

railroad service (under certain conditions, military service may be credited as months of railroad service). Accelerated benefits are unemployment or sickness benefits that are payable to a railroad employee before the regular July 1 beginning date of a benefit year if an employee has 10 or more years of service and is *not* qualified for benefits in the current benefit year.

During the RUIA claims review process, the RRB may determine that unemployment or sickness benefits cannot be awarded because RRB records show insufficient qualifying service and/or compensation. When this occurs, the RRB allows the claimant the opportunity to provide additional information if they believe that the RRB

service and compensation records are incorrect.

Depending on the circumstances, the RRB provides the following form(s) to obtain information needed to determine if a claimant has sufficient service or compensation to qualify for unemployment or sickness benefits. Form UI-9, Applicant's Statement of Employment and Wages, Form UI-23, Claimant's Statement of Service for Railroad Unemployment Insurance Benefits, Form UI-44, Claim for Credit for Military Service (RUIA), Form ID-4F, Advising of Ineligibility for RUIA Benefits, Form ID-4U, Advising of Service/Earnings Requirements for RUIA Benefits, Form ID-4X, Advising of Service/Earnings Requirements for

Sickness Benefits, Form ID-4Y, Advising of Ineligibility for Sickness Benefits, Form ID-20-1, Advising that Normal Unemployment Benefits Are About to Be Exhausted, Form ID-20-2, Advising that Normal Sickness Benefits Are About to Be Exhausted, and Form ID-20-4, Advising That Normal Sickness Benefits Are About to Be Exhausted/Non-Entitlement. Completion of these forms is required to obtain or retain a benefit. One response is required of each respondent. The RRB proposes no changes to these forms.

The burden associated with the information collection is estimated as follows:

Form #	Annual responses	Completion time (minutes)	Burden hours
ID-5I	4,500	15	1,125
ID-5R(SUP)	900	10	150
ID-49R	250	15	63
UI-48	250	12	50
UI-9	800	10	133
UI-23	600	5	50
UI-44	150	5	13
ID-4F	25	5	2
ID-4U	150	5	13
ID-4X	100	5	8
ID-4Y	25	5	2
ID-20-1	50	5	4
ID-20-2	100	5	8
ID-20-4	5	5	1
Total	7,905	1,622

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

Chuck Mierzwa,

Clearance Officer.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-48444; File No. SR-NASD-98-74]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing of Amendment Nos. 3 and 4 to a Proposed Rule Change by the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. Relating to NASD Rule 3110(f) Governing Use of Predispute Arbitration Agreements With Customers

September 4, 2003.

Pursuant to section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on August 22, 2003, the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD"), filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") Amendment No. 4 to a proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been

prepared by NASD. Notice of the proposal, as amended by Amendment Nos. 1 and 2, was published in the **Federal Register** on November 29, 1999.³ The Commission received two comment letters on the proposal.⁴ On April 30, 2002, NASD submitted a response to comments and Amendment No. 3 to the proposed rule change.⁵ The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change, as amended.

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

NASD proposes to amend NASD Rule 3110(f) to: require additional disclosure

³ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 42160 (November 19, 1999), 64 FR 66681.

⁴ See letters from Barry D. Estell, dated December 15, 1999 ("Estell Letter"), and John J. Miller, dated December 27, 1999 ("Miller Letter").

⁵ See letter from Sarah J. Williams, Office of General Counsel, NASD Regulation, Inc., to Katherine A. England, Assistant Director, Division of Market Regulation, Commission, dated April 30, 2002 ("Amendment No. 3"). In Amendment No. 3, NASD responded to comments and changed the effective date provision of the proposal.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.