Availability of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation Information Quality Guidelines

AGENCY: Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the requirements of the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB's) Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality, Objectivity, Utility and Integrity of Information Disseminated by Federal Agencies, the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) has made available its Information Quality Guidelines on its Web site at <http://www.pbgc.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Harold J. Ashner, Assistant General Counsel, or James L. Beller, Attorney, Office of the General Counsel, PBGC, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005-4026; 202-326-4024. (TTY/TDD users may call the Federal relay service

toll-free at 1-800-877-8339 and ask to be connected to 202-326-4024.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 515 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (Pub. L. 106-554) directs OMB to issue government-wide guidelines that "provide policy and procedural guidance to Federal agencies for ensuring and maximizing the quality, objectivity, utility and integrity of information (including statistical information) disseminated by Federal agencies." The OMB guidelines require each agency to prepare a report providing the agency's information quality guidelines. Each agency is required to publish a notice of availability of this report in the **Federal Register** and to post this report on its web site by October 1, 2002. The PBGC has posted its Information Quality Guidelines on its Web site at <http://www.pbgc.gov>.

Prior to submitting this report for OMB review, the PBGC posted the report in draft form on its web site for public comment. The Center for Regulatory Effectiveness (the CRE) prepared generic comments applicable to all federal agencies. The PBGC considered the CRE's comments and made appropriate changes to the guidelines. The PBGC received no other comments before submitting the guidelines to OMB. OMB suggested some modifications, which are reflected in the PBGC's final guidelines.

Issued in Washington, DC, on this 26th day of September 2002.

Steven A. Kandarian,

Executive Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

[FR Doc. 02-24902 Filed 9-30-02; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-46540; File No. SR-NASD-2002-110]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Order Granting Approval of Proposed Rule Change by the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. To Establish a New Registration Category for Proctors of In-Firm Delivery of the Regulatory Element of the Continuing Education Requirements

September 24, 2002.

On August 8, 2002, the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² a proposed rule change to establish NASD Rule 1043, a new registration category for proctors of in-firm delivery of the Regulatory Element of the NASD's continuing education requirements. The proposed rule change was published for notice and comment in the **Federal Register** on August 21, 2002.³ The Commission received no comments on the proposed rule change.

The Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities association⁴ and, in particular, the requirements of Section 15A(b)(6),⁵ which requires among other things that the NASD's rules be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. The Commission believes that the proposed rule change may result in more efficient delivery of the NASD's continuing education requirements, while maintaining the integrity of the continuing education program.

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,⁶ that the proposed rule change (SR-NASD-2002-110) be, and it hereby is, approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.⁷

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-24830 Filed 9-30-02; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-46553; File No. SR-NASD-2002-122]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. To Correct Inaccurate Language in the Text of NASD Rules

September 25, 2002.

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

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 46351 (August 14, 2002), 67 FR 54248.

⁴ In approving this proposed rule change, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78o-3(b)(6).

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).