UNITED STATES OF AMERICA COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

OPEN MEETING ON THE SEVEN SERIES OF PROPOSED RULEMAKINGS UNDER THE DODD-FRANK ACT

Washington, D.C.

Thursday, December 9, 2010

1	PARTICIPANTS:			
2	Commission Members:			
3	GARY GENSLER, Chairman			
4	BART CHILTON, Commissioner			
5	MICHAEL V. DUNN, Commissioner			
6	JILL SOMMERS, Commissioner			
7	SCOTT D. O'MALIA, Commissioner			
8	Presentations:			
9	Governance Requirements for Derivatives Clearing			
10	Organizations, Designated Contract Markets and Swap Execution Facilities and Additional Requirements Regarding the Mitigation of Conflicts of Interest			
11				
12	ANANDA RADHAKRISHNAN			
13	NANCY SCHNABEL			
14	End-User Exception to Mandatory Clearing of Swaps			
15	DAN BERKOVITZ			
16	GEORGE WILDER			
17	Business Conduct Standards with Counterparties PHYLLIS CELA			
18				
19	VINCE MCGONAGLE			
20	PETER SANCHEZ			
21	ANANDA RADHAKRISHNAN			
22				

1	PARTICIPANTS (CONT'D):
2	Issuance of Interim Final Rule for Reporting Certain Post-Enactment Swap Transactions
3	SUSAN NATHAN
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5	RICK SHILTS
6	DAN BERKOVITZ
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1	PROCEEDINGS		
2	(9:00 a.m.)		
3	CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Good morning. This		
4	meeting will come to order. This is a public		
5	meeting of the Commodity Futures Trading		
6	Commission to consider issuance of proposed		
7	rulemakings under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street		
8	Reform and Consumer Protection Act. Today we will		
9	be considering end user exception to mandatory		
10	clearing of swaps, business conduct standards with		
11	counterparties, governance requirements for		
12	derivatives clearing organizations, designated		
13	contract markets and swap execution facilities.		
14	In addition to those proposed rulemakings, the		
15	Commission will consider an interim final rule for		
16	reporting certain post-Dodd-Frank enactment swap		
17	transactions. The public might note that we had		
18	calendared for today discussions of swap execution		
19	facilities. I've also always said to the press		
20	that we're human so that as Chair I've decided		
21	this morning that we're going to take that one up		
22	next week. I think we'll have some good further		

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1 discussion among the Commission and staff on that
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- one. This probably is not going to be the last
- 3 time that we recalendar something and need an
- 4 extra week to get our work done.
- 5 Before we hear from staff, I'd like to
- 6 thank Commissions Mike Dunn, Jill Sommers, Bart
- 7 Chilton and Scott O'Malia for all of their
- 8 thoughtful work. I say this every week. As we
- 9 get into the holiday period it is remarkable how
- 10 much they are doing and their able legal
- 11 assistants are doing to help us through all of
- 12 this. I'd also like to welcome members of the
- 13 public, market participants and members of the
- 14 media today as well as to welcome those listening
- on the webcast.
- This is our seventh public meeting to
- 17 consider Dodd-Frank rulemakings. We will have
- another meeting on the 16th and we're planning two
- 19 additional meetings on Dodd-Frank rulemakings in
- January and we'll continue to announce our
- 21 proposed rulemakings and which topics we're taking
- up 1 week in advance, and this is 1 week in

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1 advance so I'm going to do this. I think we're
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- 2 also going to put it on our website. But next
- 3 week as I say, we're looking to take up swap
- 4 execution facilities as I just mentioned. We're
- 5 also going to hear in I think it's our third round
- 6 about clearinghouse rules. These will be the
- 7 risk- management rules on clearinghouses. At what
- 8 I'll call our third round we will conduct
- 9 discussions on internal business conduct with
- 10 regard to confirmations, portfolio compression and
- 11 portfolio reconciliation and also on position
- 12 limits. And I wanted to make a few comments if I
- might on position limits. What I've asked staff
- 14 to do is to pull together two components, it might
- be in one vote but I think it will probably two
- 16 rulemakings, one on spot month and one on what we
- 17 call other months or all months combined. We've
- 18 had a long tradition at this agency or setting
- 19 position limits. We have spot month limits right
- 20 now on pretty much if I'm not mistaken all of the
- 21 physical commodities and some financial
- commodities, we've put out proposals this past

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January on energy products and we think that we
can move more expeditiously with regard to the
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- 3 spot month period and it would be my hope that we
- 4 could vote on something and then finalize
- 5 something on the spot month area within the next
- few months. With regard to all months combined
- 7 and other months as that is to data intensive,
- 8 that too hopefully can be completed expeditiously
- 9 but there is the challenge of doing it and the
- data that's so necessary for it so that I've asked
- 11 staff to make a presentation and try to bring both
- 12 rules up next week. I think that's what we're
- 13 calendaring for next week. As of right now,
- 14 Commissioner Chilton's staff has been very
- involved and I think very forthright publicly
- about our need to move forward on position limits.
- 17 I share that view. Congress did set different
- dates for us on that, 180 and 270 days rather than
- 19 360 days so that we're trying to work with that
- and we'll take more of that up and I'm sure our
- 21 other Commissioners will have views on that and
- 22 maybe share that even today at the end of our

- 1 presentations.
- 2 I want to thank staff for working on all

- 3 the draft rulemakings. I thank them for their
- 4 thoughtful recommendations. We look forward to
- 5 receiving public comments on all that we're
- 6 putting out today. There will be fact sheets and
- 7 Q and A's put on our website. Before I turn to
- 8 the presenters, I turn to fellow Commissioners.
- 9 Commissioner Dunn?
- 10 COMMISSIONER DUNN: Thank you, Mister
- 11 Chairman. You'll recognize that we all are
- 12 talking funny. I don't know if that's because
- 13 we've had so much discussion or if the Chairman is
- sharing a cold with all of us, but it isn't
- indicative of the hard work that staff has put in
- 16 putting all of this together, but more
- importantly, the Commissioners working together to
- 18 try to find some solutions to things.
- 19 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: We have been in close
- 20 quarters.
- 21 COMMISSIONER DUNN: He's been in my face
- 22 a lot. I want to thank you all for joining us

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1 today in this important meeting regarding the
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- 2 implementation of the Dodd-Frank Act. The
- 3 business conduct standards for swap dealers and
- 4 major swap participants is of particular interest
- 5 to me because I believe that strong standards for
- 6 swap dealers and major swap participants are
- 7 necessary to prevent another financial crisis. By
- 8 implementing strong business conduct standards,
- 9 the Commission can establish meaningful protection
- 10 for counterparties and hopefully prevent the types
- of behavior that necessitated the passage of Dodd-
- 12 Frank. To me, Mister Chairman, this is the heart
- of what we're supposed to be doing.
- 14 An inherent conflict of interest exists
- when a swap dealer acts as both an adviser and a
- 16 counterparty to his customers. The business
- 17 conduct standard proposed today provides
- 18 meaningful protection to counterparties and I
- 19 support them, but I believe more can be done. I
- am particularly interested in public comment on
- 21 this rulemaking, specifically, whether the
- 22 proposed rules go far enough in protecting

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1 counterparties.
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Dodd-Frank requires the Commission to consider whether to expect small banks, savings 3 associations, farm credit institutions and credit unions from the definition of financial entities in its clearing requirements. I welcome public comment on whether any of these groups should be expect and if so why. Specifically with regard to 8 farm credit institutions I would like to know if 9 10 the \$10 billion cap on total assets meets congressional intent. I am concerned, Mister 11 Chairman, that a decade ago Congress told the CFTC 12 not to look at swaps and over the counter. 13 14 that period that industry has developed and it's 15 quite different from the futures industry. I am 16 concerned that as we who know and understand the 17 futures industry and our staff has been working on 18 that and fully appreciate differences that have 19 developed. I hope that we're not trying to take 20 what has worked well in the futures industry and say that has to be in the swap industry without 21 22 taking into account how the swap industry has

- developed. When we get to that point I look
- forward to comments from the public on what we're
- doing if we are in fact going to achieve the
- 4 purpose of Dodd-Frank and are we going about it
- 5 right. I've said before that I think it's
- 6 important that we get these rules out in time
- 7 because Congress has mandated it, but it's not an
- 8 easy task and what we get out, it's imperative
- 9 that we get it right so that the public has got to
- 10 give us comments in regard to these proposed rules
- 11 so that we get that final rule right. But I think
- 12 also inherent in that, Mister Chairman and my
- 13 colleagues is a duty for us to follow-up to ensure
- 14 the efficacy of those regulations that we pass,
- and I've said before that I think in 12 or 18
- 16 months we need to review what we've done and what
- 17 that impact has been. Again I want to thank staff
- 18 for the great work that they've done on getting
- 19 things together. I get changes in the middle of
- 20 the night from staff so that I know somebody is up
- there working and I appreciate it.
- 22 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Thank you,

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1 Commissioner Dunn. Commissioner Sommers?
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- 2 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: Thank you, Mister
- 3 Chairman. I too want to say thank you to all the
- 4 rulemaking teams this morning for all the hard
- 5 work and the rules that we have in front of us or
- 6 thought we were going to have in front of this
- 7 morning. A lot of these rules are complicated and
- 8 we really do appreciate all the time that all the
- 9 teams put in to making these rules be in a place
- 10 for proposal stage where we feel comfortable
- 11 getting public comment. So thank you all for all
- 12 your hard work.
- 13 Last week I expressed concern about a
- 14 number of the Commission's proposals that I felt
- 15 were too broad or overreaching what I felt the
- 16 statute directed us to do. This week my concerns
- go the other way. Even though we're not
- 18 considering the SEF proposal, one of my concerns
- this week is that we were defining SEF too
- 20 narrowly. It's also a concern that I have
- 21 regarding the end user exemption proposal because
- I believe the statute directed us to consider

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1 whether we should be exempting some of these small
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- 2 institutions. And although we asked questions
- 3 with regard to that subject, we don't propose a
- framework for how we would go about exempting
- 5 these small institutions so that in that area I
- 6 believe we have read the statute too narrowly.
- 7 My opening statement today is almost
- 8 solely with regard to the definition of SEF so
- 9 that I will forego subjecting you to my concerns
- 10 about the SEF definition until next week, but just
- 11 say that I hope in the 7 days that we have to
- 12 reconsider this rule that we will address some of
- 13 the concerns about looking at that definition too
- 14 narrowly. I will follow-up by saying on the end
- 15 user exemption that I think that we need to
- 16 consider whether or not the \$10 billion limit is
- 17 appropriate and if there are other criteria that
- 18 these institutions may have that would make them
- 19 qualify for this exemption. I think that this is
- 20 something that we really do need to look at. I
- 21 would have preferred a framework be proposed in
- what we're doing today but since we did not do

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1 that I would suggest that the public and all of
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- those who are concerned about this really do give
- 3 us suspect comment about how we could consider
- 4 putting that kind of framework in a final rule.
- 5 Again thank you to the teams today and I look
- forward to hearing about these proposals.
- 7 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Thank you,
- 8 Commissioner Sommers. I look forward to that
- 9 also. I think I know much of what's in your
- 10 written statement, but we have 7 days and it might
- 11 change by next week.
- 12 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: Many of these
- things you have heard before.
- 14 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Yes, I'm sure. On
- the end user side, I thank you that for once you
- 16 want us to be more prescriptive.
- 17 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: I suppose there
- is another way of looking at that, maybe follow
- 19 what the statute says.
- 20 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Commissioner Chilton?
- 21 COMMISSIONER CHILTON: I'd like to if
- it's okay with the Chair defer to Commissioner

- 1 O'Malia first and then go.
- 2 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Absolutely.
- 3 Commissioner O'Malia?
- 4 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: Happy day. How
- often have I complained that I always have to go
- after Mr. Chilton, and now I get to go before him?
- 7 The holidays are upon us and as many of
- 8 you know, I have three daughters which therefore
- 9 means I have three wish lists. My youngest
- 10 daughter Macie spent the weekend scouring the
- 11 catalogues in search of the perfect gift to top
- 12 her list. Do you know what she came up with? A
- 13 towel warming rack. She had no idea why she
- 14 wanted it, but it was in the catalogue and thus
- 15 had an equal opportunity as many of the other
- 16 items to make the list. I didn't think much of
- 17 the towel rack until I read the proposal relating
- 18 to the swap execution facility, namely, the part
- 19 that aims to further define what a SEF is and I
- 20 thought to myself that this SEF rule is very
- 21 similar to the towel rack episode, no reason, just
- 22 because. I'm not buying a 7-year- old a towel

warming rack and I'm not supporting the proposed

- 2 rulemaking on SEFs as it was drafted today.
- 3 Unlike Commissioner Sommers, I am going to expound
- a little bit on the SEF even though we haven't.
- 5 This is an important issue and I think we're going
- 6 to have a good robust debate about it and I'm just
- 7 going to share my views on where this thing is
- 8 going and my views on it.
- 9 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Absolutely.
- 10 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: We obviously had
- 11 a lot of time and options before interpreting the
- 12 statutory language with the goal of providing
- greater pretrade transparency and the Commission
- 14 chose a limited two-tier approach that relies on a
- 15 narrow reading of the statute and a broad reading
- of an aspiration that if adopted will actually
- diminish the overarching goal of promoting the
- 18 trading of swaps on SEFs. The rulemaking mandates
- 19 that SEFs either take the form of a central limit
- order book for any product that trades for more
- 21 than 10 times a day or transparent requests for a
- 22 quote or RFQ approach. The so-called transparent

