

BLOG



JULY 3, 2025

On June 30, 2025, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) Division of Corporation Finance (the Division) issued updated Compliance and Disclosure Interpretations ("C&DIs") related to environmental legal proceedings under Item 103 of Regulation S-K. These revisions reflect the SEC's ongoing efforts to align disclosure guidance with the 2020 modernization of Regulation S-K.

KEY REVISIONS TO C&DIS

1. C&DI 105.01 - Clarification of "Sanctions"

The Division revised this interpretation to align with its current view that costs anticipated under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (Superfund) are generally not considered "sanctions" under Item 103(c)(3)(iii). This update removes outdated language referencing former Instruction 5(C).

2. Withdrawal of C&DI 105.02 - Foreign Government Actions

The Division withdrew prior guidance that had suggested that environmental proceedings brought by foreign governments could fall under "local provisions" in Item 103(c)(3). This withdrawal clarifies that such proceedings are not subject to mandatory disclosure under Item 103.

3. C&DI 105.03 - Technical Update

This revision replaces a reference to Instruction 4 with a reference to the updated rule text at Item 103(c)(2), reflecting the 2020 incorporation of instructions directly into the rule.

PRACTICAL TAKEAWAY

Public companies are no longer required to disclose environmental legal actions initiated by foreign governments under Item 103. These updates also remove outdated references and align the C&DIs with the current text of Regulation S-K, providing clearer guidance for registrants.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

The full list of Regulation S-K C&DIs is available here: Link.

Winston & Strawn's Capital Markets & Securities Law Watch will continue to monitor SEC guidance and provide timely updates.

For more information, please contact the authors or your regular Winston attorney contacts.

Hannah Albee, Summer Associate, also contributed to this blog.

1 Min Read

Authors

Michael J. Blankenship

David A. Sakowitz

Ben D. Smolij

Delilah Efimov

Hannah Albee

Related Topics

Business Combinations

CD&I

Compliance

Corporate Finance

Form 10-K

Related Capabilities

Capital Markets

Public Companies

Corporate Governance

Related Professionals



Michael J. Blankenship



David A. Sakowitz



Ben D. Smolij



Delilah Efimov

This entry has been created for information and planning purposes. It is not intended to be, nor should it be substituted for, legal advice, which turns on specific facts.