thereunder, including Form SDR (17 CFR 240.1500) and reports filed pursuant to Rules 13n–11(d) and (f) (17 CFR 240.13n–11(d) and (f)) under the Exchange Act; and 
(xviii) Filings made pursuant to Regulation A (§§ 230.251 through 230.262 of this chapter).

Dated: June 25, 2015.

Brent J. Fields,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2015–16045 Filed 6–30–15; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SEcurities and Exchange COMmission

17 CFR Part 275

[Release No. IA–4129; File No. S7–18–09]

RIN 3235–AK39

Political Contributions by Certain Investment Advisers: Ban on Third-Party Solicitation; Notice of Compliance Date

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission.

ACTION: Notice of compliance date.

SUMMARY: The Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission” or “SEC”) previously set and extended the compliance date for the ban on third-party solicitation until nine months after the compliance date of a final rule adopted by the Commission which municipal advisors must register under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“final municipal advisor registration rule”) and indicated that notice with respect thereto would be provided in the Federal Register. This notice of compliance date is being published to provide the notice of the compliance date.

DATES: The compliance date for the ban on third-party solicitation under 17 CFR 275.206(4)–5 [rule 206(4)–5] is July 31, 2015.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Sirimal R. Mukerjee, Senior Counsel, or Sarah A. Buescher, Branch Chief, at (202) 551–6787 or lArules@sec.gov, Investment Adviser Regulation Office, Division of Investment Management, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549–8549.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commission adopted rule 206(4)–5 [17 CFR 275.206(4)–5] (“Pay to Play Rule”) under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 [15 U.S.C. 80b] to prohibit an investment adviser from providing advisory services for compensation to a government client for two years after the adviser or certain of its executives or employees (“covered associates”) make a contribution to certain elected officials or candidates. Rule 206(4)–5 also prohibits an adviser and its covered associates from providing or agreeing to provide, directly or indirectly, payment to any third-party for a solicitation of advisory business from any government entity on behalf of such adviser, unless such third-party is a “regulated person,” (“third-party solicitor ban”). Rule 206(4)–5 defines a “regulated person” as an SEC-registered investment adviser, a registered broker or dealer subject to pay to play restrictions adopted by a registered national securities association, or a registered municipal securities association, or a registered broker or dealer subject to pay to play restrictions adopted by the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (“MSRB”). In addition, the Commission must find, by order, that these pay to play rules: (i) Impose substantially equivalent or more stringent restrictions on broker-dealers or municipal advisors than the Pay to Play Rule imposes on investment advisers; and (ii) are consistent with the objectives of the Pay to Play Rule.

Rule 206(4)–5 became effective on September 13, 2010 and the compliance date for the third-party solicitor ban was set to September 13, 2011. When the Commission added municipal advisors to the definition of regulated person, the Commission also extended the third-party solicitor ban’s compliance date to June 13, 2012. In the absence of a final municipal advisor registration rule, the Commission extended the third-party solicitor ban’s compliance date from June 13, 2012 to nine months after the compliance date of the final rule, which is July 31, 2015.

This notice of compliance date is technical in nature and serves solely to fulfill the Commission’s commitment to provide the notice for the compliance date it previously set.

Dated: June 25, 2015.

Brent J. Fields,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2015–16048 Filed 6–30–15; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

25 CFR Part 83

[156A2100DD/AAKC001030/ A0A501010.999900 253G]

Requests for Administrative Acknowledgment of Federal Indian Tribes

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Policy guidance.

SUMMARY: This policy guidance establishes the Department’s intent to make determinations to acknowledge Federal Indian tribes within the contiguous 48 states only in accordance with the regulations established for that purpose at 25 CFR part 83. This notice directs any unrecognized group requesting that the Department acknowledge it as an Indian tribe, through reaffirmation or any other alternative basis, to petition under 25 CFR part 83 unless an alternate process is established by rulemaking following the effective date of this policy guidance.

DATES: This policy guidance is effective July 1, 2015.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth Appel, Director, Office of Regulatory Affairs & Collaborative

8 See Municipal Advisor Addition Release at section II.D.1.
Prior to the establishment of the regulatory process for establishing that an American Indian group exists as an Indian tribe in 1978 ("the Part 83 process"), the Department used an informal process for the Federal acknowledgment of Indian tribes. The Part 83 regulations formalized the process by which the Department reviewed requests and the criteria required of groups to obtain Federal acknowledgment. The Department has resolved over 50 petitions using the Part 83 process.

However, even after the promulgation of the Part 83 regulations in 1978, there have been a range of requests by unrecognized groups to use other administrative processes to obtain Federal acknowledgment. The Department has utilized those processes in limited circumstances. For example, the Department has "reaffirmed" some tribes and reorganized some half-blood communities as tribes under the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA).

Over the past couple of years, the Department has undertaken a comprehensive review and evaluation of the process and criteria by which it federally acknowledges Indian tribes under 25 CFR part 83. As part of that review of the proposed revisions to Part 83, we also received comments related to the other administrative processes that have occasionally been used by the Department for acknowledgment. For example, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and Stand Up for California requested that the Department utilize only the Part 83 process to acknowledge tribes.

We recognize the concerns expressed in comments about the use of administrative approaches for acknowledgment other than Part 83. Having worked hard to make the Part 83 process more transparent, timely, and efficient, while maintaining Part 83’s fairness, rigor, and integrity, the Department has decided that, in light of these reforms to improve the Part 83 process, that process should be the only method utilized by the Department to acknowledge an Indian tribe in the contiguous 48 states. The Department has determined that it will no longer accept requests for acknowledgment outside the Part 83 process. Rather, the Department intends to rely on the newly reformed Part 83 process as the sole administrative avenue for acknowledgment as a tribe.

Of course, the basis for the policy shift being announced today is the Department’s reform and improvement of the Part 83 process. The recently revised Part 83 regulations promote fairness, integrity, efficiency and flexibility. No group should be denied access to other mechanisms if the only administrative avenue available to them is widely considered “broken.” Thus, this policy guidance is contingent on the Department’s ability to implement Part 83, as reformed. If in the future the newly reformed Part 83 process is not in effect and being implemented, this policy guidance is deemed rescinded.

To conclude, any group within the contiguous 48 states seeking Federal acknowledgment as an Indian tribe administratively must petition under 25 CFR part 83 from this date forward. The decision to use only the recently reformed Part 83 process from this point forward does not affect the validity of any determination made prior to the institution of this policy guidance; while the Department exercised its discretionary authority to use those methods of acknowledgment in the past, it no longer will.

Dated: June 26, 2015.
Kevin K. Washburn,
Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.
[FR Doc. 2015–16194 Filed 6–30–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4337–15–P