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1 RFQ approach will require all bids and offers to
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- 2 be firm and provide a first-in-bid, first-in-fill
- 3 approach and that's it. Staff has interpreted a
- 4 minimal statutory requirement that in a manner
- 5 that entirely strips away the unique
- 6 characteristics of swaps that has been bandied
- 7 about by the Commission for the last 20 years and
- 8 requires swaps to trade like futures in my
- 9 opinion. Looking over the history of the
- 10 Commission's treatment of swaps, it remains
- 11 abundantly clear that while swaps contain some
- 12 features similar to those of futures, they remain
- 13 sufficiently different in their purpose, function
- 14 and design. To limit swap trading to a central
- limit order book exchange might be unnecessary to
- 16 mitigate systemic risk, protect the public
- 17 interest and in fact may inappropriately burden
- 18 commerce. That is, if swaps possess the same
- 19 characteristics as futures, then Congress would
- 20 not have needed to create a SEF definition to
- 21 accommodate them. End users and buy-side
- 22 participants are understandably wary about being

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1 forced into unfamiliar and inhospitable
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- 2 environments where high-frequency traders can
- 3 undermine their ability to trade sizable positions
- 4 and nascent illiquid markets threaten to divulge
- 5 the positions through bidding alone. Like a
- 6 7-year-old wanting a towel warming rack, it just
- 7 can't the right, but at least buying a towel rack
- 8 helps commerce. I can't say that for this
- 9 proposal.
- I want to be clear. I am in favor of
- increasing pretrade transparency as the Chairman
- is so passionate for and bring more transparency
- and bringing more swaps to swap execution
- 14 facilities and relying less on block trades. To
- achieve this we must permit a broad arrange of
- venues to inspire market innovation, competition
- 17 and improve transparent market pricing. Congress'
- open-ended language is clearly intended to permit
- 19 flexibility across all trading venues. I ask that
- 20 we interpret the statute broadly to permit the
- 21 various RFQ and transparent voice broker systems
- 22 already serving the industry to continue to

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1 operate with at most minor alterations. This I
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- 2 believe I will allow market participants to
- 3 ultimately determine what levels of pretrade
- 4 transparency and liquidity they require to manage
- 5 risk. I checked back with Macie this morning
- 6 about her list. She admitted that it was a little
- 7 long, she's being reasonable and she is cutting
- 8 out the towel rack. I hope we can get comments
- 9 and input necessary to cut out list as well.
- 10 Mister Chairman, I shared with you an
- 11 amendment that I thought was appropriate to
- broaden the definition of SEFs. I appreciate your
- 13 willingness to pull the proposal and reconsider
- and possibly give this amendment some
- 15 consideration. I've talked with my colleagues
- about it. I think it's a great opportunity to
- 17 expand the definition to give ourselves some
- 18 optionality in what SEFs are going to be allowed
- and I appreciate your willingness to work with me
- on it and I hope that we can come to an acceptable
- 21 solution because I think we all agree that the
- goal of this objective is pretrade transparency

1 and flexibility for trading in the SEF

- 2 environment.
- 3 From my experience working in the
- 4 Senate, I do know how it feels to be in the host
- 5 seat and I would like to thank Reva although her
- 6 rulemaking got pulled and her team for their
- 7 efforts. They've worked long and hard. And I
- 8 would also like to thank the other teams headed by
- 9 Phyllis Cela, Nancy Schnabel, George Wilder and
- 10 Susan Nathan. I appreciate their unwavering
- 11 commitment to responding to my questions, comments
- 12 and criticisms with thoughtful consideration.
- 13 Similar to my colleagues, I commend the
- end user exemption team for drafting what overall
- is a very thoughtful and well-written proposal.
- 16 However, I'm concerned as to why we are failing to
- fully address the issue of excluding small banks,
- 18 farm credit institutions and credit unions from
- 19 the definition of financial entity. This is
- 20 unreasonable. Section 2(h)(7)(C)(ii) directs the
- 21 Commission with their ever-important word shall to
- 22 consider whether to exempt these entities, and as

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1 pointed out by House Agriculture Committee
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- 2 Chairman Collin Peterson, "The regulators will
- 3 have maximum flexibility when evaluating the risk
- 4 portfolios of these institutions for consideration
- of an exemption." All we're going to do today
- 6 after almost 5 months with this language is punt
- 7 it. While I can appreciate staff's decision to
- 8 pose a series of questions aimed at further
- 9 informing their consideration of the appropriate
- 10 criteria for such an exemption, we are too far
- into these rulemakings to start from square one.
- 12 As we move forward on the rulemaking I encourage
- 13 staff to keep in mind that many of the affected
- 14 institutions pay a critical role in economic
- development of small communities and rural areas.
- 16 It is my hope that a final rule will ultimately
- 17 permit the bulk of these institutions to avail
- 18 themselves of an end user exemption. As for the
- 19 proposal for business conduct standards for swap
- 20 dealers and major swap participants in their
- 21 dealings with counterparties and especially
- 22 counterparties who are special entities, I believe

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1 staff has demonstrated an extraordinary ability to
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- 2 effectuate the statutory mandates through
- 3 consideration of congressional intent and in the
- 4 manner in which market participants actually
- 5 conduct their business. This proposal is
- 6 especially timely as the Bank of America has just
- 7 agreed to pay more than \$137 million in
- 8 restitution to federal and state agencies for
- 9 their participation in a conspiracy to rig bids in
- 10 the municipal bond derivatives market. However,
- 11 the rule strives to ensure that counterparties
- dealing with sophisticated swap dealers and major
- swap participants are fully informed and of course
- 14 have recourse if they are not prior to entering
- into these complex instruments I support. I will
- say I am not entirely sold on the broader proposal
- 17 to apply execution standards for all Commission
- 18 registrants transacting swap available for trading
- on DCMs and SEFs. These standards are designed to
- 20 ensure fair dealing and further protections
- 21 against fraud and abusive practices and these are
- good things. However, the proposal in part

1 requires an execution ultimately to be in terms of

- a "reasonable relationship" to the "best terms
- 3 available" for such a swap on a DCM or SEF. While
- 4 it is better to require absolute best execution,
- 5 the requirements of this proposal are somewhat
- 6 vague and may ultimately become another rule in
- 7 the book only relied on in the most egregious
- 8 circumstances. I am keeping my mind open,
- 9 however, and look forward to reviewing the
- 10 comments from a diverse population of Commission
- 11 registrants who may ultimately be affected by this
- 12 proposal.
- In closing I'd like to thank dedicated
- staff who have worked night and day to preserve
- and make these changes in these rulemakings, and
- 16 by all means do not interpret my views to mean you
- should never request a towel warming rack.
- 18 However, in making your wish list please consider
- 19 whether these items you choose are reasonable for
- 20 the markets. Thank you.
- 21 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Before I turn to
- 22 Commissioner Chilton, I want to mention that I

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1 know we're spending a lot of time together and
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- 2 maybe there was an illusion that I was like your
- daughter Macie or something, but I'm going to take
- 4 that as the glass is half-full because I know you
- 5 love your daughter Macie.
- 6 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: I love all three
- 7 of my daughters.
- 8 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: If the Chairman is in
- 9 any way being alluded to in having a wish list at
- 10 least you're saying it in the context of your
- 11 daughter Macie so that I'm feeling good about
- 12 that.
- COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: You should.
- 14 Thank you.
- 15 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Thank you. We do
- 16 work well together even if we have a little bit
- 17 different view on what the statute says about
- 18 transparency and pretrade transparency. I'm going
- 19 to save my thoughts on swap execution facilities
- 20 until next week because I think that all of us are
- 21 really working with this statute. It's a very
- 22 detailed statute about swap execution facilities

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1 and what it means to be made available for
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- 2 trading. In the proposal today because Commission
- 3 O'Malia didn't mention it, when he mentioned these
- 4 two tiers, there is a third tier in the proposal
- 5 that anything that's a block trade, anything
- 6 that's an end user out of those commercial end
- 7 users, anything that's not made available for
- 8 trading, would have been pretty much whatever the
- 9 market wanted to use such as voice or limited
- 10 requests for votes and things like that so that I
- 11 as augmenting what you were saying. But I look
- forward to working with everybody throughout the
- 13 next 7 days on it. Commissioner Chilton?
- 14 COMMISSIONER CHILTON: Thank you, Mister
- 15 Chairman. For a couple of years I've been
- 16 supporting position limits. We had the authority
- 17 to impose those prior to Dodd-Frank but weren't
- able to get the support to do it and now we have
- 19 the law, and we just had these new speculative
- 20 data that I talked about yesterday in New York
- 21 where we've seen more positions coming into
- 22 markets than ever before and there is certainly

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disagreement about the impact of speculators on
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- 2 prices, but any impact isn't acceptable. We've
- 3 just seen gas prices raise 10 cents and crude is
- around \$90 and raised \$7 in 2 weeks. I read a
- 5 quote in a local paper that said there's no reason
- 6 that it's delinked from supply and demand. I'm
- 7 not saying that it's speculators, but our job is
- 8 to try and do what we can and now we have the law
- 9 on our side on position limits and I'm pleased
- 10 with that. All of us have seen it, and this is
- 11 public information, large concentrations, we've
- seen more than 20 percent in the crude market at
- 13 times, more than 20 percent concentration by
- 14 single trader in gas, roughly 40 percent by an
- 15 individual silver trader and these are issues that
- demand us to deal with. I had a proposal that I
- was going offer today as my colleagues know
- 18 because I emailed them very late at night, but I
- 19 really appreciate the Chairman's commitment to
- 20 taking this up next week and looking at this in a
- 21 slightly different way perhaps on the things that
- we can do expeditiously with regard to the spot

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1 months swaps and then as soon as possible on the
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- other months and on the aggregate months. It's an
- 3 important proposal and I want to get it right. I
- 4 appreciate some of the concerns that my colleagues
- 5 have and quite frankly I have too about making a
- fulsome decision on what the levels are. A bad
- 7 rule is not good. We want to have a good rule.
- 8 So I appreciate the Chairman's commitment and I
- 9 look forward to next week.
- I did want to say just a brief thing on
- 11 the SEFs. I was prepared to support the rule that
- we are considering. I did add some questions. I
- 13 think Commissioner Dunn may have added some
- 14 questions too. I want to make sure that we take
- into account both of the things that are in the
- 16 law. One is promoting transparency as the
- 17 Chairman has eloquently spoken about and I support
- 18 it, but transparency isn't absolute and the other
- 19 test, and it's not a secondary test, it's not a
- lesser test, but the other test in the law is to
- 21 promote SEFs so I want to make sure that our
- 22 proposal does that. I think the proposal as we

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1 had it, the questions allowed us any flexibility
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- 2 that based on the comments that new could change
- 3 it, but I look forward to taking it up next week
- 4 and I think Reva and everybody else for their work
- on that and all the other rules today. Thanks
- 6 very much again for your commitment, Mister
- 7 Chairman.
- 8 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Thank you to all my
- 9 Commissioners and again for their commitment to
- 10 getting this very important project for the market
- done and done well and done right. With that I'm
- 12 going to hand it over to Ananda Radhakrishnan and
- Nancy Schnabel. Nancy, it's good to see you back
- 14 here again. They're going to present an
- 15 additional rule on governance and mostly it's
- 16 regard to reporting on governance and there are
- 17 some fitness standards provisions as well. Nancy
- 18 and Ananda?
- MS. SCHNABEL: Commissioners, Chairman,
- 20 today staff is presenting the second rulemaking on
- 21 governance and conflicts of interest which I
- really hope is not like a towel warming rack.

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1 Before I start discussing the rulemaking, I wanted
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- 2 to thank you and the Commissioners and staff for
- 3 very constructive comments. I would also like to
- 4 thank my team members for working very hard on
- 5 this rulemaking.
- 6 Back to the second rulemaking. The
- 7 second rulemaking further the conflicts of
- 8 interest core principles that each DCO, DCM and
- 9 SEF have. Additionally, the second rulemaking
- 10 implements core principles with respect to
- 11 governance fitness standards as you said and the
- 12 composition of governing boards for DCOs and DCMs,
- and also diversity with respect to publicly listed
- DCMs. On October 1, the Commission approved a
- proposal proposing certain structural governance
- 16 requirements and certain limitations on ownership
- of voting equity and exercise of voting rights.
- 18 These proposals were meant to implement Section
- 19 726 of the Dodd-Frank Act which requires the
- 20 Commission to promulgate certain rules to mitigate
- 21 conflicts of interest. Staff believes that the
- 22 notice of proposed rulemaking today will

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1 complement any final rule that the Commission
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- contemplates adopting with respect to Section 726
- 3 of the Dodd-Frank Act.
- 4 First with respect to the conflicts of
- 5 interest core principles, these core principles
- 6 require a DCO, DCM or SEF to establish and enforce
- 7 rules to minimize conflicts of interest and to
- 8 establish a process for resolving conflicts of
- 9 interest. To further implement such core
- 10 principles, staff is proposing requirements on
- 11 reporting, maintenance of a regulatory program,
- transparency and limitations on use of nonpublic
- 13 information. With respect to reporting, staff is
- 14 proposing to mandate that each DCO file a report
- 15 with the Commission whenever its board of
- 16 directors rejects a recommendation or supersedes
- 17 an action of its risk-management committee or
- 18 whenever its risk- management committee rejects a
- 19 recommendation or supersedes an action of its
- 20 risk-management subcommittee. And also staff is
- 21 recommending that each DCM or SEF file a report
- 22 with the Commission whenever its board of

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directors rejects a recommendation or supersedes
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- an action of its regulatory oversight committee or
- 3 its membership or participation committee.
- 4 Further under reporting staff is proposing that
- 5 each DCM, DCO or SEF provide certain reporting on
- 6 the composition of its board of directors within
- 7 30 days after the election of its board of
- 8 directors, and also staff is proposing to require
- 9 that the regulatory oversight committee of each
- 10 DCM or SEF prepare an annual report assessing the
- 11 various components of the DCM or SEF regulatory
- 12 program and such a requirement generally parallels
- 13 current acceptable practices under DCM Core
- 14 Principle 15.
- Moving on to the regulatory program
- staff is proposing to require that as part of its
- 17 regulatory program each DCO, DCM or SEF establish,
- 18 maintain and enforce written procedures to
- 19 identify on an ongoing basis existing and
- 20 potential conflicts of interest and to make fair
- 21 and nonbiased decisions in the event of such a
- 22 conflict of interest. With respect to

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1 transparency, staff is proposing to establish
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- minimum standards for transparency of the
- 3 governance arrangements of relevant DCOs, DCMs and
- 4 SEFs, and transparency would be transparent to the
- 5 public as well as to the Commission; that the
- 6 minimum standards require each DCO, DCM or SEF to
- 7 make available certain information to the public
- 8 and relevant authorities with respect to
- 9 governance such as charters, nominations process
- 10 descriptions, identities of public directors, et
- 11 cetera, and also ensure that the information that
- 12 they make available is current, accurate, clear
- and readily accessible; finally, to disclose
- 14 summaries of significant decisions. Significant
- decisions involve those areas in which conflicts
- of interest may be most manifest. With respect to
- 17 a DCO or a SEF, significant decisions will relate
- 18 to access, membership and disciplinary procedures.
- 19 With respect to a DCO, significant decisions will
- 20 relate to open access, membership and the finding
- of products acceptable or nonacceptable for
- 22 clearing, and staff wants to make very clear that

1 they do not recommend and they do not require that

- DCOs, DCMs or SEFs make public any nonpublic
- 3 information as that is defined within this
- 4 rulemaking.
- 5 We move to limitations on use of
- 6 nonpublic information so that each DCO, DCM or SEF
- 7 staff is recommending to establish and maintain
- 8 written policies and procedures on safeguarding
- 9 nonpublic information. These procedures and
- 10 policies must at a minimum preclude each
- 11 registered entities' members, directors, certain
- officers and certain affiliates and also members
- of the disciplinary committee and disciplinary
- 14 panel if there are not also members of the board
- of directors to not disclose any nonpublic
- information absent prior written consent.
- 17 Finally, staff believes that these written
- 18 policies and procedures are important because they
- 19 would prohibit those in positions of power at a
- DCO, DCM or SEF from leveraging such power to
- 21 benefit themselves or to the detriment of their
- 22 competitors.

