

it has adequate liquidity resources and requests permanent approval of the change limiting the use of letters of credit to no more than 70% of a member's deposit.

NSCC believes that the proposal is consistent with its requirements under Section 17A of the Act⁶ because it enhances NSCC's ability to safeguard securities and funds in its custody or under its control.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

NSCC does not believe that the proposed rule 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

No new written comments have been solicited or received.⁷ NSCC will notify the Commission of any written comments it receives.

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 reason for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

(A) By order approve such 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. 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 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 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 NSCC. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-NSCC-95-12 and should be submitted by September 29, 1995.

For the Commission by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.⁸

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

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[Release No. 34-36176; International Series Release No. 847; File No. SR-Phlx-95-43]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Order Approving a Proposed Rule Change by the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc., Relating to Customized Foreign Currency Options Transaction Size

August 31, 1995.

On June 21, 1995, the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc. ("Phlx" or "Exchange") 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 reduce the minimum transaction size for customized foreign currency options ("Customized FCOs") from 200 to 100 contracts. Notice of the proposed rule change appeared in the **Federal Register** on July 12, 1995.³ No comment letters were received on the proposed rule change. This order approves the Exchange's proposal.

On November 1, 1994, the Commission approved the Exchange's proposal to trade Customized FCOs.⁴ The Exchange originally imposed a 300 contract minimum opening transaction size pursuant to Rule 1069(a)(6). Earlier this year, the Exchange reduced the minimum size of opening transactions in Customized FCOs to 200 contracts.⁵

⁸ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12) (1994).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1) (1988).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4 (1994).

³ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 35928 (June 30, 1995), 60 FR 35978 ("Exchange Act Release No. 35928").

⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 34925 (November 1, 1994), 59 FR 55720 (November 8, 1994) ("Exchange Act Release No. 34925").

⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 35464 (March 9, 1995), 60 FR 14043 (March 15, 1995).

The Exchange believes, however, that 200 contracts is still too large for a significant segment of mid-sized corporations (*i.e.*, \$1-10 billion in market capitalization) that wish to hedge their currency risk in a cost-effective manner using an exchange-traded Customized FCO. The Exchange, therefore, now proposes to reduce the minimum opening transaction size for Customized FCOs to 100 contracts. At the 100 contract level, this will still provide for substantial minimum opening transaction values for Customized FCOs involving all Phlx approved currencies.⁶ Specifically, the values for opening transactions will range from a low of approximately \$3.6 million for Customized FCOs based on the Australian dollar to a high of approximately \$8.0 million for Customized FCOs based on the ECU.⁷

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 exchange, and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b)(5)⁸ in that the proposal is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, and to protect investors and the public interest. Specifically, the Commission believes that the proposed rule change is designed to make the Customized FCO market accessible to smaller corporate FCO users while maintaining the focus of this market towards institutional investors. As a result, the Commission believes that the proposal may serve to add liquidity to this market which would benefit all users of Customized FCOs.

Moreover, even with lowering the minimum opening transaction size to 100 contracts, the minimum value of an opening Customized FCO transaction involving any approved currency will be greater than \$3 million.⁹ The Commission believes that these levels are sufficient to ensure that the

⁶ The currencies for which the Phlx is currently approved to trade FCOs are the Australian dollar, British pound, Canadian dollar, European currency unit ("ECU"), French franc, German mark, Japanese yen, Swiss franc, and U.S. dollar. Additionally, the Phlx has proposed to be able to trade Customized FCOs on the Italian lira and Spanish peseta. See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 35678 (May 4, 1995), 60 FR 24945 (May 10, 1995) (notice of proposal to trade Customized FCOs on the Italian lira), and 35677 (May 4, 1995), 60 FR 24941 (May 10, 1995) (notice of proposal to trade Customized FCOs on the Spanish peseta).

⁷ Based on prevailing exchange rates as of May 16, 1995. See Exchange Act Release No. 35928, *supra* note 3.

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5) (1988).

⁹ See *supra* note 7 and accompanying text.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1 (1988).

⁷ Since the initial filing of the proposed rule change NSCC has received one letter of comment. In the letter Webbush Morgan Securities, Inc. opposed NSCC's proposal because they believed it would increase the cost of posting collateral. Letter from Edward W. Webbush, President, Webbush Morgan Securities, Inc., to David F. Hoyt, Assistant Secretary, NSCC (November 9, 1989).

Customized FCO market continues to be used almost exclusively by institutional investors. As a result, the Commission believes that this proposal does not raise any regulatory concerns that were not adequately addressed by the Exchange when the Commission approved the trading of Customized FCOs.¹⁰

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,¹¹ that the proposed rule change (SR-Phlx-95-43) is hereby approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹²

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

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[Release No. 35-26366]

Filings Under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, as Amended ("Act")

September 1, 1995.

Notice is hereby given that the following filing(s) has/have been made with the Commission pursuant to provisions of the Act and rules promulgated thereunder. All interested persons are referred to the application(s) and/or declaration(s) for complete statements of the proposed transaction(s) summarized below. The application(s) and/or declaration(s) and any amendments thereto is/are available for public inspection through the Commission's Office of Public Reference.

