

19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act<sup>5</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder<sup>6</sup> because it effects a change that does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest, does not impose any significant burden on competition, and does not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing. At any time within sixty days of the filing of such rule change, the Commission could have summarily abrogated such rule change if it appeared to the Commission that such action was necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

#### IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 5th Street NW., Washington, DC 20549-0069. Comments may also be submitted electronically at the following e-mail address: [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). All comment letters should refer to File No. SR-NSCC-2003-18. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, comments should be sent in hardcopy or by e-mail but not by both methods. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the rule filing that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the rule filing between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at NSCC's principal office and on NSCC's Web site at <http://www.nsc.com/legal/>. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-NSCC-2003-18 and should be submitted by January 8, 2004.

For the Commission by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>7</sup>

**Margaret H. McFarland,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

##### Office of Oceans Affairs

[I.D. 120103G]

#### New Conservation Measures for Antarctic Fishing Under the Auspices of CCAMLR

**AGENCY:** Office of Oceans Affairs, Department of State.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** At its Twenty-Second Meeting in Hobart, Tasmania, from October 27 to November 7, 2003, the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), of which the United States is a member, adopted conservation measures, pending countries' approval, pertaining to fishing in the CCAMLR Convention Area. All the measures were agreed upon in accordance with Article IX of the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. Measures adopted restrict overall catches of certain species of fish and crabs, restrict fishing in certain areas, specify implementation and inspection obligations supporting the Catch Documentation Scheme of Contracting Parties, and promote compliance with CCAMLR measures by non-Contracting Party vessels. This notice includes the full text of the conservation measures adopted at the Twenty-Second meeting of CCAMLR. For all of the conservation measures in force, see the CCAMLR Website at <http://www.ccamlr.org>. This notice, therefore, together with the U.S. regulations referenced under the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** provides a comprehensive register of all current U.S. obligations under CCAMLR.

**DATES:** Persons wishing to comment on the measures or desiring more information should submit written comments by January 20, 2004.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Matthew V. Cassetta, Office of Oceans Affairs (OES/OA), Room 5805, Department of State, Washington, DC 20520; tel: 202-647-3947; fax: 202-647-9099; e-mail: [cassettamv@state.gov](mailto:cassettamv@state.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Individuals interested in CCAMLR

should also see 15 CFR Chapter III-International Fishing and Related Activities, Part 300-International Fishing Regulations, Subpart A-General; Subpart B-High Seas Fisheries; and Subpart G-Antarctic Marine Living Resources, for other regulatory measures related to conservation and management in the CCAMLR Convention area. Subpart B notes the requirements for high seas fishing vessel licensing. Subparts A and G describe the process for regulating U.S. fishing in the CCAMLR Conventional area and contain the text of CCAMLR Conservation Measures that are not expected to change from year to year. The regulations in Subparts A and G include sections on; Purpose and scope; Definitions; Relationship to other treaties, conventions, laws and regulations; Procedure for according protection to CCAMLR Ecosystem Monitoring Program Sites; Scientific Research; Initiating a new fisher; Exploratory fisheries; Reporting and record keeping requirements; Vessel and gear identification; Gear disposal; Mesh Size; Harvesting permits; Import permits; Appointment of a designated representative; Prohibitions; Facilitation of enforcement and inspection; and Penalties.

The Commission agreed that the following conservation measures will remain in force in 2003/04: compliance: 10-01 (1998), 10-02 (2001), 10-03 (2002), 10-04 (2002) and 10-06 (2002); general fishery matters: 21-01 (2002), 21-02 (2002), 22-01 (1986), 22-02 (1984), 22-03 (2002), 23-02 (1993), 23-03 (1991), 23-04 (2000), 23-05 (2000), 23-06 (2002), 25-01 (1996), 31-01 (1986), 32-01 (2001), 32-02 (1998), 32-03 (1998), 32-04 (1986), 32-05 (1986), 32-06 (1985), 32-07 (1999), 32-08 (1997), 32-10 (2002), 32-11 (2002), 32-12 (1998), 33-01 (1995), 41-03 (1999), 51-01 (2002), 51-02 (2002) and 51-03 (2002); protected areas: 91-01 (2002), 91-02 (2002) and 91-03 (2002).

At its twenty-second meeting in Hobart, Tasmania, the Commission agreed that the following resolutions will remain in force in 2003/04: Resolutions 7/IX, 10/XII, 14/XIX, 16/XIX, 17/XX, 18/XXI and 19/XXI. The Commission had also considered the implementation of a C-VMS. Although significant progress had been made, the Commission did not reach consensus at the most recent meeting. As a result, Conservation Measure 10-04 and Resolution 16/XIX remain in force.

New and Revised Conservation Measures. The Commission revised the following conservation measures at its twenty-second meeting: compliance: 10-05 (2002) and 10-07 (2002); general

<sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

<sup>6</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>7</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).