1	Second, in addition to implementing the
2	conflicts of interest core principles, the
3	rulemaking today implements certain core
4	principles with respect to DCO or DCM governance
5	fitness standards and composition of boards of
6	directors or other governing bodies and the DCM
7	core principle on diversity of certain boards of
8	directors. With respect to governance fitness
9	staff is proposing to require each DCO or DCM to
10	specify and enforce fitness standards for its
11	members, directors, members of any disciplinary
12	panel or disciplinary committee, persons with
13	direct access with certain affiliates and these
14	proposals generally codify that acceptable
15	practices under current DCM Core Principle 14 and
16	extends such practices to DCOs. And with respect
17	to composition of boards of directors or other
18	governing bodies, staff is proposing to require
19	each DCM to design and institute a process for
20	considering the range of opinions that market
21	participants hold with respect to functioning of
22	an existing market as well as new rules or rule

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1 amendments. For DCOs staff is proposing two
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- 2 alternatives, alternatives that the Commission
- 3 will adopt in its entirety rather than an
- 4 alternative that a DCO can choose in and of
- 5 itself. The first alterative is that the DCO
- 6 would be deemed in compliance with the core
- 7 principle on composition of the board of directors
- 8 or other governing bodies if it has 10-percent
- 9 customer representation on its risk-management
- 10 committee which is what staff had recommended on
- 11 October 1, 2010. The second alternative is they
- would be deemed in compliance if they had
- 13 10-percent customer representation on their board
- of directors. We are seeking public comment on
- this proposal because this proposal would keep the
- 16 question open with respect to customer
- 17 representation until after the 180-day
- implementation period for the first rulemaking.
- 19 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Is there a motion on
- 20 the staff recommendation?
- 21 COMMISSIONER DUNN: Move to adopt the
- 22 recommendation.

1	COMMISSIONER	SOMMERS:	Second.

- 2 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: I support the
- 3 proposed rulemaking. I will have one question on
- 4 the last thing that you said. I think it builds
- 5 upon a proposal that's out there and we're looking
- 6 to try to finalizing that 180- day period of time.
- 7 And importantly, it builds on reporting to
- 8 regulators and a little of reporting to the public
- 9 related to fitness standards. I had a question on
- 10 the last point you just went through, Nancy,
- 11 keeping the comment period past the 180 days.
- 12 Could you walk through that again?
- MS. SCHNABEL: We're definitely going to
- 14 adopt rules to implement Section 726 or I guess we
- 15 hope to adopt rules.
- 16 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: You mean staff would
- 17 be recommending.
- MS. SCHNABEL: Exactly. What's what I
- 19 meant. Those rules will have certain board
- 20 compositions or staff will recommend perhaps that
- 21 those rules will address board composition or
- other governing body composition. But with

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1 respect to customer representation because we have
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- 2 received opposing comments, we're seeking more
- 3 public input on this one specific issue and we
- 4 intend to implement customer representation
- 5 requirements if you all agree with the final
- 6 rulemaking on the second rulemaking, so the final
- 5 second governance rulemaking.
- 8 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: So that you're saying
- 9 public please keep telling us about the customer
- 10 representation piece, that the piece is in essence
- 11 being cabined off a little bit?
- MS. SCHNABEL: That's right.
- 13 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: I think I now
- 14 understand it. Commissioner Dunn?
- 15 COMMISSIONER DUNN: I'm in agreement
- 16 with this proposed regulation. I think staff has
- done a very good job on it. But I want to
- 18 follow-up, and I know there is news out about
- 19 appropriations and what we might be getting in
- 20 that area and I thank you, Mister Chairman, for
- 21 going to the Hill yesterday or was it the day
- 22 before?

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1 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: I seemed to be there
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- 2 many days. I can't remember all of them. I do
- 3 thank the House of Representatives and what
- 4 they've done, but we're not there yet,
- 5 Commissioner Dunn.
- 6 COMMISSIONER DUNN: But it does bring me
- down to the fact that what we're asking is for
- 8 DCOs to write a report on what they're doing on
- 9 conflicts of interest concerns and I would like to
- 10 know how the division is going to review that and
- 11 what types of actions are going to be taken when
- we get these types of decisions.
- MR. RADHAKRISHNAN: If all goes well and
- 14 the Commission does get the appropriation that it
- seeks and if the hiring process goes as smoothly
- as we hope it does and we would be in a position
- 17 to hire sufficient staff to look at these reports,
- and if we find that there are certain things
- 19 wanting we'll of course go back to the DCOs to
- 20 find out why it is they weren't able to comply
- 21 fully with the aspects of the law. So I guess the
- 22 answer is if we do get staff that we had asked for

then we'd be in a much better position to review

- 2 these reports.
- 3 COMMISSIONER DUNN: Do you have a
- 4 timeline in mind in which the division would
- 5 review these reports as they've come in?
- 6 MR. RADHAKRISHNAN: The report is
- 7 supposed to be annual?
- 8 MS. SCHNABEL: This one is whenever
- 9 there is a conflict.
- 10 MR. RADHAKRISHNAN: Whenever there's a
- 11 conflict. I can't predict when we'll get these
- 12 reports because it's event specific if I'm not
- 13 mistaken. But if you're asking how long it is we
- 14 will take, it depends on the length of the report.
- 15 Hopefully we can review reports I'd say within a
- 16 week, but again it depends on what it is we get.
- 17 COMMISSIONER DUNN: It's too late. You
- 18 said 1 week.
- MR. RADHAKRISHNAN: I beg your pardon?
- 20 COMMISSIONER DUNN: I said it's too
- 21 late. You said 1 week. I think it's very
- 22 frustrating for somebody who says that they think

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1 there has been an injustice and they go through
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- 2 the internal process and then they look at us as
- 3 the court of last review on this and I think we
- 4 owe it to them to try to get out and say we're
- 5 going to respond in such a such a time and I think
- 6 with a week you're shooting from the hip, but I do
- 7 want to make sure that we have a mechanism set up
- 8 within the division to review those in a timely
- 9 manner.
- 10 MR. RADHAKRISHNAN: You're right. I'm
- 11 shooting from the hip because I don't know what
- 12 I'm going to get so that that is the issue.
- 13 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: You're estimating?
- MR. RADHAKRISHNAN: I am estimating.
- I'm always conservative because I don't like to
- overpromise things to the Commission.
- 17 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Commissioner Sommers?
- 18 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: Thank you, Mister
- 19 Chairman. Nancy, I have a couple of questions
- 20 with regard to our coordination with other
- 21 regulators not just domestically but
- 22 internationally. In the preamble you talk about

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1 certain elements that we have included from both
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- the European Commission proposal and CPSS-IOSCO
- 3 and if you could walk us through that.
- 4 MS. SCHNABEL: With respect to the
- 5 European Commission proposal, we took various
- 6 elements. One element would be the reporting
- 7 requirement that we just discussed which is
- 8 whenever there is an overrule by the board of the
- 9 risk-management committee then the CCP which is
- 10 the terminology that they use for DCOs under the
- 11 European Commission proposal would have to file a
- 12 report so that that is definitely one place. With
- 13 respect to CPSS-IOSCO, there are two different
- 14 CPSS-IOSCO principles. There are the ones that
- are currently in effect and then there are the
- ones that will hopefully become in effect next
- 17 year. The ones that are currently in effect with
- 18 respect to governance arrangements not require, I
- 19 would say suggest or recommend, greater
- 20 transparency and also clear organizational
- 21 structure so that we took some of those proposals
- from CPSS-IOSCO with respect to transparency to

- 1 both the public and to the Commission.
- 2 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: I want to clarify
- 3 because I think I heard this when we were talking
- 4 with the European Commission with regard to their
- 5 proposals on this that conflicts of interest may
- 6 be one area where we are not fully on the same
- 7 page.
- 8 MS. SCHNABEL: That's correct.
- 9 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: What about the
- 10 SEC? Have they already proposed their entire
- 11 conflicts-of-interest rules?
- MS. SCHNABEL: They've proposed some of
- 13 their conflicts-of-interest rules. I think that
- 14 they have some requirements that may be coming up
- in their entity rulemaking such as the SEC
- 16 rulemaking or their swap-based SEF rulemaking so
- that they're nearly done but not completely done.
- 18 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: Are we consistent
- 19 with what the SEC is doing?
- MS. SCHNABEL: We are mainly consistent.
- 21 There will be differences here and there, but we
- 22 are consistent.

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1 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: Can you highlight
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- 2 any of the differences that you think are
- 3 meaningful?
- 4 MS. SCHNABEL: I don't necessarily want
- 5 to speak on behalf of the SEC and I'm not sure
- 6 what part of our discussion is necessarily public.
- For instance, with this rulemaking some of the
- 8 provisions here the SEC does not have similar core
- 9 principles so that whether or not they're going to
- 10 implement some other provisions this rulemaking in
- its entirety is unclear. But I really can't speak
- 12 for them so that I think that those might be the
- areas where there would be some discrepancy.
- 14 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: Thank you.
- 15 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Thank you,
- 16 Commissioner Sommers. Commissioner Chilton?
- 17 COMMISSIONER CHILTON: I don't have any
- 18 questions. Thank you, Mister Chairman.
- 19 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Commissioner O'Malia?
- 20 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: It's a beautiful
- 21 day. Nancy, I just have one question. The
- 22 proposal requires that summaries of significant

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decisions implicating the public interest, things
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- 2 like membership access and discipline which would
- 3 include a rationale for the decisions and the
- 4 process for reaching these decisions would be made
- 5 available to the public. How are we going to
- 6 protect appropriate business confidential or other
- 7 items that should be held privately?
- 8 MS. SCHNABEL: I thought I took those
- 9 two provisions out of the proposal because of
- 10 questions that were raised with respect to
- 11 protection of nonpublic information, but if
- 12 somehow they were not taken out I will now take
- them out. We've inserted a provision that states
- that the requirement does not extend to nonpublic
- information that a DCO, DCM or SEF has.
- 16 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: I'd help out there to
- 17 ask by unanimous consent if they're not out yet
- 18 that they be taken out. Are there any objections?
- 19 I'm not hearing any objection by U.C. just to make
- sure that you have the authority to take them out
- in case you hadn't.
- 22 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: Thank you, Mister

- 1 Chairman, and thank you, Nancy, for your
- 2 sensitivity to these issues.
- 3 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Not hearing any
- 4 further questions, I want to call the roll on the
- 5 staff recommendation as possibly amended by the
- 6 U.C., but you may have already done that. Dave
- 7 Stawik?
- 8 MR. STAWIK: Commissioner O'Malia?
- 9 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: Aye.
- 10 MR. STAWIK: Commissioner O'Malia, aye.
- 11 Commissioner Chilton?
- 12 COMMISSIONER CHILTON: Aye.
- MR. STAWIK: Commissioner Chilton, aye.
- 14 Commissioner Sommers?
- 15 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: Aye.
- MR. STAWIK: Commissioner Sommers, aye.
- 17 Commissioner Dunn?
- 18 COMMISSIONER DUNN: Aye.
- MR. STAWIK: Commissioner Dunn, aye.
- 20 Mister Chairman?
- 21 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Aye.
- MR. STAWIK: Mister Chairman, on this

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1 question the ayes are five and nays are zero.
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- 2 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Thank you. Thank you
- $3\,$ $\,$ again Nancy and Ananda for your excellent work and
- 4 we'll see you back in January when you're
- 5 proposing something on the first final rule. Now
- 6 we're moving on to the end user proposed rule and
- 7 George Wilder from the Office of General Counsel.
- 8 I don't know if somebody is coming up to the desk
- 9 with you. Dan Berkovitz as well maybe. They will
- 10 present rules related to end user exemption for
- 11 mandatory clearing of swaps. As they're getting
- 12 situated, Congress said that nonfinancial end
- 13 users hedging or mitigating commercial risk would
- have a choice in that they get to decide whether
- to use a clearinghouse, and what we're hearing
- 16 from staff on today is that proposal as well as
- 17 Congress says we shall consider exemptions for
- 18 smaller financial institutions of those less than
- 19 \$10 billion, farm credit institutions, credit
- 20 unions and insured depository institutions with a
- 21 list of questions to help us do that. George and
- 22 Dan.

