Exhibit E.18.

Rule 2C: Assurances of Financial Responsibility and Operational Capability

2.1C Authority. The Company will have the authority to examine the financial responsibility and operational capability of any Applicant or Participant to determine whether the requisite standards of financial responsibility and operational capability are met. In conducting such examinations, the Company may require a Participant or Applicant to furnish such information, to make its books and records available and to provide sworn or unsworn testimony, as will be sufficient, in the opinion of the Company, to demonstrate the financial responsibility and operational capability of the Applicant or Participant. In connection with such examinations, the Company may also require testimony from the employees of the Applicant or Participant under examination or from any other person and may request and receive records, reports or other information as may be relevant to the matter under examination from any other SRO or other examining authority or regulator having authority to examine, regulate or license such Participant or Applicant.

2.2C Assurances.

(a) Each Applicant or Participant will furnish to the Company such adequate assurances of its financial responsibility and operational capability as the Compliance and Risk Management Committee may at any time or from time to time deem necessary or advisable in order to protect the Company, its Participants, creditors or investors, to safeguard securities and funds in the custody or control of the Company and for which the Company is responsible, or to promote the prompt and accurate clearance, settlement and processing of securities transactions. Upon the request of an Applicant or Participant, or otherwise, the Company may choose to confer with the Applicant or Participant before or after requiring it to furnish adequate assurances pursuant to this Rule 2C.

(b) Adequate assurances of the financial responsibility or operational capability of an Applicant or Participant, as may be required pursuant to these Rules, may include, but will not be limited to, as appropriate under the context of the Participant's use of the Company's services:

(i) additional reporting by the Participant (or by the entity providing a guarantee) of its financial or operational condition at such intervals and in such detail as the Company will determine;

(ii) entering into agreements concerning the provision of operational support services by an entity acceptable to the Company;

(iii) restrictions on the Participant's use of the Company's services;

(iv) additional margin requirements pursuant to Rule 5B; and

(v) such assurances as the Company deems necessary or appropriate under the circumstances to protect the respective interests of Participants, the Company and the public.

2.3C Confidentiality. Any information furnished to the Company pursuant to this Rule 2C will be held in the same degree of confidence as may be required by law or the rules and regulations of the appropriate regulatory body having jurisdiction over the Participant or Applicant or which relate to the confidentiality of records, to the extent permitted by law, rule or regulation.

2.4C Failure to Provide Assurances. A Participant's failure to furnish information and/or to otherwise comply with the requirements of this Rule may subject the Participant to a restriction on access to the Company's services, disciplinary proceedings or the Company ceasing to act for the Participant pursuant to Rule 7, among other rights of the Company as provided under these Rules.