

SUMMARY: The Commission is noticing a recent Postal Service filing for the Commission's consideration concerning a negotiated service agreement. This notice informs the public of the filing, invites public comment, and takes other administrative steps.

DATES: *Comments are due:* May 4, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system at <http://www.prc.gov>. Those who cannot submit comments electronically should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section by telephone for advice on filing alternatives.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David A. Trissell, General Counsel, at 202-789-6820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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I. Introduction

The Commission gives notice that the Postal Service filed request(s) for the Commission to consider matters related to negotiated service agreement(s). The request(s) may propose the addition or removal of a negotiated service agreement from the market dominant or the competitive product list, or the modification of an existing product currently appearing on the market dominant or the competitive product list.

Section II identifies the docket number(s) associated with each Postal Service request, the title of each Postal Service request, the request's acceptance date, and the authority cited by the Postal Service for each request. For each request, the Commission appoints an officer of the Commission to represent the interests of the general public in the proceeding, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505 (Public Representative). Section II also establishes comment deadline(s) pertaining to each request.

The public portions of the Postal Service's request(s) can be accessed via the Commission's Web site (<http://www.prc.gov>). Non-public portions of the Postal Service's request(s), if any, can be accessed through compliance with the requirements of 39 CFR 3007.40.

The Commission invites comments on whether the Postal Service's request(s) in the captioned docket(s) are consistent with the policies of title 39. For request(s) that the Postal Service states concern market dominant product(s), applicable statutory and regulatory requirements include 39 U.S.C. 3622, 39

U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR part 3010, and 39 CFR part 3020, subpart B. For request(s) that the Postal Service states concern competitive product(s), applicable statutory and regulatory requirements include 39 U.S.C. 3632, 39 U.S.C. 3633, 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR part 3015, and 39 CFR part 3020, subpart B. Comment deadline(s) for each request appear in section II.

II. Docketed Proceeding(s)

1. *Docket No(s):* CP2017-175; *Filing Title:* Notice of United States Postal Service of Filing a Functionally Equivalent Global Expedited Package Services 7 Negotiated Service Agreement and Application for Non-Public Treatment of Materials Filed Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* April 26, 2017; *Filing Authority:* 39 CFR 3015.5; *Public Representative:* Curtis E. Kidd; *Comments Due:* May 4, 2017.

This Notice will be published in the **Federal Register**.

Stacy L. Ruble,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2017-08826 Filed 5-1-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710-FW-P

POSTAL SERVICE

Product Change—Priority Mail Express and Priority Mail Negotiated Service Agreement

AGENCY: Postal Service™.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Postal Service gives notice of filing a request with the Postal Regulatory Commission to add a domestic shipping services contract to the list of Negotiated Service Agreements in the Mail Classification Schedule's Competitive Products List.

DATES: *Effective date:* May 2, 2017.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth A. Reed, 202-268-3179.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States Postal Service® hereby gives notice that, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3642 and 3632(b)(3), on April 25, 2017, it filed with the Postal Regulatory Commission a *Request of the United States Postal Service to Add Priority Mail Express & Priority Mail Contract 47 to Competitive Product List*. Documents are available at www.prc.gov, Docket Nos. MC2017-123, CP2017-174.

Stanley F. Mires,
Attorney, Federal Compliance.

[FR Doc. 2017-08791 Filed 5-1-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710-12-P

POSTAL SERVICE

Product Change—Priority Mail Negotiated Service Agreement

AGENCY: Postal Service™.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Postal Service gives notice of filing a request with the Postal Regulatory Commission to add a domestic shipping services contract to the list of Negotiated Service Agreements in the Mail Classification Schedule's Competitive Products List.

DATES: *Effective date:* May 2, 2017.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth A. Reed, 202-268-3179.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States Postal Service® hereby gives notice that, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3642 and 3632(b)(3), on April 25, 2017, it filed with the Postal Regulatory Commission a *Request of the United States Postal Service to Add Priority Mail Contract 313 to Competitive Product List*. Documents are available at www.prc.gov, Docket Nos. MC2017-122, CP2017-173.

Stanley F. Mires,

Attorney, Federal Compliance.

[FR Doc. 2017-08794 Filed 5-1-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710-12-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-80531; File No. SR-OCC-2017-002]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; the Options Clearing Corporation; Order Approving Proposed Rule Change Concerning Changes to the Options Clearing Corporation's Management Structure

April 26, 2017.

On February 22, 2017, the Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") proposed rule change SR-OCC-2017-002 pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder.² The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on March 13, 2017.³ The Commission did not receive any comment letters on the proposed rule

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 80168 (March 7, 2017), 82 FR 13522 (March 13, 2017) (SR-OCC-2017-002).

change. This order approves the proposed rule change.