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1 MR. WILDER: Let me begin by thanking
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- each of you and your staffs, each of my teammates
- 3 and each of our SEC staff colleagues. Everybody
- 4 has been very helpful and I am very grateful.
- 5 I will address three topics, credit
- f risk, commercial risk and financial entities.
- 7 These three topics are key to understanding our
- 8 proposal. First is credit risk. As you know,
- 9 credit risk is handled differently for cleared and
- 10 noncleared swap so that for noncleared swaps, 10
- 11 disclosures about meeting credit risk will be
- 12 required. These are not burdensome disclosures
- under our proposal. We propose an easy-to-use
- 14 system that uses a check-the-box approach that
- 15 covers 10 items or boxes to check. These boxes
- ask whether a written credit support agreement is
- involved; whether pledged or segregate assets are
- involved; whether written third-party guarantee is
- involved; whether the end user will rely on its
- 20 own resources; and whether other means of meeting
- 21 credit risk are involved. There are also four
- 22 identity questions, the identity of the electing

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1 counterparty under the rule; whether a financial
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- 2 entity is involved; whether a captive finance
- affiliate is involved; and whether an SEC filer is
- 4 involved and if so whether the board approval
- 5 requirement has been met. There is also a tenth
- 6 question, whether the swap is being used to hedge
- or mitigate commercial risk, and this leads me to
- 8 my second topic. Not all swaps are eligible for
- 9 the end user exception. Only swaps used to hedge
- or mitigate commercial risk qualify. How does an
- 11 end user know whether its swaps qualify? We
- 12 provide guidance in our proposal. There are three
- ways to qualify. If the swap is eligible for
- 14 hedge accounting treatment, it qualifies; if the
- swap is eligible for a hedge exemption from
- 16 position limits it qualifies; and if the swap
- 17 reduces risk relating to the end users assets,
- 18 liabilities or services it qualifies.
- 19 In our proposal we also provide guidance
- about which swaps do not qualify. Swaps used for
- 21 speculation, investing or trading do not qualify
- for this exception. Nor do swaps used to hedge

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another swap unless that first swap itself is used
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- 2 as a hedge. This leads me to my third and final
- 3 topic, financial entities. As a general rule,
- 4 financial entities cannot use the end user
- 5 exception, but the Dodd-Frank Act permits the CFTC
- 6 to consider whether to allow small financial
- 7 institutions to use the end user exception.
- 8 Accordingly, we propose that the Commission invite
- 9 comment on its options here and how it should
- 10 proceed.
- 11 Before closing, there is one more topic
- 12 that I'd like to discuss. With what we propose
- here, our system uses reporting to SDRs as the end
- user's way to comply with the Dodd-Frank Act's
- 15 requirement for notice regarding noncleared swaps
- so that the Commission's oversight and enforcement
- 17 effort for end users will depend upon this SDR
- 18 database. Thank you. That's all I have.
- 19 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Thank you, George.
- Do I hear a motion on the staff recommendation?
- 21 COMMISSIONER DUNN: So moved.
- 22 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: Second.

1	CHAIRMAN GENSLER: I support this
2	proposed rulemaking on the end user exception.
3	Congress decided that nonfinancial entities
4	mitigating or hedging commercial risk will have a
5	choice whether to submit their transactions
6	through a clearinghouse. If they want to they
7	can, if they don't want to they're out. The
8	reason I support the rule is in essence this
9	proposal says that if a company, a nonfinancial
10	company, is using a swap to hedge an asset, a
11	liability and input a service that it currently
12	has or uses or even if it just anticipates having
13	the asset, the liability of the input of the
14	service and it's hedging that, it would qualify
15	for the end user exception. It also says very
16	specifically that this could be a currency risk,
17	an interest rate risk or a physical commodity risk
18	and so forth. In addition, if that wasn't clear
19	enough, if does say that if the swap meets
20	generally accepted accounting principles as a
21	hedge or is used as a bona fide hedging which is
22	under the Commodities and Exchange Act another

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1 concept of hedging, the transaction would qualify
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- for the end user exception but it's not reliant on
- 3 a generally accepted accounting principle or a
- 4 bona fide hedger, it's much more expansive again
- 5 hedging an asset, liability input or service
- 6 current or anticipated. Thus I think that it
- 7 complies with congressional intent in terms of the
- 8 nonfinancial entities. George also went through
- 9 as he said 10 questions on credit risk and we're
- 10 only doing that because Congress mandated that
- 11 there had to be notification. Many people don't
- focus on that so that we've tried to make that a
- check-the-box approach to make it very
- 14 straightforward for end users and that those could
- be just sent off to the swap data repository as I
- 16 understand it.
- 17 I think these are very good. We do have
- in this proposal also something with regard to
- 19 financial entities because Congress said we shall
- 20 consider for those insured depository
- 21 institutions, farm credit institutions and credit
- 22 unions that are less than \$10 billion exceptions

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1 from the generalized rule that financials come in
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- and I know that some of my fellow Commissioners
- 3 had hoped that we would be very explicit and have
- 4 a proposal on that today, and if anybody is at
- 5 fault it's probably me where today I think we'll
- 6 be up to 36 rules. I suggested some time ago a
- 7 little bit more process to ask the public for some
- 8 help on this very important thing. I think
- 9 Congress was specific where they said we shall
- 10 consider it and we have a series of questions to
- 11 help us do that but it would be full anticipation
- that sometime over the next I guess we have about
- 7 months to go here that we would be learning from
- 14 the public and taking that up as well. With that
- I don't have any questions. Commissioner Dunn?
- 16 COMMISSIONER DUNN: Thank you, Mister
- 17 Chairman. This has been probably one issue in
- 18 Dodd-Frank that we've heard more from folks lining
- 19 up to be exempted as an end user. We've had a lot
- of them in our offices, we've received a lot of
- 21 information from them but not it really counts.
- 22 So for those folks who are concerned about the end

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1 user exception, now is the time to get comments
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- 2 in. What happens in the next 30 days on this is
- 3 extremely important.
- 4 I'd like to recognize George for the
- 5 important work that he did on the Hill in getting
- 6 this legislation out and I'm going to quote from
- 7 the Congressional Record of June 30, 2010, House
- 8 5246 page, and it's Mr. Holden from Pennsylvania
- 9 who engaged with a colloquy with Chairman Peterson
- 10 from the Agricultural Committee, and you'll
- indulge me, Mister Chairman, I'd like to read that
- 12 colloquy and what led up to it. Mr. Holden says,
- Over 20 years ago the Agricultural Committee put
- in place a revised legislation and regulatory
- 15 regime for the Farm Credit System that has
- 16 successfully stood the test of time in ensuring
- 17 that these institutions operate safe and sound.
- 18 I'm very proud of that because I worked for
- 19 Chairman Leahy on that particular legislation, Bob
- 20 Cashdollar and my staff was my counterparty for
- 21 Mr. Jones over on the House side and it did work
- 22 well and I'm glad Mr. Holden recognized that. The

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1 farm credit institutions are regulated and
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- 2 examined by a fully empowered independent
- 3 regulatory agency, the Farm Credit Administration,
- 4 which has the authority to shut down and liquidate
- 5 a system or institution that is not financially
- 6 viable. In addition, the Farm Credit System is
- 7 the only GSE that has a self-funded insurance
- 8 program in place that was established to not only
- 9 protect investors and farm credit debt securities
- 10 against loss of principal and interest but also to
- 11 protect taxpayers. These are just a few of the
- 12 reasons why the Agricultural Committee insisted
- 13 that the institution of the Farm Credit System not
- 14 be subject to a number of provisions of this
- 15 legislation. They were not the cause of the
- 16 problem, did not utilize TARP funds and did not
- 17 engage in abusive subprime lending. We have
- 18 believed that this legislation should not do
- 19 anything to disrupt this record of success.
- 20 Mister Speaker, I would now like to enter into a
- 21 colloguy with the Chairman of the Agriculture
- 22 Committee. The conference report includes

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1 comprise language that requires the Commodity
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- 2 Futures Trading Commission to consider exempting
- 3 small banks, farm credit systems and credit unions
- 4 from provisions requiring that all swaps be
- 5 cleared. We understand that community banks, farm
- 6 credit institutions and credit unions did not
- 7 cause the financial crisis institution that
- 8 precipitated this legislation. While the
- 9 legislation places a special emphasis on
- institutions with less than \$10 billion in assets,
- 11 my reading of the language is that they should not
- in any way be viewed by the Commodity Futures
- 13 Trading Commission as a limit on the size of the
- 14 institution that should be considered for an
- 15 exemption. Mister Chairman, would you concur with
- 16 that? Mr. Peterson, yes, I full agree that the
- 17 language says that institutions to be considered
- 18 for exemption shall be included and include those
- 19 with \$10 billion or less in assets. It is not a
- 20 firm standard. Some firms with larger assets
- 21 could qualify while some with smaller assets may
- 22 not. Regulators will have maximum flexibility

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1 when looking at the risk portfolios of these
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- 2 institutions for consideration of an exemption.
- 3 We all know that legislative history and
- 4 colloguy are not part of the statute per se, but
- 5 we're driven by that because that's the intent of
- 6 the Congress and that's what we ought to be
- 7 looking at here. As I read that, that tells me
- 8 that Congress thought that for small banks, for
- 9 credit unions and farm credit institutions that
- 10 \$10 billion is not an absolute threshold and it
- 11 confers upon us as regulators when making those
- decisions to talk to the NCUA for credit unions,
- 13 to talk to the Farm Credit Administration for the
- 14 farm credit systems, to find out exactly what is
- 15 at stake and what risk these institutions have as
- 16 we make these considerations. I would like to ask
- if that's the intent of what we have in this
- 18 regulation and how we're going to be doing that.
- 19 MR. WILDER: Thank you, Commissioner.
- Yes, it is. We have been in contact with the Farm
- 21 Credit Administration, we've been in contact with
- 22 the NCUA and other regulators around town so that

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1 you're absolutely right that that's what Congress
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- 2 had in mind and we're hoping to hear what industry
- 3 has to say and help us through this because there
- 4 are some issues as you know among the different
- 5 categories of financial institutions that are
- 6 going to be challenging. That's why we've taken a
- 7 cautious approach here and are looking forward to
- 8 hearing more.
- 9 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Thank you,
- 10 Commissioner Dunn. I fully hope and even expect
- 11 that we will hear from the public and I think it
- 12 will help inform this Commission so that, yes, it
- may be a cautious view but I think it will be very
- 14 helpful to hear from the public on this set of
- 15 questions. Commissioner Sommers?
- 16 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: Thank you, Mister
- 17 Chairman. I want to follow-up with some specific
- 18 questions on this same area and clarify that in
- 19 the statute although there is this \$10 billion or
- less, that the statute says including institutions
- 21 that are \$10 billion or less. In the colloquy Mr.
- 22 Holden points out that he though that that gave us

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the flexibility to include institutions that were
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       above $10 billion. Where do you believe or what
       criteria should be in a risk profile that we look
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       at to decide whether or not an institution that
       has more than $10 billion that would qualify and
 5
       an institution that has less would not?
                 MR. WILDER: There is probably going to
 8
       have to be some consideration of credit risk, risk
       to capital, a percentage of capital perhaps that
 9
10
       is related to the exposure that the institution
       has to its swaps. Some of these institutions are
11
       large asset-wise but they're really not that big
12
       in terms of their swap activity so that it means
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14
       that the asset test may not be the best way to go.
15
       We also have to be somewhat concerned I think
16
       about having some measure of parity amongst the
17
       four categories of institutions that are covered
18
       by this rule. Congress did say it not once, not
19
       twice but three times that they were suggesting
       the asset-based test for each category so that
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there may be a message there. But you're right on

target that Congress recognized this problem and

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1 they've directed us to solve it and there are
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- 2 solutions there. We just need to be able to build
- a record to support what we do.
- 4 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: What do you think
- 5 are the challenges in us figuring out what the
- 6 solutions are?
- 7 MR. WILDER: I think that we need to
- 8 recognize that the four categories compete with
- 9 each other particularly say for ag lending so that
- 10 we need to be careful about not being perceived as
- 11 tipping a balance for those markets. We need to
- 12 take into consideration antitrust concerns here on
- 13 the Commodity Exchange Act. That's not an
- insurmountable problem. I think that actually
- there is probably a good solution to this but it's
- 16 going to require us to build a record, an
- administrative record, that will support what we
- 18 do.
- 19 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: Because all we do
- in this proposal is ask questions and we don't set
- 21 up a proposed framework for how we would have a
- 22 solution to this, does that preclude us from being

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able to include a framework for exemptions in a
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- 2 final rule because this seems to be more like an
- 3 ANPR to me on this particular issue, so then are
- 4 we going to have to go out with another proposal
- 5 with regard to this?
- 6 MR. WILDER: That's a good observation
- 7 and you're right, there is a problem if the
- 8 Commission feels that it wants to go to a final
- 9 rule that it won't be able to do that at this
- 10 point. But there are options. The Commission has
- options here. There is the possibility of issuing
- 12 an order and there are several ways the Commission
- 13 could issue an order here. The Commission may
- 14 very well issue an order without taking further
- 15 comments in the Federal Register. That's a
- 16 possibility. It's not like we're foreclosing.
- 17 You're not foreclosing yourself by just asking for
- 18 comments at this point. There's flexibility.
- 19 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: I would say that
- I think this is a good rule and I think you've
- 21 done a great job except for these provisions and I
- fear that by delaying getting comment on a

