collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

Comments should be directed to: R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, C/O Shirley Martinson, 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, Virginia 22312 or send an e-mail to: PRA\_Mailbox@sec.gov. Comments must be submitted to OMB within 60 days of this notice.

Dated: April 5, 2007.

#### Florence E. Harmon,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E7–6892 Filed 4–11–07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

Extension: Form 10–D; OMB Control No. 3235–0604; SEC File No. 270–544.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.) the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") is soliciting comments

on this collection of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for approval.

Form 10-D (17 CFR 249.312) is used by asset-backed issuers to file periodic distribution reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) under the Securities Exchange Act 1934 ("Exchange Act") (15 U.S.C. 78a *et seq.*) within 15 days after each required distribution date. The information provided by Form 10-D is mandatory and all information is made available to the public upon request. Form 10–D takes approximately 30 hours per response to prepare and is filed by 9,500 respondents. We estimate that 75% of the 30 hours per response (22.5 hours) is prepared by the company for a total annual reporting burden of 213,750 hours (22.5 hours per response x 9,500 responses).

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether this proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the

agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden imposed by the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

Please direct your written comments to R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, C/O Shirley Martinson, 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, VA 22312; or send an email to: *PRA\_Mailbox@sec.gov*.

Dated: April 4, 2007.

### Florence E. Harmon,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E7–6894 Filed 4–11–07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 27777; 812–13249]

# Forward Funds, et al.; Notice of Application

April 5, 2007.

**AGENCY:** Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission").

**ACTION:** Notice of an application under section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("Act") for an exemption from section 15(a) of the Act and rule 18f–2 under the Act.

**SUMMARY OF APPLICATION:** Applicants request an order that would permit them to enter into and materially amend subadvisory agreements without shareholder approval.

APPLICANTS: Forward Funds (the "Trust") and Forward Management, LLC ("Forward Management").

**FILING DATES:** The application was filed on December 20, 2005, and amended on April 2, 2007.

HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING: An order granting the application will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the Commission's Secretary and serving applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. on April 30, 2007, and should be accompanied by proof of

service on applicants, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by writing to the Commission's Secretary.

ADDRESSES: Secretary, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F St., NE., Washington, DC 20549–1090; Applicants, 433 California Street, 11th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94104, *Attn.:* Mary Curran, Esq.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marilyn Mann, Senior Counsel, at (202) 551–6813, or Nadya B. Roytblat, Assistant Director, at (202) 551–6821 (Division of Investment Management, Office of Investment Company Regulation).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The following is a summary of the application. The complete application may be obtained for a fee at the Commission's Public Reference Desk, 100 F St., NE., Washington, DC 20549–0102 (telephone (202) 551–5850).

#### **Applicants' Representations**

1. The Trust is organized as a Delaware statutory trust and is registered under the Act as an open-end management investment company. The Trust has fourteen operating series (the "Funds"). Applicants request that the order apply to: (a) The Funds; and (b) any future series of the Trust and any other registered open-end management investment companies or series thereof that (1) use the "manager-of-managers" arrangement described in the application, (2) comply with the terms and conditions of the application, and (3) are advised by a Manager (as defined below) (the investment companies and series thereof, as well as the Funds, the "Sub-Advised Funds").1

2. Forward Management is registered as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (the "Advisers Act") and serves as investment adviser to the Funds pursuant to an investment advisory agreement ("Advisory Agreement") with the Trust, on behalf of the Funds. The Advisory Agreement has been approved by the Trust's board of trustees ("Board"), including a majority of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> All existing entities that currently intend to rely on the order are named as applicants. Any entity that relies on the order in the future will do so only in accordance with the terms and conditions of the application. If the name of any Sub-Advised Fund contains the name of a Sub-Adviser (as defined below), the name of the Manager that serves as the primary adviser to the Sub-Advised Fund will precede the name of the Sub-Adviser.