Meeting Between Federal Reserve Board Staff and Representatives of First Data
August 12, 2010

Participants: Alan Bethscheider, Vickie Brown, Kim Gardner, Pete Korpady, Edward Labry, Barbara Marx, Joseph Samuel, Bruce Dragt, Lori Kastrick, Louis Sablich, Angie Burker, Beth Summers (First Data)

Louise Roseman, Geoff Gerdes, Edith Collis, Jennifer Davidson, Robin Prager, Elizabeth Kiser, Jeffrey Yeganeh, Vivian Wong, Mark Manuszak, and Dena Milligan (Federal Reserve Board); Julia Cheney (Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia)

Summary: Staff of the Federal Reserve met with representatives of First Data to discuss the interchange fee provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act (the “Act”). First Data acts as a merchant and issuer processor and as a network through its STAR® PIN-debit network.

With respect to electronic debit transactions, representatives of First Data gave an overview of the parties involved, with a focus on merchant acquirers and merchant processors, and explained how routing preferences work in today’s environment. Other topics discussed by First Data were: a comparison of the fee structures of debit cards, credit cards, and checks; electronic debit transaction settlement methods and processes; the allocation of fraud losses among parties involved in electronic debit card transactions; fraud prevention tools; and network changes that would be necessary to implement the Act’s small-issuer exemption.