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1 particular solution for this delaying going final
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- with a process for exemption may have a lot of
- 3 untended consequences and may actually go against
- 4 congressional intent. Thanks, George.
- 5 MR. WILDER: Thank you.
- 6 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Commissioner Chilton?
- 7 COMMISSIONER CHILTON: I just have a
- 8 quick comment. George, I think you and your team
- 9 have done a really good job and I thank you. I've
- 10 talked a little bit about this before generically
- 11 when I've said that a lot of people who have come
- in and have met with us want the line for
- 13 regulation to begin right after them. In this
- 14 case if they want to be included the line is long
- and in some cases it's sort of laughable who's
- 16 requested this. I don't want to make light of it
- saying it's laughable, but we've had hedge funds
- in here that have said their end users -- I even
- 19 had somebody suggest that in ETFs since they are
- 20 the natural counterparty to some of the end users
- 21 needed to be included in this. So some of these
- requests while you want to take them seriously

1 quite frankly don't pass the smirk test. I think

- 2 that you've done a really good job here to strike
- a reasonable balance. I'm not suggesting that it
- 4 can't be improved, that we won't get some
- 5 additional comments that will be helpful, but I
- 6 thank you and your team for your good work.
- 7 MR. WILDER: Thank you.
- 8 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Thank you,
- 9 Commissioner Chilton. Commissioner O'Malia?
- 10 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: George, let me
- 11 add to the chorus. This is a great rule except
- 12 for one item.
- MR. WILDER: One little thing.
- 14 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: Yes.
- 15 Unfortunately with regard to the farm credit
- system I think we've missed it by a country mile.
- MR. WILDER: You're right.
- 18 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: I think every
- 19 Commissioner has mentioned it, the \$10 billion.
- 20 Commissioner Dunn obviously raised it and
- 21 Commission Sommers as well. Last night at 7
- 22 o'clock which may be late for dinner when you sent

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1 around a new question on this issue, it really
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- 2 isn't late in terms of rulemaking. This is early
- for a 7 o'clock change. But I think in the
- 4 question though you left out three important
- 5 words. It says in Section 2(h)(7)(ii), Congress
- 6 directed the Commission to consider exempting
- 7 depository institutions, farm credit institutions
- 8 and credit unions with total assets less than \$10
- 9 billion. But when you go to the Act it says
- 10 including such entities. That makes a big
- difference obviously in who we're considering in
- 12 this question or who should respond in the nature
- of the question. Can we put in including such
- 14 entities back into the question so that it's more
- 15 consistent with the statute?
- MR. WILDER: We are asking this question
- 17 whether there are measures other than \$10 billion
- in assets so that we're not only asking here in
- 19 terms of perhaps going above \$10 billion, but
- 20 we're also asking are there different tests that
- 21 we could use so that I think this question is
- 22 consistent with what Congress intended.

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1 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: Why don't we put
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- 2 their words back in our question?
- 3 MR. WILDER: I'd be happy to do that.
- 4 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: What are the words?
- 5 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: Including such
- 6 entities, straight from the statute.
- 7 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Including such
- 8 entities. Will we get closer to your country mile
- 9 then, Commissioner O'Malia?
- 10 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: We're within a
- 11 country mile then.
- 12 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: What is the wording?
- 13 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: Including such
- 14 entities.
- 15 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: I'm asking for
- unanimous consent to include those three words in
- 17 the question that came around at 7 o'clock last
- 18 night. Was it three words?
- 19 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: Yes.
- 20 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Not hearing any
- objections, we've included those three words.
- 22 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: Thank you.

1 Obviously my colleagues have covered the ground on

- 2 this one and I appreciate the great rulemaking.
- 3 I'm not proposing it, but what do you think about
- 4 maybe a staff roundtable on this issue since we're
- 5 starting from scratch would be a good idea?
- 6 MR. WILDER: You're asking me?
- 7 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: I was just kind
- 8 of putting it out there.
- 9 MR. WILDER: Sure. That's a
- 10 possibility.
- 11 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: At the end of the day
- there are going to be rules that come out on this
- small bank, small farm credit, small credit union
- 14 provision. I don't think we should necessarily
- 15 delay. I think actually we are building a
- 16 constructive administrative record. I think as
- 17 the Commission we owe that to the rulemaking
- 18 process. And as Commissioner Chilton has said,
- 19 there has been a long list of people who have come
- in and said we're really not what Congress
- intended when they wrote that and then you can
- 22 fill in swap execution facility, swap dealer,

1 major swap participant, almost anything in there.

- 2 And you can look on our website because we
- 3 publicly posted the 500 meetings, but it's a good
- 4 assumption that a large percentage of those are
- 5 coming in to say we're not what Congress intended
- 6 so that this area where Congress actually said we
- 7 shall consider exempting these financial
- 8 institutions from an otherwise financial
- 9 institution definition, and I will own up and I am
- 10 proud of this decision to build an administrative
- 11 record. This may be a bit more cautious than
- 12 Commissioner Sommers would want, but I think it is
- 13 something that's incumbent upon this Commission to
- do well and do something that's sustainable in the
- 15 courts after we do it.
- MR. BERKOVITZ: Mister Chairman, if I
- 17 could add a clarification. The language in the
- 18 proposal was a slight paraphrasing of the
- 19 statutory language, but if you put in institutions
- 20 including, we also had taken out the description
- of the banks as small banks and small institutions
- 22 so that we may want to parallel the exact phrasing

- 1 in the statute.
- 2 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Is that all right
- 3 with you, Commissioner O'Malia? So that we'll
- 4 consider that a technical cleanup.
- 5 MR. BERKOVITZ: Correct.
- 6 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Thanks. If there are
- 7 no further questions, Dave Stawik, please call the
- 8 roll.
- 9 MR. STAWIK: Commissioner O'Malia?
- 10 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: No.
- 11 MR. STAWIK: Commissioner O'Malia, no.
- 12 Commissioner Chilton?
- 13 COMMISSIONER CHILTON: Aye.
- MR. STAWIK: Commissioner Chilton, aye.
- 15 Commissioner Sommers?
- 16 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: No.
- MR. STAWIK: Commissioner Sommers, no.
- 18 Commissioner Dunn?
- 19 COMMISSIONER DUNN: Aye.
- MR. STAWIK: Commissioner Dunn, aye.
- 21 Mister Chairman?
- 22 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Aye.

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1 MR. STAWIK: Mister Chairman, aye.
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- 2 Mister Chairman, on this question the ayes are
- 3 three and the nays are two.
- 4 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Thank you, George and
- 5 thank you, Dan. We'll see you back. Now we're
- 6 moving to the notice of proposed rule making and
- 7 staff's presentation on business conduct standards
- 8 for counterparties or what we have sometimes
- 9 called on our website and elsewhere external
- 10 business conduct standards which are very
- important to protect the public. I'm filling a
- 12 little time here for the public as people are
- 13 coming in. The Congress clearly gave the SEC and
- 14 the CFTC authority to set business conduct
- standards to protect against fraud, manipulation
- and other potential abuses, to promote market
- integrity and importantly promote a system of
- 18 sales practices to protect counterparties. We're
- 19 going to hear from Phyllis Cela who is the team
- lead and is also our Deputy Director of the
- 21 Division of Enforcement, Vince McGonagle who is
- 22 our Acting Head of Enforcement, Peter Sanchez who

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is ever present on the team and then Ananda
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- 2 Radhakrishnan who heads up our Division of
- 3 Clearing and Intermediary Oversight is also back
- 4 for yet another cameo. Phyllis?
- 5 MS. CELA: Thank you very much. Good
- 6 morning, Mister Chairman and Commissioners.
- 7 Before presenting an overview of the proposed
- 8 rules, I really would like to thank the Commission
- 9 and its staff for your support and guidance during
- 10 the rulemaking process, and in particular Tim
- 11 Karpoff for his wise counsel. I also would like
- 12 to thank my team.
- 13 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Here's Tim. Do you
- want to tell him in person again?
- MS. CELA: Your wise counsel. You
- 16 missed it. I want to thank my team, Pete Sanchez,
- 17 Katie Driscoll, Ted Neller, Barry McCardy, Michael
- 18 Salinski, Russ Petalia, Vivette Jane, John Doland,
- 19 Todd Pronost and Stephanie Horn. We have worked
- 20 closely with our counterparts at the SEC and I
- 21 would like to acknowledge Lordes Gonzalez, the
- team leader there and her team.

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                 In the course of preparing the proposed
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       rules we received very helpful advice from
       numerous stakeholders through letters and
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       consultations and also from staff and fellow
       regulators at the OCC, Fed, the Department of
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       Labor, the European Commission and the U.K. FSA.
       This has been truly a collaborative effort which
 8
       has resulted in the recommendations that we are
       making today.
 9
                 Section 731 of the Dodd-Frank Act adds
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       Section 4(s)(H) to the Commodity Exchange Act and
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12
       requires the Commission to promulgate rules to
13
       establish business conduct standards for swap
14
       dealers and major swap participants dealing with
15
       counterparties generally. In addition, Dodd-Frank
16
       empowers the Commission to promulgate rules to
17
       implement specific protections for special
18
       entities like state and municipal governments.
19
       The proposed rules will principally apply to swap
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       dealers and major swap participants when they know
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their counterparty before entering into a swap.

Often there will be uncleared bilateral swaps.

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1 The disclosure and due diligence requirements will
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- 2 not apply to swaps initiated on a designated
- 3 contract market or swap execution facility where
- 4 the swap dealer or major swap participant does not
- 5 know the identity of the counterparty prior to
- 6 execution. In addition, where both counterparties
- or swap dealers, major swap participants,
- 8 security-based swap dealers or major
- 9 security-based swap participants, the disclosure
- and due diligence obligations will not apply.
- 11 Generally speaking there are three
- groups of proposed rules, the general provisions,
- 13 the duties that relate to dealings with all types
- of counterparties, and conduct rules that apply to
- dealings with special entities. The general
- 16 provisions include requirements to have policies
- 17 and procedures, diligence supervision and record
- 18 retention related to the business conduct
- 19 standards. They also address acceptable means of
- 20 complying with the new requirements. The general
- 21 provisions contain prohibitions against fraud,
- 22 manipulation and abusive practices. The antifraud

- 2 Section 4(s)(H)(iv) which applies to swap dealers
- 3 and major swap participants and prohibits
- 4 fraudulent, deceptive and manipulative practices.
- 5 These proposed rules also prohibit disclosure of
- 6 material, confidential counterparty information
- 7 and trading ahead and front running of
- 8 counterparty swap transactions. Coupled with the
- 9 proposed internal business conduct rules requiring
- 10 codes of ethics and information barriers, these
- 11 rules are intended to protect counterparties from
- 12 abuse by swap dealers and major swap participants
- including undermining the interests of
- 14 counterparties by misappropriating their trading
- 15 opportunities.
- 16 The second group contains disclosure and
- due diligence requirements for dealings with
- 18 counterparties generally. It begins with the duty
- 19 to verify that the counterparty is an eligible
- 20 contract participant and to determine whether a
- 21 counterparty is a special entity. It continues
- 22 with the duty to disclose the material risks and

characteristics of the swap and the material

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incentives and conflicts of interest of the
       participant dealer or major swap participant in
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       connection with the swap. As part of the duty to
       disclose material risks, SDs and MSPs would be
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       required to provide a scenario analysis for all
       high-risk, complex bilateral swaps. For bilateral
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       swaps that are not available for trading on a swap
       execution facility or a designated contract
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10
       market, counterparties would be able to opt in to
       require a scenario analysis from the SD or MSP.
11
                 For uncleared swaps, there is the duty
12
       to disclose the daily mark which is defined as the
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14
       mid-market value of the swap, and the duty to
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       notify a counterparty of the right to clear, that
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is, a swap that is exempt from mandatory clearing,

and to select the DCO. Under the proposed rules,

dealing and good faith and would be required to

suitability obligation when swap dealers or major

SDs and MSPs would also have a duty of fair

communicate in a fair and balanced manner.

this regard there is also an institutional

1 swap participants make recommendations to

- 2 counterparties.
- 3 The third group of rules applies to
- 4 dealings with special entities. The statute
- 5 requires that swap dealers that act as advisers to
- 6 special entities must act in the best interests of
- 7 the special entity and make reasonable efforts to
- 8 obtain information necessary to ensure that their
- 9 recommendations are in the special entity's best
- 10 interests. The proposed rules adopt the statutory
- 11 text and clarify that acts as an adviser to a
- 12 special entity includes recommending a swap. The
- legislative history of Sections 4(s)(H)(iv) and
- 14 (v) indicates that swap dealers should be able to
- 15 continue to recommend a swap to a special entity
- and then enter into the same swap as a
- 17 counterparty. For the statute and proposed rule
- 18 to operate this way, the best interest duty would
- 19 have to be interpreted to allow principal
- 20 transactions between an adviser and its
- 21 counterparty. Looking to case law, the best
- 22 interest standard would require the adviser to put

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1 the client's interests first by acting in good
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- 2 faith and making full and fair disclosure of all
- 3 material facts and conflicts of interest and
- 4 employing reasonable care that any recommendation
- 5 is designed to further the purposes of the special
- 6 entity. It would not bar principal transactions
- 7 per se where the conflicts are properly disclosed
- 8 and the counterparty consents.
- 9 When acting as a counterparty to a
- 10 special entity, swap dealers and major swap
- 11 participants will have the duty to ensure that the
- 12 special entity has a representative either
- in-house or external who is independent of the
- swap dealer or major swap participant and who
- 15 satisfied certain other criteria including that
- 16 the representative acts in the best interests of
- 17 the special entity. When dealing with ERISA plans
- 18 there will be an additional duty to verify that
- 19 the plan has a representative that is an ERISA
- 20 fiduciary, and when dealing with a municipal
- 21 entity that there will be an additional duty to
- 22 verify that the municipality has a representative

