

From: Detlef Felschow [mailto:dFelschow@hilltopcommunitybank.com]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2009 9:38 AM
To: Comments
Subject: Assessments, RIN 3064-AD35

I am Chief Operating Officer of a \$200mm community bank with deposits of approximately \$180mm. In 2008 or net income was approximately \$275,000. Our bank is also one of 13 healthy banks in the state of New Jersey to support the Treasury's TARP Funds distribution(which Hilltop issued preferred stock for and pays a 5% dividend)which healthy well capitalized banks were encouraged by the Treaury to participate in. Now, not only are banks who bought in to the TARP FUND program, being looked at as the bad guys but als we are now being asked to subsidize the mistakes of financial institutions were directly responsible for the current state of health of the economy. To access small community banks like ours with special FDIC assessments for a problem we did not contribute to is unthinkable and unjust. The initial special assessment of .20 basis points on top of the increased assessment represents approximately \$450,000 of additional expense to our bank in a time when all banks see shrinking margins. I realize that there is consideration for reducing this special assessment to .10 basis points however that is still a burden to the majority of smaller financial institutions who are doing the right thing, banking responsible relationships and lending to responsible borrowers. If the FDIC continues on this path, I am afraid that it will only bring more bank's to the brink of failure due to actions not directly related to the management of the bank. I hpe Ms Baier and members of congress will re-think their strategy on this issue. Thank you.

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