Title and Purpose of Information Collection

Application for Reimbursement for Hospital Insurance Services in Canada; OMB 3220–0086.

Under section 7(d) of the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA), the RRB administers the Medicare program for persons covered by the railroad retirement system. Payments are provided under section 7(d)(4) of the RRA for medical services furnished in Canada to the same extent as for those furnished in the United States. However, payments for the services furnished in Canada are made from the Railroad Retirement Account rather than from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund, with the payment limited to the amount by which insurance benefits under Medicare exceed the amounts payable under Canadian Provincial plans.

Form AA–104, Application for Canadian Hospital Benefits Under Medicare—Part A, is provided by the RRB for use in claiming benefits for covered hospital services received in Canada. The form obtains information needed to determine eligibility for, and the amount of any reimbursement due the applicant. One response is requested of each respondent. Completion is required to obtain a benefit. No changes are proposed to Form AA–104.

Number of respondents: 35.

Estimated Completion Time: 10 minutes.

Estimated annual burden hours: 6.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: To request more information or to obtain a copy of the information collection justification, forms, and/or supporting material, please call the RRB Clearance Officer at (312) 751–3363. Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Ronald J. Hodapp, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 N. Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611–2092. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Chuck Mierzwa,

Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 99–6493 Filed 3–16–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7905–01–M

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–41153; File No. SR–GSCC–99–02]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Government Securities Clearing Corporation; Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of a Proposed Rule Change Regarding Year 2000 Testing

March 10, 1999.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Security Exchange Act of 1934 (''Act''),[1] notice is hereby given that on February 5, 1999, the Government Securities Clearing corporation (''GSCC'') filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (''Commission'') the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which items have been prepared primarily by GSCC. The Commission is publishing this notice and order to solicit comments from interested persons and to grant accelerated approval of the proposal.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The propose of the proposed rule change is to clarify that GSCC's rules on operational capability include certain reporting and testing requirements such as the requirement that all GSCC members conduct Year 2000 testing with GSCC.

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

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

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

The proposed rule change requires all GSCC members to participate in Year 2000 testing with GSCC. GSCC believes that its rules on operational requirements for members provide GSCC with the authority to require such testing. Nonetheless, GSCC proposes to supplement its rules on operational capability standards to clarify that these standards include the fulfillment of testing and related reporting requirements that may be imposed on members by GSCC from time to time to ensure the continuing operational capability of each member. The scope of such Year 2000 testing and reporting requirements have been determined by GSCC in its sole discretion and have been conveyed to members through Important Notices. GSCC believes that the rule change is broad enough to cover Year 2000 testing without specifically referring to Year 2000 in order to alleviate the need to rescind the rule when Year 2000 testing is no longer relevant and also to enable GSCC to apply it to other contexts in which testing might be required.

GSCC expressly reserves the right to take remedial action against members that do not fulfill the testing and related reporting requirements referred to above within the time frames established by GSCC. The proposed rule change provides generally that GSCC may take the remedial actions already available to it in its rules (*i.e.*, increased clearing fund deposit and termination of membership) in the event a member does not fulfill the operational testing and related reporting requirements within the time frames specified by GSCC. GSCC has specified these time frames in an Important Notice to members.

GSCC believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder. In particular, the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Act[3] which requires that the rules of a clearing agency be designed to promote the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

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

GSCC does not believe that the proposed rule change will have an impact, or impose a 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. GSCC will notify

[1] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

[2] The Commission has modified the text of the summaries prepared by GSCC.

[3] 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(F).

the Commission of any written comments received by GSCC.

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

Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Act [4] requires that the rules of a clearing agency be designed to promote the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions. The Commission believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with this obligation because the required Year 2000 testing should allow GSCC to address potential problems associated with its members' Year 2000 readiness. As a result, GSCC should be able to continue to provide prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions before, on, and after Year 2000 without interruption.