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1 that is subject to restrictions on certain
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- 2 political contributions or pay-to-play
- 3 restrictions. Swap dealers and major participants
- 4 also would be subject to pay-to-play restrictions
- 5 when dealing with municipal entities. This rule
- 6 is similar to existing rules for investment
- 7 advisers and municipal securities dealers.
- Finally, the proposed rules would
- 9 require registered Commission intermediaries that
- 10 handle customer orders for swaps that are
- 11 available for trading on a swap execution facility
- or designated contract market to execute such
- orders on terms that are reasonably related to the
- 14 best terms available. Thank you and I look
- forward to your comments and questions.
- 16 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: The Chair will
- 17 entertain a motion on the staff recommendation on
- 18 external business conduct standards.
- 19 COMMISSIONER DUNN: So moved.
- 20 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: Second.
- 21 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Thank you so much,
- 22 Phyllis and everybody on the team. I know there

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1 has been a lot of work that's gone in over the
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- 2 last number of months and a lot of consultation
- and I'm glad that you listed it. We shared as I
- 4 understand it drafts of this as it was coming
- 5 through with the SEC and the federal banking
- 6 regulators. Is that correct?
- 7 MS. CELA: All of them, yes.
- 8 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: You incorporated as
- 9 best you could their comments?
- 10 MS. CELA: We did. It was very helpful
- 11 and we did.
- 12 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Also my thanks to
- 13 fellow regulators across this town, and you said
- internationally, that you got comments from London
- 15 and Brussels.
- MS. CELA: Absolutely. We sent term
- sheets abroad and had very detailed exchanges.
- 18 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: I support the
- 19 proposed rulemaking to establish business conduct
- 20 standards for swap dealers and major swap
- 21 participants in their dealings with
- 22 counterparties. I think this is one of the

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1 critical features of what Congress did in the
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- statute, that there would be the promotion of the
- 3 integrity of the markets in this way. Today's
- 4 proposal implements those authorities that
- 5 Congress asked us to do, to enforce robust sales
- 6 practices in the swap markets and the rules will
- 7 level the playing field and bring I think some
- 8 needed transparency. There is even one
- 9 transparency piece here, it's like the towel rack,
- 10 but Congress did this one, which in the form of a
- 11 question but I want to make sure I understand it,
- that if you're in a bilateral relationship because
- it's a customized swap or you're en end user that
- 14 happens to decide not to use a clearinghouse, you
- can get a daily mid- market mark to market on
- 16 valuation. Is that correct?
- 17 MS. CELA: That is correct.
- 18 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: That I think is a
- 19 very positive thing to end users that Congress did
- and that we're incorporating in this rule that
- 21 every day you get a chance to have that valuation
- 22 directly and it's supposed to be mid-market. I

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1 think it will strengthen the confidence in the
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- 2 markets. The proposed rules also prohibit fraud
- 3 and certain other abusive practices. It would
- 4 implement requirements for swap dealers to deal
- 5 fairly with customers providing balanced
- 6 communications and disclose conflicts of interest
- 7 and material incentives before entering into the
- 8 swaps. And the rule also would implement the
- 9 Dodd-Frank heightened duties on the dealers when
- 10 they deal with certain entities, what are called
- 11 special entities. Am I correct that that's
- 12 largely municipalities and pension plans?
- MS. CELA: And endowments.
- 14 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: And endowments.
- 15 Thank you. With regard to these entities, the
- 16 municipalities, pension plans and endowments, the
- 17 proposed rules include higher standards than
- 18 Congress wanted and as Phyllis said also it has a
- 19 restriction on certain political contributions to
- 20 municipal officers by the dealers, similar to the
- 21 pay-to- play restrictions that the SEC has and
- you've tailored off of those restrictions. Is

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1 that right?
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- MS. CELA: We did. We copied.
- 3 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Plagiarism was
- 4 allowed for now. It might not be plagiarized once
- 5 the public comments and we may decide to change
- 6 it.
- 7 MS. CELA: That's always possible.
- 8 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: The proposed rule is
- 9 intended to ensure that swaps customers get fair
- 10 treatment in the execution of their transactions
- and would require dealers to disclose what access
- they have to swap execution facilities so that as
- 13 I understand it whether it's an end user like the
- 14 commercial end users we talked about or
- financials, that the dealer would have to tell
- them there are these things called trading
- 17 platforms and SEFs and so forth. Is that correct?
- MS. CELA: That's correct. It's a
- 19 two-piece disclosure so that you disclose where
- 20 the swap is trading and which markets you have
- 21 access to as a dealer.
- 22 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: So that if it's a

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1 commercial end user that has a choice whether to
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- 2 use a swap execution facility, they keep that
- 3 choice but they at least get some disclosure. Is
- 4 that correct?
- MS. CELA: That is correct.
- 6 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Then the rules
- 7 prohibit the dealers from defrauding a customer by
- 8 executing a transaction on terms that have no
- 9 reasonable relationship to the market. This may
- 10 be something that's very important to hear from
- 11 the public on, it may be something that doesn't
- 12 happen often, but at least as I understand it
- includes that as well.
- 14 MR. CELA: It does. It's grounded in
- 15 concepts of fair dealing and antifraud and it
- derives from the principal agent relationship in
- 17 the case law and has been articulated as a
- 18 reasonable relationship test.
- 19 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: I also think the
- 20 proposal asked a series of very important
- 21 questions. I commend Commissioner Dunn who worked
- on a lot of these in terms of the counterparty

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1 relationship and the adviser relationship and how
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- the two square in this bilateral world. Is that
- 3 right?
- 4 MS. CELA: That is correct. It is a
- 5 complicated situation that Congress has addressed
- 6 in a way through a disclosure regime. That
- 7 disclosure regime actually derives from case law
- 8 beginning with the Supreme Court case in the
- 9 capital gains are in the mid-1960s which talks
- 10 about when you have an adviser relationship with a
- 11 client, disclosure and consent to disclosure is
- 12 very material and particular disclosures is the
- way to put sunshine on the situation and try to
- 14 mitigate the situation.
- 15 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Can you, Phyllis,
- tell us how this proposal defines adviser?
- MS. CELA: Adviser here would have its
- 18 meaning as adviser under the CTA definition, but
- 19 what we've done here is to particularly say that
- when you make a recommendation as you would if you
- 21 were a commodity trading adviser, if you make a
- 22 particularized recommendation to a special entity

1 that would put you in the adviser box and obligate

- 2 you to operate on a best interest standard of
- 3 care.
- 4 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: So that if you make
- 5 as you call it a particularized recommendation as
- 6 opposed to a general the markets are going up.
- 7 It's not like that.
- MS. CELA: There is a carve-out. We
- 9 thought it was important not to interfere where
- interference was unhelpful and not necessary. We
- 11 were told that when there is general market
- information provided to a counterparty, that
- should certainly not be considered advising, or
- 14 when a counterparty comes to receive terms on a
- 15 request basis for a transaction from a swap
- dealer, whatever terms that the swap dealer would
- 17 provide shouldn't be considered to be advice to
- 18 that counterparty.
- 19 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: But where they're
- 20 actually structuring a deal and so many of these
- 21 dealers have structuring desks and they're working
- 22 to structure something over days or maybe weeks,

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1 then that would be particular advice?
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- MS. CELA: That would certainly seem to
- 3 be particular advice. This isn't the first time
- 4 that the law has considered what constitutes
- 5 making a recommendation. Our own CTA case law,
- 6 the CTS decision one and of course on the
- 7 investment adviser side on for the SEC as well as
- 8 under FINRA case law, there is a fairly
- 9 substantial body of law to provide guidance on
- 10 what does constitute a recommendation in the
- 11 circumstance. The circumstance that you just
- described seems to me to be one that would fall
- 13 cleanly within.
- 14 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: I thank you again and
- I very much look forward to the public's comments
- in this area. It's a very important area.
- 17 Commissioner Dunn?
- 18 COMMISSIONER DUNN: Thank you, Mister
- 19 Chairman, and I thank staff for indulging me and I
- 20 thank my fellow Commissioners. I know I've been
- 21 the lefty here on this one. But in my mind I
- 22 think this falls within a fiduciary responsibility

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and at one point that was in the proposed statute.
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- 2 It wasn't in the final statute although in reading
- 3 it I think Congress gives us the authority to
- 4 require that if possible, but that may be just one
- 5 of five opinions here.
- 6 Having said all that, I feel that there
- 7 is an inherent conflict of interest from somebody
- 8 who is both an adviser and a counterpartner and it
- 9 goes against logic to say, no, there's not. Are
- 10 you satisfied that what we're doing here will
- 11 mitigate that conflicts of interest?
- MS. CELA: Yes. I feel like what the
- proposed rule does and what Dodd-Frank does is
- 14 acknowledge the conflict. It doesn't ignore the
- 15 conflict or hide it or somehow put it under the
- 16 rug. It says there is an issue here that needs to
- 17 be addressed and the way the Congress addresses it
- is to impose this higher duty of care, this best
- 19 interest standard for the adviser in dealing with
- 20 certainly the special entity. What helps in this
- 21 regard I believe is in order to enter into a
- transaction with a counterparty, that special

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1 entity counterparty will have to have its own
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- 2 independent representative and it too will have to
- 3 operate in the best interests of that special
- 4 entity. So I think it is certainly possible for
- 5 the special entity to be looking to its own
- 6 independent representative for reliance purposes
- 7 and to evaluate the recommendation that's coming
- 8 from the swap dealer who would be acting both as
- 9 the adviser and the counterparty. With that
- 10 additional protection in that circumstance,
- 11 Commissioner, I appreciate very much your concern.
- 12 We have it as well. Particularly as an
- 13 enforcement person I worry about things like that.
- 14 I think we've gone a fair distance to mitigating
- as you say. You can't eliminate the conflict.
- You can shed light on it and bring it to the open
- 17 and the parties can make judgments.
- 18 COMMISSIONER DUNN: You indicated and
- 19 the Chairman just elaborated on the fact that
- we're looking at the current body of law as we go
- 21 through here and that suggests to me that this is
- 22 not static, that it's dynamic and that as case law

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1 changes, this may change as well. My question to
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- 2 you as an enforcer, how do we enforce this and how
- do we push the boundaries of case law as we're
- 4 going through this to come down on the side of the
- 5 individuals?
- 6 MS. CELA: I think we were given some
- 7 tools we didn't have before. We certainly have a
- 8 lot of tools. We had no tools before with respect
- 9 to this particular relationship between a swap
- 10 dealer and the counterparty. It was on the bus.
- 11 What Congress did was impose very particular due
- 12 diligence requirements around certification of the
- 13 appropriateness of counterparty in the first
- instance and then a very robust disclosure regime.
- What we've done here is really incorporating the
- very robust language from the statute so that from
- an enforcement standpoint it's the tripwire to
- 18 fraud. If you haven't made the disclosures the
- 19 risk is with respect to fraud, but making the
- 20 disclosures or failing to make the disclosures
- 21 themselves would be effective enforcement so that
- in that context robust compliance and an audit

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1 program would be very helpful in ensuring that the
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- 2 business is going on in a way that would mitigate
- 3 those conflicts that you're concerned about and we
- 4 are too.
- 5 COMMISSIONER DUNN: Is the division
- 6 contemplating developing that type of audit group
- 7 to go out and look at this?
- 8 MS. CELA: That's why I invited Mr.
- 9 Radhakrishnan to the table today.
- 10 MR. RADHAKRISHNAN: In fact, depending
- on how the Commission structures the agency, staff
- is contemplating structuring an audit group to
- look at swap dealers. Of course, everything is a
- 14 function of resources so if we get what we ask for
- and we get it in time, then we can do it. Notice
- I said get it in time as well because getting
- money 2 to 3 years from now is going to help us.
- 18 COMMISSIONER DUNN: Is the entity that
- 19 the dealers register with going to have a duty
- 20 here as well?
- 21 MR. RADHAKRISHNAN: Commissioner, as the
- 22 Commission asked the question in the registration

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1 rulemaking, the issue is always should we do it or
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- 2 should the NFA do it because I think in that
- 3 rulemaking the Commission proposed that all swap
- dealers and MSPs have to register with the NFA. I
- 5 don't know the answer to that. The answer would
- 6 be a balance between us. I don't speak for the
- 7 NFA, but I'm not sure that they will members and
- 8 not look at them. But as to whether we do it I
- 9 think is a function of resources and also of
- 10 course what the Commission decides we should do.
- 11 COMMISSIONER DUNN: I would hate to
- think that the public thinks we're doing a
- regulation out here with no follow-up or with no
- 14 police on the job.
- MR. RADHAKRISHNAN: I agree with you.
- 16 And I'm just guessing in that if the Commission
- doesn't get the resources I suspect that the NFA
- 18 will do it, but I hope that we get the resources
- just so that the Commission's staff and the
- 20 Commission itself gets a familiarity with how we
- 21 implement these regulations.
- 22 COMMISSIONER DUNN: Phyllis, you had

indicated that you had talked with other agencies.

