## Simpson Thacher

# Memorandum

### SEC Issues Interim Final Rule Regarding Form 10-K Summaries

June 9, 2016

On June 1, 2016, the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") issued an interim final rule expressly permitting, though not requiring, each issuer to include a summary in its Form 10-K, "provided that each item in the summary includes a cross-reference by hyperlink to the material contained in the registrant's Form 10-K to which such item relates." The interim final rule, which implements Section 72001 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation ("FAST") Act, provides registrants the flexibility to determine how to prepare their summaries, so long as the information included is presented fairly and accurately. The rule "does not prescribe the length of the summary (other than to state that the summary shall be brief), specify the Form 10-K disclosure items that should be covered by the summary, or dictate where the summary must appear in the Form 10-K."

Where an issuer chooses to summarize information incorporated by reference in the Form 10-K, the interim final rule would require the issuer to include a hyperlink in the summary to the relevant discussion in the accompanying exhibit. Additionally, under the interim final rule, a registrant including a summary in its Form 10-K "will only be able to summarize information that is included in the Form 10-K at the time the form is filed, and will not have to file a Form 10-K amendment to summarize" information required by Part III of Form 10-K that is "incorporated by reference from a proxy or information statement that will be filed after the date that the registrant files its Form 10-K." In such a case, however, the registrant would be required to state that the summary omits the Part III information.

The SEC is requesting comment on its interim final rule and has set a 30-day comment period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Form 10-K Summary, Release No. 34-77969, File No. S7-09-16 (June 1, 2016), at 1.

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If you have any questions or would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact **Yafit Cohn** at +1-212-455-3815 or <u>yafit.cohn@stblaw.com</u>, or any other member of the Firm's Public Company Advisory Practice.

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