GSCC requested that the Commission find good cause for approving the proposed rule change prior to the thirtieth day after the publication of notice of the filing. The Commission finds good cause for approving the proposed rule change prior to the thirtieth day after the publication of notice of the filing because such approval will allow GSCC to implement its mandatory Year 2000 testing program in a timely manner.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. 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 Room, 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 GSCC. All submissions should refer to the File No. SR–GSCC–99–02 and should be submitted by April 7, 1999.

[4] 15 U.S.C. 78q–1 (b)(3)(F).

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act, [5] that the proposed rule change (File No. SR–GSCC–99–2) be and hereby is approved.

For the Commission by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority. [6]

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99–6455 Filed 3–16–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010–01–M

[5] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

[6] 17 CFR 200.30–3(a) (12).

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[(License No. 02/72–0573)]

EOS Partners SBIC II, L.P.; Notice Seeking Exemption Under Section 312 of the Small Business Investment Act, Conflicts of Interest

Notice is hereby given that Eos Partners SBIC II, L.P. (''EOS II''), 320 Park Avenue, 22nd Floor, New York, New York 10022, a Federal Licensee under the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as amended (''the Act''), in connection with the proposed financing of a small concern is seeking an exemption under section 312 of the Act and section 107.730, Financings which Constitute Conflicts of Interest of the Small Business Administration (''SBA'') Rules and Regulations (13 CFR 107.730 (1998)). An exemption may not be granted by SBA until Notices of this transaction have been published. EOS II proposes to provide equity financing to Providence Service Corporation, 620 N. Craycroft, Tucson, Arizona 85710. The financing is contemplated for funding growth and acquisitions.

The financing is brought within the purview of section 107.730 (a) (1) of the Regulations because Eos Partners SBIC, L.P., an Associate of EOS II, owns greater than 10 percent of Providence Service Corporation and therefore Providence Service Corporation is considered an Associate of EOS II as defined in section 107.50 of the Regulations.

Notice is hereby given that any interested person may, not later than fifteen (15) days from the date of publication of this Notice, submit written comments on the proposed transaction to the Associate Administrator for Investment, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 Third Street, SW Washington, DC 20416.

A copy of this Notice shall be published, in accordance with section 107.730 (g), in the **Federal Register** by SBA.

Dated: March 10, 1999.

Don A. Christensen,

Associate Administrator for Investment.

[FR Doc. 99–6469 Filed 3–16–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025–01–P

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Finding Regarding the Social Insurance System of Hungary

AGENCY: Social Security Administration.

ACTION: Notice of finding regarding the Social Insurance System of Hungary.

Finding: Section 202(t)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 402(t)(1)) prohibits payment of monthly benefits to any individual who is not a United States citizen or national for any month after he or she has been outside the United States for 6 consecutive months, and prior to the first month thereafter for all of which the individual has been in the United States. This prohibition does not apply to such an individual where one of the exceptions described in sections 202(t)(2) through 202(t)(5) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 402(t)(2) through 402(t)(5)) affects his or her case.

Section 202(t)(2) of the Social Security Act provides that, subject to certain residency requirements of section 202(t)(11), the prohibition against payment shall not apply to any individual who is a citizen of a country which the Commissioner of Social Security finds has in effect a social insurance system which is of general application in such country and which:

(a) Pays periodic benefits, or the actuarial equivalent thereof, on account of old age, retirement, or death; and

(b) Permits individuals who are United States citizens but not citizens of that country and who qualify for such benefits to receive those benefits, or the actuarial equivalent thereof, while outside the foreign country regardless of the duration of the absence.

The Commissioner of Social Security has delegated the authority to make such a finding to the Associate Commissioner for International Programs. Under that authority, the Associate Commissioner for International Programs has approved a finding that Hungary, as of January 1, 1996, has a social insurance system of general application which:

(a) Pays periodic benefits, or the actuarial equivalent thereof, on account of old age, retirement, or death; and

(b) Permits United States citizens who are not citizens of Hungary and who qualify for the relevant benefits to receive those benefits, or their actuarial