

employment continued to expand through July and the civilian unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.5 percent. Industrial production declined considerably in June and July; most of the drop over the two months reflected the GM strike. A decline in total retail sales in July was more than accounted for by a sharp contraction in spending for motor vehicles. Residential sales and construction have remained exceptionally strong in recent months. Available indicators point to continued growth in business capital spending, although apparently at a more moderate pace than earlier in the year. Business inventory accumulation slowed sharply in the spring. The nominal deficit on U.S. trade in goods and services widened substantially further in the second quarter. Trends in wages and prices have remained stable in recent months.

Most interest rates have fallen slightly on balance since the meeting on June 30-July 1. Share prices in U.S. equity markets have remained volatile and major indexes have declined appreciably on balance over the intermeeting period. In foreign exchange markets, the trade-weighted value of the dollar rose somewhat further over the intermeeting period in relation to other major currencies; in addition, it was up slightly in terms of an index of the currencies of the developing countries of Latin America and Asia that are important trading partners of the United States.

After robust growth in the second quarter, M2 decelerated somewhat and M3 was about unchanged in July. For the year through July, both aggregates rose at rates well above the Committee's ranges for the year. Expansion of total domestic nonfinancial debt appears to have moderated somewhat in recent months after a pickup earlier in the year.

The Federal Open Market Committee seeks monetary and financial conditions that will foster price stability and promote sustainable growth in output. In furtherance of these objectives, the Committee reaffirmed at its meeting on June 30-July 1 the ranges it had established in February for growth of M2 and M3 of 1 to 5 percent and 2 to 6 percent respectively, measured from the fourth quarter of 1997 to the fourth quarter of 1998. The range for growth of total domestic nonfinancial debt was maintained at 3 to 7 percent for the year. For 1999, the Committee agreed on a tentative basis to set the same ranges for growth of the monetary aggregates and debt, measured from the fourth quarter of 1998 to the fourth quarter of 1999. The behavior of the monetary aggregates

will continue to be evaluated in the light of progress toward price level stability, movements in their velocities, and developments in the economy and financial markets.

In the implementation of policy for the immediate future, the Committee seeks conditions in reserve markets consistent with maintaining the federal funds rate at an average of around 5-1/2 percent. In the context of the Committee's long-run objectives for price stability and sustainable economic growth, and giving careful consideration to economic, financial, and monetary developments, a slightly higher federal funds rate or a slightly lower federal funds rate would be acceptable in the intermeeting period. The contemplated reserve conditions are expected to be consistent with moderate growth in M2 and M3 over coming months.

By order of the Federal Open Market Committee, October 7, 1998.

**Donald L. Kohn,**

*Secretary, Federal Open Market Committee.*

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## FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

### Sunshine Act Meeting

**AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:** Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

**TIME AND DATE:** 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, October 21, 1998.

**PLACE:** Marriner S. Eccles Federal Reserve Board Building, 20th and C Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20551.

**STATUS:** Closed.

#### MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Personnel actions (appointments, promotions, assignments, reassignments, and salary actions) involving individual Federal Reserve System employees.

2. Any matters carried forward from a previously announced meeting.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Lynn S. Fox, Assistant to the Board; 202-452-3204.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** You may call 202-452-3206 beginning at approximately 5 p.m. two business days before the meeting for a recorded announcement of bank and bank holding company applications scheduled for the meeting; or you may contact the Board's Web site at <http://www.federalreserve.gov> for an electronic announcement that not only lists applications, but also indicates procedural and other information about the meeting.

Dated: October 14, 1998.

**Robert deV. Frierson,**

*Associate Secretary of the Board.*

[FR Doc. 98-27912 Filed 10-14-98; 10:40 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 77N-0240]

#### Erythrityl Tetranitrate; Drug Efficacy Study Implementation; Withdrawal of Approval of Abbreviated New Drug Applications

**AGENCY:** Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is withdrawing conditional approval of abbreviated new drug applications (ANDA's) for single-entity drug products containing erythrityl tetranitrate. FDA is withdrawing approval because there is a lack of substantial evidence that these drugs are effective for indications relating to the management, prophylaxis, or treatment of anginal attacks.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** November 16, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Requests for an opinion on the applicability of this notice to a specific product should be identified with Docket No. 77N-0240 and reference number DESI 1786 and directed to the Division of Prescription Drug Compliance and Surveillance (HFD-330), Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 7500 Standish Pl., Rockville, MD 20855.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mary E. Catchings, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (HFD-7), Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, 301-594-2041.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In a notice published in the **Federal Register** of June 23, 1998 (63 FR 34188), FDA revoked the temporary exemption for the drug products described in this document which permitted these products to remain on the market beyond the time limits scheduled for implementation of the Drug Efficacy Study. The notice also offered an opportunity to request a hearing on a proposal to withdraw approval of the conditionally approved new drug applications for these products insofar as they provide for indications relating