- 2 How do our rules here compare with what the SEC
- 3 does? Is there a difference and why?
- 4 MS. CELA: Let me say that my
- 5 counterpart team at the SEC got a reprieve. They
- 6 were supposed to be considered yesterday but won't
- 7 be heard until next week.
- 8 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: A little like the SEF
- 9 team. We're not the only ones who are human.
- 10 MS. CELA: I really can't tell you what
- 11 will come of it. What I can say is that in the
- 12 course of staff consultation and give and take,
- the rules are very close. There are some things
- 14 that they are taking up in different work streams.
- 15 There are some things that they already have in
- some ways that we don't have. An execution
- 17 standard is something a little bit like that.
- 18 Their antifraud rules may or may not be included
- 19 for example in this rulemaking, more likely if at
- 20 all in a subsequent rulemaking. But I would say
- 21 that with respect to the disclosures, we are
- virtually the same and the due diligence

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1 requirements and our treatment of special entities
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- is very, very close or at least to be recommended
- 3 to be very close. What makes it through on both
- 4 sides is of course up to you.
- 5 COMMISSIONER DUNN: To echo the
- 6 Chairman, I think this is one of the key
- 7 components of Dodd-Frank to ensure that we don't
- 8 have a financial meltdown in the future and that
- 9 people aren't taken advantage of. This is a point
- in time where we need to have in my opinion very,
- 11 very strong conduct standards, we need to have
- 12 standards that are fair to everyone, but they also
- have to be workable for the industry out there so
- 14 that I am really am looking forward to see the
- 15 types of comments that we get on this particular
- 16 concept of standards. I also note that some of
- 17 the things that you took in here are based on best
- 18 practices within the industry and that connotes to
- me that that also is a dynamic thing that may
- transpire in the future and so this is something
- 21 that I think staff and the Commission ought to
- look at based on what happened in case law, what

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1 happens in industry standards and best practices
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- out there, that we on an ongoing basis review this
- 3 so that we can be in front and not behind.
- 4 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Thank you,
- 5 Commissioner Dunn. Before I turn to Commissioner
- 6 Sommers, on the resource question and this might
- 7 be for Dan Berkovitz or Phyllis, I can't find the
- 8 provision, is it not also the case that if a swap
- 9 dealer is regulated as a bank or regulated by
- others, it could be a registered broker dealer,
- 11 that the Federal Reserve and the bank regulators
- or the SEC also can examine this and the
- 13 relationship as to show they can refer cases if
- there is an issue? Do I have that correct?
- MS. CELA: The short answer is they are
- 16 frontline regulators for the same entities and can
- 17 look at practices by those entities.
- 18 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: If for some reason we
- don't get the resources as Ananda said, there are
- 20 still the bank regulators or somebody else who can
- 21 examine this and be as you call it the frontline
- regulators statutorily and they might have to

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1 refer a case?
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- 2 MR. BERKOVITZ: Correct. They could
- 3 refer the case to us. We still be the primary
- 4 enforcement authority, but they could refer it to
- 5 us and provide us with information certainly.
- 6 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: It's another avenue.
- 7 I'm thinking about this resource issue.
- 8 MS. CELA: What I wanted to say is
- 9 keeping that in mind, we made the books and
- 10 records that would be kept with respect to
- 11 compliance with these rules available to
- 12 appropriate prudential regulators so that there
- 13 should be no artificial barrier to their access to
- 14 the information.
- 15 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Thank you. I'm
- 16 sorry. Commissioner Sommers?
- 17 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: Thank you, Mister
- 18 Chairman. I want to commend Phyllis and Peter and
- 19 your whole team. I think that this really has
- 20 turned out to be a reasonable rule and based on a
- lot of what Commissioner Dunn said, best practices
- that are in the industry and I appreciate your

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1 tolerance for numerous comments from myself and
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- 2 from my office and the challenges that you had
- 3 because a lot of the rule was not very flexible so
- 4 you were working with what you had with words on
- 5 the paper. I want to make a comment on one of my
- 6 concerns in the rule that started as best
- 7 execution and has ended up as an execution
- 8 standard that ensures that the swap is executed on
- 9 terms that have a reasonable relationship to the
- 10 best terms available. I would suggest that there
- 11 seems to be or my fear is that there seems to be
- 12 this impression that counterparties have no idea
- what the fair price in the market is. If there
- 14 are dealers out there who are executing swaps that
- have no relationship to a reasonable price in the
- 16 market, that their customers are not going to be
- their customers for very long so I think that this
- 18 provision may be a solution to a problem that
- 19 doesn't exist. I would ask like Commissioner Dunn
- 20 that I think this is one provision in this rule
- 21 that I would specifically ask for comment on
- 22 whether it's necessary and whether or not we are

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1 overreaching in this area. Thank you.
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- 2 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Thank you,
- 3 Commissioner Sommers. Commissioner Chilton?
- 4 COMMISSIONER CHILTON: Thank you, Mister
- 5 Chairman. I wanted to thank Phyllis for the
- 6 proposal with regard to alerting the best
- 7 execution rule to ensure that there are reasonable
- 8 executions. I thank you for that. I see that
- 9 Mark Young is here and he brought in a group of
- 10 pension funds a while back probably not with all
- of us but I found it very helpful to listen to
- 12 them. I know that they had some concerns and that
- 13 you had subsequently had some conversations with
- 14 the Department of Labor. Could you share a little
- 15 bit of those conversations with us to sort of
- 16 elucidate folks?
- MS. CELA: I need to be careful. We had
- informal staff consultations so that the same way
- 19 that if one of them had called me, nothing that I
- 20 would say could bind Labor or you or anything
- 21 else. We wanted to take up with them to get a
- 22 better understanding of what the regulatory scheme

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1 was. We were quite concerned based on what was
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- 2 being said to us that there was a concern about
- 3 potential inconsistency with ERISA law or some
- 4 duplication in Dodd- Frank with respect to what
- 5 ERISA requires. Ultimately we had shared with
- 6 Department of Labor staff the draft.
- 7 COMMISSIONER CHILTON: Phyllis quickly,
- 8 the pension funds that ERISA requires this whole
- 9 litany of things that they're already required to
- do, therefore maybe we didn't need to have a
- 11 litany of things ourselves. Maybe it was
- duplicative perhaps so that was the issue.
- MS. CELA: That was the issue, and so
- 14 having gotten the very informal advice from the
- Department of Labor we felt that it was important
- that we go forward in the way that the Commission
- 17 would interpret the provision to say that ERISA
- 18 plans would be treated like other special entities
- 19 but there were some changes to the specific
- 20 statutory criteria to take account of concerns
- 21 about particular compliance that they would have
- 22 and we asked questions. We think it requires a

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1 fuller record for us to make a judgment one way or
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- another, and as I say on a very informal basis we
- 3 were told that there were no concerns by staff
- 4 about the approach that we were recommending to
- 5 our Commission.
- 6 COMMISSIONER CHILTON: So that we are
- 7 welcoming comments on this and we know Mr. Young
- 8 is a prolific writer of letters and that others
- 9 will write to us too.
- 10 MS. CELA: That's right. We expect to
- 11 be pen pals.
- 12 COMMISSIONER CHILTON: Thank you.
- 13 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Such a shout out.
- 14 Commissioner O'Malia?
- 15 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: Who is Mark
- 16 Young?
- 17 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: I don't know. Do you
- want him to stand up?
- 19 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: No. Phyllis, my
- 20 compliments, Peter and the whole team. For
- 21 everybody watching, this is the rule for the
- little guy and maybe they haven't paid attention

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and gone through end user priorities and there are
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- different provisions in the statute for the little
- guy, but this is something they need to look at
- 4 and it's in Section 731(h), Business Conduct
- 5 Standards. It's a balancing act and Commissioner
- 6 Dunn's points are well taken that it has to be a
- 7 workable rule, but this does provide a new
- 8 authority protections for the little guy and it's
- 9 an important rule.
- 10 I have a couple of questions. Part
- 11 23.431 requires disclosure of material information
- 12 including material incentives and conflicts of
- interest that a swap Dodd-Frank or an MSP may have
- in connection with a particular swap including
- incentives from any source other than a
- 16 counterparty. My question is what kinds of
- incentives does staff think ought to be disclosed
- 18 under this provision and would that include
- 19 clearing incentives?
- 20 MS. CELA: I think as a general matter
- it's understood that when swap dealers enter into
- transactions they're earning a profit so that

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that's not particularly helpful as a disclosure,
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- 2 but what would be more interesting I think is if
- 3 the swap dealer is receiving some kind of
- 4 compensation from a third party unknown to the
- 5 counterparty. That might make a difference in the
- 6 nature of the transaction that will take place so
- 7 that we specifically indicate in there any
- 8 compensation that's received from a third party
- 9 would be the type we'd be thinking of in
- 10 particular.
- 11 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: Do you think this
- is a type of thing that will affect counterparty
- decision making?
- MS. CELA: I hope so. I hope it's
- meaningful and I hope people where that would be
- 16 meaningful disclosure to them, for whatever reason
- 17 they would act on it.
- 18 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: Will you
- 19 elaborate on the differences between the proposed
- 20 suitability requirements for swap dealers and MSPs
- and the NFA's know-your-customer duties?
- MS. CELA: That's a very good question,

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1 Commissioner, and it's a very close issue. Know
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- 2 your customer is the standard and actually I saw
- 3 Dan Roth before so that if I get it wrong I'm sure
- 4 he'll speak up.
- 5 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: For the public, Dan
- 6 Roth is not Mark Young.
- 7 MS. CELA: No.
- 8 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: He runs the NFA which
- 9 is the self-regulatory organization in the futures
- 10 area.
- 11 MS. CELA: Right. Know your customer is
- 12 a concept that comes out of the SRO world and is
- intended to take a look at if I understand it
- 14 correctly the qualifications of a customer to
- 15 trade generally. The futures market has looked at
- 16 risk disclosure and has looked at qualification of
- 17 customers in a fairly generic way because of the
- 18 nature of our products. Our products have been
- 19 generic and they've been traded on exchange in a
- 20 customized fashion and so that know your customer
- 21 has worked in that environment and I know that NFA
- 22 has worked very hard to make sure that it's a

1 robust screening or evaluation standard. But when

- 2 you get into the kinds of products that are
- 3 possible in the swaps world that do have
- differences in risk-reward profiles, then it feels
- 5 like a more transaction-based rule that could have
- 6 some application and may be effective in providing
- 7 some additional due diligence so that what a
- 8 suitability rule would do is look at
- 9 recommendations to counterparties and on a
- 10 transaction basis you're looking at a type of swap
- or a particular swap and you'd have to assess
- 12 suitable in that way, a small difference but a
- difference nevertheless from know your customer.
- 14 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: With regard to
- the execution standard there's been discussed how
- 16 will this requirement affect futures trading in
- 17 contracts that trade side-by-side on NYMEX and
- 18 Globex and the floor? How might that impact a
- 19 best execution or trying to achieve that?
- MS. CELA: We are viewing this to come
- out a fair-dealing antifraud world of analysis so
- that it would seem to use that we would be looking

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1 at conduct that is really over the course of a
2 relationship. If a swap dealer were routinely
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- 3 sending orders for a customer to a market that had
- 4 consistently worse execution standards than
- another, I think we would have to ask the
- 6 question, we would be right to ask the question,
- 7 about whether that was done in a reasonable
- 8 relationship to the market and therefore whether
- 9 or not it was fair and reasonable and was the swap
- 10 dealer acting in good faith. The two markets that
- 11 you identified, it is market neutral in the sense
- that wherever you can trade, you then have to
- evaluate the terms and then send the trades
- 14 through or execute in a way that would be
- reasonable related to the best terms available.
- 16 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: Bank of America
- 17 recently paid more than \$137 million in
- 18 restitution to federal and state agencies for its
- 19 participation in a conspiracy to rig bids in the
- 20 muni bond market. Based on your knowledge of this
- 21 matter, how would the proposal with regard to
- 22 execution standards have protected the affected

- federal and state agencies?
- MS. CELA: I'm not at all qualified to
- 3 comment on the particular case, but if I
- 4 understand the kind of situation that was
- 5 addressed there and I think it's really important
- 6 as you consider these rules today to make sure
- 7 that we've done our job that we have addressed the
- 8 potential dangers in this area. There are a few
- 9 things and Congress did most of them, frankly.
- 10 There is this independent representative
- 11 requirement. The independent representative has
- to be acting itself in the best interests of the
- 13 special entity. If it's true that the
- 14 representative firms were not acting in the best
- interests, that they didn't have the
- sophistication, that they were not independent of
- 17 the swap dealer which his the bottom- line
- 18 requirement for the independent representative
- 19 provision that we have, if there is a relationship
- 20 between that bid rigger and the dealer then that
- 21 would it would seem me to be squarely within the
- 22 prohibitions that we have. We also have added we

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think very appropriately the pay-to-play
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- 2 restrictions which would go a long way I think to
- 3 cleaning up the situation that has the potential,
- 4 not commenting on this case, for wrong.
- 5 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: One final
- 6 question. Section 23.410 of the proposed rule
- 7 among other things prohibits the employment of
- 8 device, scheme or artifice to defraud any special
- 9 entity. This language tracks with the language in
- 10 the CEA's new antimanipulation provisions of
- 11 Section 6(c). Would a violation of this
- business-conduct rule result in \$140,000 penalty
- or a million-dollar penalty? And because you are
- 14 a swap dealer, would you have to be fined once
- under the regulation and then again under the
- 16 statute for the same violation just by virtue of
- 17 our registration status?
- MS. CELA: I want to answer the second
- one and I'm going to give the first one to Vince.
- 20 Are you ready, Vince?
- MR. MCGONAGLE: Sure.
- MS. CELA: With respect to

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double-counting, I think the Commission has given
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- 2 pretty good guidance in case law that it has and
- 3 certainly federal court judges have so that we're
- 4 not inclined to be receiving double-counting
- 5 penalties on the basis of the same exact statutory
- 6 language in connection with the same conduct so
- 7 that I think we're good there. On the other, I
- 8 think this was a topic of discussion and question
- 9 at the earlier disruptive-practices meeting and
- 10 that's why it's Vince's question.
- 11 MR. MCGONAGLE: I will give no clarity
- 12 because in evaluating an enforcement action we're
- going to evaluate all potential violations of the
- 14 Act so that to the extent that we're dealing with
- something that is disruptive, a disruptive trading
- 16 practice that is also say manipulative that gets
- 17 clearly into the larger calculus for a million
- dollars per penalty then that's going to be part
- 19 of the discussion that we have as a recommendation
- 20 to the Commission or as part of the settlement.
- 21 The question about whether fraudulent activity
- 22 itself or how the disruptive trading standards are

- 1 set up that they might be different because
- they're talking more about fraud I think is still
- a question that's a little left open for the
- 4 comment period for that particular rule. But in
- 5 practical experience I'll go back to the first
- 6 sentence is which is we would be looking at all
- 7 potential violations of the Act and so it's likely
- 8 that there would be a range of sanctions that
- 9 would be discussed so that it wouldn't be one
- 10 clear claim versus another.
- 11 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: Thanks for that
- 12 clarity. I think I knew that going into the
- 13 question.
- MS. CELA: I'm sorry.
- 15 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Did you get
- 16 transparency too? I thank everyone. If there are
- 17 no further questions, Mr. Stawik, if you can call
- 18 the roll.
- MR. STAWIK: Commissioner O'Malia?
- 20 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: Aye.
- 21 MR. STAWIK: Commissioner O'Malia, aye.
- 22 Commissioner Chilton?