Interested persons wishing to comment or request a hearing on the application(s) and/or declaration(s) should submit their views in writing by September 25, 1995, to the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, DC 20549, and serve a copy on the relevant applicant(s) and/or declarant(s) at the address(es) specified below. Proof of service (by affidavit or, in case of an attorney at law, by certificate) should be filed with the request. Any request for hearing shall identify specifically the issues of fact or law that are disputed. A person who so requests will be notified of any hearing, if ordered, and will receive a copy of any notice or order issued in the matter. After said date, the application(s) and/or declaration(s), as filed or as amended, may be granted and/or permitted to become effective.

¹⁰ See Exchange Act Release No. 34925, *supra* note 4.

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2) (1988).

¹² 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12) (1994).

Basic Investment, Inc. (31-908)

Basic Investments, Inc. ("Basic Investments"), P.O. Box 2065, Henderson, Nevada 89009, has filed an application for an order exempting it as a holding company under section 3(a)(3) from all provisions of the Act, except section 9(a)(2).

Basic Investments is primarily engaged in real estate development, sales and rental. All of its capital stock is owned by the following entities, in the proportions indicated parenthetically: Kerr-McGee Chemical Corporation (31%), Titanium Metals Corporation (32%), Pioneer Chlor Alkali Company, Inc. (32%), and Chemstar Incorporated (5%) (collectively, "Industrials"). Basic Investments owns all of the capital stock of three subsidiary companies, Basic Land, Inc. ("Basic Land"), Basic Water Company ("Basic Water"), and Basic Management, Inc. ("Basic Management").

Basic Management owns an electric power distribution system ("Distribution Network") solely for the benefit of the Industrials. This distribution system consists of a 13.8 kV and a 4.16 kV circuit, each approximately 6 miles in length. The Industrials purchase electric power from the Colorado River Commission ("River Commission"), which is transmitted by the River Commission to the Distribution Network. Basic Management distributes this power to the Industrials at certain facilities used by the Industrials in a commonly shared site in Nevada. Distribution costs, which in 1993 were approximately \$509,000, are charged to the Industrials on a break-even basis.

Basic Management also develops and operates certain real estate properties in Nevada, the revenues from which totaled approximately \$4.5 million in 1993. Additionally, Basic Management monitors a sewage system, which generated gross revenues in 1993 of under \$100,000.

Basic Land's sole asset is a 50% partnership interest in Victory Valley Land Company, L.P., which is primarily engaged in the development and/or sale of certain real estate property in Nevada. Gross revenues from Victory Valley's operations allocable to Basic Land in 1993 were approximately \$5.5 million. Basic Water owns and operates a water delivery system serving both the town of Henderson, Nevada and an industrial complex jointly used by the Industrials. Gross revenues from this water operation in 1993 were approximately \$2.1 million.

Basic Management is a "public-utility company" within the meaning of the

Act. Because of Basic Investment's ownership of Basic Management, Basic Investment is a "holding company" within the meaning of the Act. In 1993, Basic Investment's total utility revenue approximated 4% of its combined revenues.

Basic Investment states that it is primarily engaged in businesses other than that of a public utility and that it does not derive a material part of its income from Basic Management's operation of the Distribution Network. Basic Investment further states that, if such revenue were deemed to be material, Basic Investment nonetheless owns all of Basic Management's outstanding capital stock.

Central and South West Corporation, et al. (70-8423)

Central and South West Corporation ("CSW"), a registered holding company, CSW International, Inc. ("CSWI"), a CSW Energy, Inc. ("Energy") (collectively "Applicants"), both wholly owned nonutility subsidiary companies of CSW, all located at 1616 Woodall Rodgers Freeway, P.O. Box 660164, Dallas, Texas 75202, have filed a post-effective amendment to their application-declaration under sections 6(a), 7, 9(a), 10, 12(b), 13(b), 32 and 33 of the Act and rules 43, 45, 53, 83, 86, 87, 90 and 91 thereunder.

By order dated November 3, 1994 (HCAR No. 26156) ("Order"), the Commission authorized the Applicants, among other things, to: (1) Organize CSWI and other special purpose subsidiaries ("Project Parents"), to invest in exempt wholesale generators ("EWGs"), and foreign utility companies ("FUCOs"), up to \$400 million for which there is recourse to CSW ("Aggregate General Authority"), and up to \$600 million of nonrecourse debt; and (2) fund such investments from time to time through issuances by CSW, CSWI and/or the Project Parents, including, without limitation, CSW de Mexico S.A. de C.V. ("CSWdM") and CSW de Mexico Servicios S.A. de C.V. ("CSWdM Servicios"), of stock, partnership interests, promissory notes, commercial paper or other debt or equity securities.

The Applicants now propose to: (1) Increase their authorization under the Aggregate General Authority to an amount equal to 50% of CSW's "consolidated retained earnings" as determined in accordance with rule 53(a)(1); and (2) increase the aggregate amount of nonrecourse debt securities that may be issued by CSWI and/or Project Parents (including, without limitation, CSWdM and CSWdM Servicios) to third parties to \$3 billion