Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 80,837.
Frequency of Collection: Various. For example, FCMs have both daily and monthly financial reporting obligations, annual certified financial and compliance report obligations, and periodic notice requirements.
There are no capital costs or operating and maintenance costs associated with this collection.

(Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.)
Dated: June 21, 2019.
Christopher Kirkpatrick,
Secretary of the Commission.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Joshua Beale, Associate Director, Division of Swap Dealer and Intermediary Oversight, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, (202) 418–5446; email: jbeale@cftc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Core Principles and Other Requirements for Designated Contract Markets (OMB Control No. 3038–0052).
This is a request for a revision of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The Commission has recently amended its Regulation 1.52 to revise the scope and potential frequency of a third-party expert’s evaluation of self-regulatory organizations’ (SRO) financial surveillance programs. The evaluation report requirement is a portion of the existing information collection of requirements for SROs under Commission Regulation 1.52, including designated contract markets (DCM) and the National Futures Association. The Commission’s rulemaking will not alter the requirement for an SRO to engage an examinations expert to evaluate its supervisory program prior to the initial use of the supervisory program. The Commission, however, is eliminating the requirement that the examinations expert must review the SRO’s ongoing application of its supervisory program during periodic reviews and the analysis of the supervisory program’s design to detect material weaknesses in internal controls during both periodic reviews and the initial review prior to the program’s initial use. The Commission also is revising the frequency of when an SRO must engage an examinations expert. Regulation 1.52 required an SRO to engage an examinations expert at least once every three years to perform such a review. The Commission amended Regulation 1.52 to require an SRO to engage an examinations expert whenever the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) issues new or revised auditing standards that are material to SRO’s examination of member futures commission merchants (FCM).
The amendments further require an SRO to engage an examinations expert at least once every five years even if the SRO determined that the PCAOB did not issue new or revised auditing standards during the previous five-year period that are material to its examinations of member FCMs. The changes to the examinations expert reviews impact the resulting expert reports information collection burden. The information collection is necessary to enhance the ability of the Commission and the designated SRO to identify problematic financial matters in time to avoid market disruptions when an FCM may fail, particularly with respect to the tie-up of customer funds that may result.

The Commission, when originally proposing changes to Regulation 1.52, invited comments on its assessment that although the costs associated with obtaining the third-party expert would be reduced by the amendment, the paperwork burden impact of the amended scope of the report would be minimal. The Commission received no comments and has adopted the final rule. However, the Commission has determined that a slight revision of the expected burden hours associated with the information collection is possible due to the changes related to the third-party examinations expert report.
Accordingly, the Commission is revising the total burden hours related to Regulation 1.52 included in this collection.

The Commission previously estimated the entire burden hours for DCMs as SROs associated with Regulation 1.52 as 50 hours per respondent. The revised scope of the third-party evaluation report should slightly reduce personnel hours needed to coordinate obtaining the report, although most of the burden hours included in this collection are associated with other aspects of the financial surveillance program requirements. Therefore, the Commission is revising the estimate of the burden hours associated with Regulation 1.52 to be 49 hours per respondent. Additionally, the Commission notes that the number of registered, active DCMs has decreased from 15 to 14.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. On April 3, 2019 the Commission published in the Federal Register notice of the proposed extension of this information collection and provided 60 days for public comment on the proposed extension, 84 FR 13008 (“60-Day Notice”). The Commission did not receive any relevant comments on the 60-Day Notice.

Burden Statement: The Commission is revising its estimate of the burden for this collection. The respondent burden for this collection is estimated to be as follows:

Respondents/Affected Entities: Designated Contract Markets and Self-Regulatory Organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 14.

Estimated Average Burden Hours per Respondent: 49.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 686.

Frequency of Collection: Various.

The amended regulations require no new startup or operations and maintenance costs.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.

Dated: June 21, 2019.

Christopher Kirkpatrick,
Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2019–13606 Filed 6–25–19; 8:45 am]

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COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

[Docket No. CEQ–2019–0002]

RIN 0331–ZA03


AGENCY: Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ).

ACTION: Draft guidance; request for comment.


DATES: Comments should be submitted on or before July 26, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number CEQ–2019–0002 through the Federal eRulemaking portal at https://www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from https://www.regulations.gov. CEQ may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (e.g., audio, video) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make.

Comments may also be submitted by mail. Send your comments to: Council on Environmental Quality, 730 Jackson Place, NW, Washington, DC 20503, Attn: Docket No. CEQ—2019–0002.

The draft guidance is also available on the CEQ websites at https://www.whitehouse.gov/ceq/initiatives/ and www.neqa.gov.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:


I. Introduction

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) provides this draft guidance memorandum 1 to assist Federal agencies in their consideration of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 2 when evaluating proposed major Federal actions in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq., and the CEQ Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA, 40 CFR parts 1500–1506 (“CEQ Regulations”). The purpose of this draft guidance is to facilitate compliance with NEPA by Federal agencies conducting reviews of proposed major Federal actions.3

II. Draft Guidance

NEPA requires that Federal agencies study the environmental impacts of major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C). NEPA is a procedural statute that serves the twin purposes of ensuring that agencies consider the environmental consequences of their proposed actions and inform the public about their decision-making process. Agencies

1 This draft guidance is not a rule or regulation, and the recommendations it contains may not apply to a particular situation based upon the individual facts and circumstances. This guidance does not change or substitute for any statutes, regulations, or any other legally binding requirement and is not legally enforceable. CEQ’s regulations implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA are available on www.neqa.gov. This guidance does not, and cannot, expand the range of Federal agency actions that are subject to NEPA.

2 For purposes of this draft guidance, CEQ defines GHGs as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), nitrous oxide (N2O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulfur hexafluoride (SF6), and nitrogen trifluoride (NF3).

3 This draft guidance is intended to replace CEQ’s August 2016 “Final Guidance for Federal Departments and Agencies on Consideration of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and the Effects of Climate Change in National Environmental Policy Act Reviews” (81 FR 51666, Aug. 5, 2016), which was withdrawn pursuant to Executive Order 13783 on April 5, 2017 (82 FR 16576).