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1 COMMISSIONER CHILTON: Aye.
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- 2 MR. STAWIK: Commissioner Chilton, aye.
- 3 Commissioner Sommers?
- 4 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: Aye.
- 5 MR. STAWIK: Commissioner Sommers, aye.
- 6 Commissioner Dunn?
- 7 COMMISSIONER DUNN: Aye.
- 8 MR. STAWIK: Commissioner Dunn, aye.
- 9 Mister Chairman?
- 10 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Aye.
- 11 MR. STAWIK: Mister Chairman, aye.
- 12 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Phyllis, aye. You
- 13 heard it. Even Mark Young whoever he is heard it.
- MR. STAWIK: On this question the ayes
- 15 are five and nays are zero.
- 16 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: I thank the team for
- 17 its excellent work. There is much more to do, but
- 18 enjoy your holiday. We have now another group
- 19 coming up. The final presentation is the
- 20 Commission's consideration of the issuance of an
- 21 interim final rule with regard to reporting of
- 22 swaps. I would have done a break here but I think

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1 this one is a little quicker. As they come in and
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- 2 I fill some time, we have already issued an
- 3 interim final rule with regard to swaps that were
- 4 in existence when the President signed the bill
- 5 which is called the date of enactment. In essence
- 6 what that interim final rule said was save the
- 7 information. This consideration here is a
- 8 proposal on swaps entered into after the President
- 9 signed the bill or the date of enactment but prior
- 10 to the effect date that some of our data rules and
- other things would be effective at the earliest in
- the late summer of next year or maybe those
- 13 effective dates will be even into months later.
- 14 With that, Susan Nathan who is our lead of a
- number of our data teams, the swap data repository
- team you share, but a number of our data teams,
- 17 Rick Shilts who heads our Division of Market
- 18 Oversight and Dan Berkovitz who is our General
- 19 Counsel. I turn it over to the team to present
- this interim final rule on in essence saving data.
- 21 MS. NATHAN: Good morning, Mister
- 22 Chairman, good morning Commissioners. There is no

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1 team to thank on this particular rulemaking but I
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- 2 would like to express appreciation to Dan and his
- 3 staff for their guidance in developing the rule.
- 4 This morning staff is presenting for the
- 5 Commission's consideration as the Chairman said an
- 6 interim final rule under Part 44 of the
- 7 Commission's regulations, it will be Part 44.03,
- 8 to establish requirements related to the reporting
- 9 of transition swaps to a registered SDR or to the
- 10 Commission. Transition swaps are those swaps
- 11 entered into on or before the date of enactment of
- 12 the Dodd-Frank Act and prior to the effective date
- of permanent swap data reporting and rules that
- 14 will shortly be promulgated by the Commission
- pursuant to new Section 2(h)(v) of the Act. That
- 16 provision in turn was added by Section 723 of
- 17 Dodd- Frank and requires that the Commission adopt
- 18 rules for the reporting of data related to on the
- one hand preenactment swaps and on the other hand
- these transition swaps.
- 21 As the Chairman mentioned, in September
- the Commission adopted an interim final rule, Rule

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1 44.02, addressing the reporting timetable for
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- 2 preenactment swaps. The purpose of that rule was
- 3 to clarify that reporting obligations would attach
- 4 to those swaps and to ensure that counterparties
- 5 would preserve relevant information pending the
- 6 Commission's implementation of permanent data
- 7 reporting rules under Section 2(h)(v). The
- 8 interim final rule before the Commission today is
- 9 similar in both substance and purpose. It directs
- 10 that counterparties to transition swaps report
- data to a registered swap data repository or to
- 12 the Commission within a specified time period or
- by the compliance date to be established by the
- permanent rules under 2(h)(v)(B). The rule
- 15 further advises potential counterparties to
- 16 preserve data related to transition swaps until
- 17 reporting can be affected and specifically states
- 18 that no counterparties will be required to create
- or otherwise adjust the data that they have in
- order to comply, it's whatever they have in the
- 21 format that they have it.
- 22 An interim final rulemaking is an

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1 expedited process that permits an agency to adopt
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- 2 for good cause a rule that has not been subject to
- 3 the Administrative Procedure Act's requirement
- 4 that the public be given notice and an opportunity
- 5 to comment on a proposed rule. In an IFR the
- 6 agency publishes the rule as final but
- 7 concurrently encourages public comment. To the
- 8 extent appropriate, that comment will be addressed
- 9 in the permanent rulemaking. Staff believes that
- 10 an interim final rule is warranted here in order
- 11 to timely clarify for counterparties the reporting
- obligations that will be imposed under 2(h)(v)(B)
- and thus to ensure that counterparties retain
- 14 relevant data until these permanent recordkeeping
- and reporting rules are adopted. I welcome your
- 16 questions.
- 17 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Do I hear a motion on
- 18 the staff recommendation on this interim final
- 19 rule?
- 20 COMMISSIONER DUNN: So moved.
- 21 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: Second.
- 22 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Thank you. Susan, if

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1 I might ask, I understand that this came up in
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- 2 reaction to questions from market participants as
- 3 to we did an interim final rule for preenactment
- 4 swaps and they were asking what do we do until you
- finalize it, and you might want to say why we are
- 6 addressing this and how did the question come up.
- 7 MS. NATHAN: That is the primary way in
- 8 which the question came up and on the whole, once
- 9 we realized that there might be some
- 10 misunderstanding it seemed prudent to come out
- 11 with this interim rule to clarify obligations and
- 12 eliminate to the extent we can any confusion over
- who needs to report and what they need to do.
- 14 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Am I correct in
- 15 understand that the main thing we're clarifying is
- 16 what you need to do before the effective dates
- 17 which could be up to a year from now? Is that the
- 18 main question?
- 19 MS. NATHAN: That is the main thrust of
- 20 this rulemaking. Stripped of its title, what this
- is is a heads-up. If you believe that you are a
- 22 counterparty to a transition swap, preserve

1 whatever data you currently keep in the course of

- 2 normal business practice so that it's available
- for reporting as necessary under the permanent
- 4 rules when they're adopted.
- 5 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: I do support this.
- 6 Why I really like it, but I'd like to know if I'm
- 7 correct on this, is it's saying we're not going to
- 8 be retroactive and say you have to create a
- 9 different record than you currently have.
- MS. NATHAN: Precisely.
- 11 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: So that until our
- data rules go effective, again this could be next
- fall or whenever, nobody needs to worry about
- 14 going back and recreating records.
- MS. NATHAN: No, and the rule's text
- itself is very clear. It's what the counterparty
- 17 has on the date of enactment.
- 18 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Or even after the
- 19 date of enactment. Right?
- MS. NATHAN: Or even after, yes.
- 21 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: So that if somebody
- 22 enters into something today, December 9 or after

this gets into the Federal Register, it's whatever

- they are keeping now they keep and any regulatory
- 3 obligations to have more data fields happens
- 4 later.
- 5 MS. NATHAN: That's correct.
- 6 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Thank you for
- 7 clarifying that. I do support this. Commissioner
- 8 Dunn?
- 9 COMMISSIONER DUNN: Thank you, Mister
- 10 Chairman, and I was going to note that in the
- 11 preamble it says it does not require any
- 12 counterparties to a transition swap transaction to
- create new records and permits records to be
- 14 retained in their existing format. Are we
- prepared to ask for these and if so where would
- they go to and how would we store this data and
- what would be doing with it?
- MS. NATHAN: Are you asking whether
- 19 there is an immediate reporting obligation imposed
- 20 by this rule? No, there is not. The reporting
- 21 obligations will be imposed under the permanent
- 22 2(h)(v) rules.

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                 COMMISSIONER DUNN: Thank you.
                 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Commissioner Sommers?
                 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: I don't have any
 3
       questions. Thank you.
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                 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Commissioner Chilton?
                 COMMISSIONER CHILTON: I wasn't going to
 7
       ask anything because I think you've done a really
 8
       good job on this, Susan. But this talk of timing,
       I wanted to get a little bit of clarification.
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       There were a couple of news articles recently. I
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       think there was one yesterday and I don't want to
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       ascribe exactly who it was because I'm not sure,
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       but I believe there was somebody at Barclays who
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14
       said it's going to take 3 years to implement this
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       law. I don't see that happening. Congress gave
       us some discretion, Mr. Berkovitz, and the law,
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17
       and I'm paraphrasing, says that the Commission
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       once they promulgate a final rule shall implement
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       it in not less than 60 days. What that means is
       that it could be more than 60 days but that it
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       can't be less than 60 days unless otherwise
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prescribed in the Act. So unless there's a

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different date, that minimum of 60 days before
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- 2 implementation, so theoretically it is open-ended.
- 3 Theoretically at least you could wait 3 years.
- 4 That's not wise and I don't think we'll end up
- 5 there, but theoretically you could be there. I'm
- 6 not going to get into a specific rule, but there
- 7 are other places that have prescribed specific
- 8 effective dates. There are just a handful. The
- 9 Chairman said we've done 36 but there are going to
- 10 be more than 40 of these and there's a handful of
- I think nine of them which had other times and on
- those the Commission doesn't have the sort of
- leeway that we have with regard to the section I
- 14 tried to paraphrase there, the 60 days. Is that
- 15 correct?
- MR. BERKOVITZ: Generally, yes,
- 17 Commissioner, I think that's generally a correct
- 18 observation. The provision you referred to says
- 19 unless otherwise specified in the Act, the
- 20 provisions of this Act shall be effective on the
- later of 360 days or 60 days after the
- 22 promulgation of the final rule that is required.

1 COMMISSIONER CHILTON: I thought it was

- 2 not less than 60 days.
- 3 MR. BERKOVITZ: Right. Maybe I
- 4 misspoke. Not less than 60 days after.
- 5 COMMISSIONER CHILTON: Meaning it could
- 6 be more unless it's otherwise prescribed.
- 7 MR. BERKOVITZ: Correct.
- 8 COMMISSIONER CHILTON: Thank you very
- 9 much. I appreciate it.
- 10 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Thank you,
- 11 Commissioner Chilton. Commissioner O'Malia?
- 12 Nothing there? Mr. Stawik, do you want to call
- 13 the roll?
- MR. STAWIK: Commissioner O'Malia?
- 15 COMMISSIONER O'MALIA: Aye.
- MR. STAWIK: Commissioner O'Malia, aye.
- 17 Commissioner Chilton?
- 18 COMMISSIONER CHILTON: Aye.
- MR. STAWIK: Commissioner Chilton, aye.
- 20 Commissioner Sommers?
- 21 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: Aye.
- 22 MR. STAWIK: Commissioner Sommers, aye.

- 1 Commissioner Dunn?
- 2 COMMISSIONER DUNN: Aye.
- 3 MR. STAWIK: Commissioner Dunn, aye.
- 4 Mister Chairman?
- 5 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Aye.
- 6 MR. STAWIK: Mister Chairman, aye.
- 7 Mister Chairman, on this vote the ayes are five
- 8 and nays are zero.
- 9 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Thank you very much
- 10 and thank you, Susan, Rick and Dan. At this point
- 11 I'd like to ask for unanimous consent to allow
- 12 staff to make technical corrections to the
- documents voted on today prior to send them to the
- 14 Federal Register. Do I hear any objection? Not
- 15 hearing objections, so moved. Our next meeting of
- this Commission is on December 16 where we will
- 17 review the topics that I outlined earlier and I
- 18 think we will also vote at that meeting on two
- 19 more meetings in January. Of course we'll be
- 20 posting the various topics 7 days in advance on
- 21 each of those. I also want to remind the public
- and the press that we have a very important

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1 roundtable tomorrow, December 10. I think the
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- venue is over at the Securities and Exchange
- 3 Commission if I'm not mistaken, but it's going to
- 4 be with the Federal Reserve and the other bank
- 5 regulators, the SEC and CFTC staff hearing from
- 6 important topics on capital margins and we no
- doubt going to have more roundtables, Commissioner
- 8 O'Malia. I think it is a good think to have
- 9 roundtables. I don't know which topics we'll
- 10 have. If there is no further Commission business,
- I'd like to hear a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- 12 COMMISSIONER DUNN: So moved.
- 13 COMMISSIONER SOMMERS: Second.
- 14 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: We don't have to call
- the roll on this do we Mr. Stawik? All in favor?
- 16 Aye.
- 17 (Chorus of ayes.)
- 18 CHAIRMAN GENSLER: Are there any
- 19 opposed? No. Thank you.
- 20 (Whereupon, at 12:00 p.m., the
- 21 PROCEEDINGS were adjourned.)
- 22 * * * * *

Τ	CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY PUBLIC				
2	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA				
3	I, Christine Allen, notary public in and				
4	for the District of Columbia, do hereby certify				
5	that the forgoing PROCEEDING was duly recorded and				
б	thereafter reduced to print under my direction;				
7	that the witnesses were sworn to tell the truth				
8	under penalty of perjury; that said transcript is a				
9	true record of the testimony given by witnesses;				
10	that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor				
11	employed by any of the parties to the action in				
12	which this proceeding was called; and, furthermore,				
13	that I am not a relative or employee of any				
14	attorney or counsel employed by the parties hereto,				
15	nor financially or otherwise interested in the				
16	outcome of this action.				
17					
18					
19					
20	Notary Public, in and for the District of Columbia				
21	My Commission Expires: January 14, 2013				
22					