



Standard & Poor's Publishes Advance Notice Of Proposed Criteria Change On Corporate Issuers

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NEW YORK (Standard & Poor's) June 19, 2013--Standard & Poor's Ratings Services is in the process of reviewing its criteria for assigning global scale ratings to non-financial corporate issuers, according to an article published today titled "Advance Notice Of Proposed Criteria Change: Corporate Issuers."

Our intention is to enhance the transparency of our methodology and the comparability of corporate ratings globally. We expect to disseminate a comprehensive set of proposed criteria for corporate ratings in the form of five Requests for Comments (RfCs) in the next few weeks.

The proposed criteria support forward-looking analysis and build on the existing cornerstones of our ratings analysis, while providing greater clarity into our ratings methodology. Therefore, we expect any ratings changes arising from the proposed criteria--if adopted--to be modest. Corporate ratings have been robust indicators of future credit quality over time and their default and transition performance has been very good.

The proposed criteria for which we're seeking comments will include:

- Corporate ratings framework,

- Industry credit risk for corporate entities and public finance enterprises, and
- Corporate ratios and adjustments.

We'll also publish Key Credit Factors articles on the following industries:

- Real estate, and
- Regulated utilities.

Key Credit Factors discuss methodology and assumptions for a particular industry and are necessary supplements to the proposed corporate ratings criteria. We also expect to solicit feedback on proposed Key Credit Factors for a few other industries, which we'll publish a few weeks after we publish the RfCs. Over the course of the next 12 months, we expect to update the Key Credit Factors for all sectors to align them with the proposed corporate ratings criteria.

After the publication of the RfCs outlined above, two related portions of the proposed corporate criteria, discussing group ratings methodology and country risk for non-sovereign ratings, will be the subject of subsequent RfCs. Under the group ratings methodology proposal, we expect to bring non-financial corporate issuers within the scope of the criteria we published on May 7, 2013, titled "Group Rating Methodology," through the inclusion of corporate-specific methodologies.

RELATED CRITERIA AND RESEARCH

- Methodology: Management And Governance Credit Factors For Corporate Entities And Insurers, Nov. 13, 2012
- Criteria For Assigning 'CCC+', 'CCC', 'CCC-', And 'CC' Ratings, Oct. 1, 2012
- Methodology And Assumptions: Liquidity Descriptors For Global Corporate Issuers, Sept. 28, 2011
- Principles Of Credit Ratings, Feb. 16, 2011
- Criteria Guidelines For Recovery Ratings On Global Industrials Issuers' Speculative-Grade Debt, Aug. 10, 2009
- 2008 Corporate Criteria: Rating Each Issue, April 15, 2008

These criteria represent the specific application of fundamental principles that define credit risk and ratings opinions. Their use is determined by issuer- or issue-specific attributes as well as Standard & Poor's Ratings Services' assessment of the credit and, if applicable, structural risks for a given issuer or issue rating. Methodology and assumptions may change from time to time as a result of market and economic conditions, issuer- or issue-specific factors, or new empirical evidence that would affect our credit judgment.

The report is available to subscribers of RatingsDirect at www.globalcreditportal.com and at www.spcapitaliq.com. If you are not a

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