I. Description of the Proposed Rule Change

This proposed rule change by OCC will amend OCC's By-Laws, Rules, Board of Directors Charter ("Board Charter"), Compensation and Performance Committee Charter ("CPC Charter"), Dividend Policy, and Refund Policy to address organizational changes within OCC's management structure. Specifically, OCC is proposing the following: (1) Amendments to OCC's By-Laws to provide that the Executive Chairman will also serve as Chief Executive Officer ("CEO"); (2) amendments to OCC's By-Laws and Rules to reflect that the President will no longer be a recognized officer of OCC; (3) amendments to OCC's By-Laws to provide that the Board will elect the Chief Operating Officer ("COO") and a newly recognized Chief Administrative Officer ("CAO"); (4) amendments to OCC's By-Laws and Rules to provide that the COO and CAO will each have authority to take certain actions or grant exceptions where that authority was previously granted to the President; (5) conforming changes to OCC's Board Charter, CPC Charter, and the Dividend and Refund Policies reflecting the proposed amendments described above; (6) amendments to OCC's By-Laws to separate the positions of Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer ("CFO"); and (7) a number of administrative changes and refinements to the By-Laws and Rules.

(1) *The Executive Chairman Also Serves as a Newly Recognized CEO*

Under the proposed rule change, the Executive Chairman will continue to be appointed by the Board and be responsible for OCC's control functions. However, OCC proposes to amend Article IV, Section 6 of the By-Laws to provide that the Executive Chairman will also serve as a newly recognized CEO. In that capacity, the Executive Chairman and CEO will be responsible for all aspects of OCC's business and the day-to-day administration of its affairs that are not otherwise assigned to the COO or CAO.

OCC notes that, under its current By-Laws, the President is responsible for all aspects of OCC's business that do not report directly to the Executive Chairman and is responsible for the day-to-day administration of OCC's affairs in accordance with the directions of the Executive Chairman. The proposed rule change will provide the Executive Chairman/CEO with explicit responsibility for overseeing all aspects of OCC's business and the day-to-day

administration of its affairs, with the COO and CAO each being responsible for aspects of the business of OCC that do not report directly to the Executive Chairman and CEO and administering the day to day affairs and business of OCC in accordance with the directions of the Executive Chairman and CEO. In connection with this change, OCC's senior management will be reorganized within an Office of the Executive Chairman that will be comprised of the Executive Chairman (who will also serve as CEO), the COO and the CAO. OCC believes that this new management structure will combine the breadth and depth of experience and skill necessary within OCC's senior management team to provide for the efficient and effective management and operation of OCC, improve OCC's ability to serve Clearing Members and the markets for which it clears, and help to ensure that OCC is so organized and has the capacity to facilitate the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of the transactions it clears.

(2) *The President Is No Longer a Recognized Officer of OCC*

OCC proposes a number of amendments throughout its By-Laws and Rules to remove references to the office of President to reflect the fact that the President will no longer be a recognized officer within OCC's management. As described in more detail below, all references to the authority and responsibilities of the President will be removed and such references will be replaced as appropriate with references to the COO and newly appointed CAO. OCC believes that eliminating the role of President and distributing the wide range of authority and responsibilities associated therewith to two senior officers (the CAO and COO) will provide for a broader range of knowledge, skills, and experience within OCC's senior management team, promote more efficient and effective management and operation of OCC, improve OCC's ability to serve Clearing Members and the markets for which it clears, and help to ensure that OCC is so organized and has the capacity to facilitate the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of the transactions it clears.

(3) *Election of the COO and CAO*

OCC proposes to amend Article IV, Sections 1, 8 and 13 of the By-Laws to provide that the Board will elect a COO and a CAO and will set the salaries for such officers. Accordingly, OCC will continue to have a COO within its management structure because, as noted

above, the President also serves as COO under OCC's existing By-Laws. The CAO, however, is a newly recognized officer within OCC's management structure. As is currently the case regarding the President, neither the COO nor the CAO will be required to be a member of the Board upon election. Also, consistent with the existing prohibition against the same person holding any two of the offices of Executive Chairman, President and Member Vice Chairman,⁴ the restriction will continue to apply but will reference the COO and CAO rather than the President. As noted above, OCC believes that eliminating the role of President and distributing the wide range of responsibilities associated therewith to the COO and a newly appointed CAO will provide for more efficient and effective management and operation of OCC, improve OCC's ability to serve Clearing Members and the markets for which it clears, and help to ensure that OCC is so organized and has the capacity to facilitate the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of the transactions it clears.

(4) *Assignment of Certain Responsibilities to the COO and CAO*

The responsibility of management to carry out OCC's affairs is frequently assigned to groups of officers, including the Executive Chairman, President, and other officers of appropriate seniority. This approach provides flexibility to help ensure that responsibility is not concentrated in any one officer, that OCC's affairs are carried out efficiently, and that management has the capacity to continue carrying out OCC's business and day-to-day affairs even if a particular officer is absent or becomes disabled. To preserve the benefits of this structure given the elimination of the office of President, OCC proposes that the COO and CAO will instead assume certain responsibilities in the By-Laws and Rules where they are currently assigned, at least in part, to the President.

Under the proposed changes to Article IV, Section 8 of the By-Laws, the COO and CAO will be responsible for the aspects of OCC's business that do not report directly to the Executive Chairman, as determined by the Board to promote the efficient and effective management and operation of OCC, and they will administer their responsibilities in accordance with directions from the Executive Chairman. Under the proposed management structure changes, the COO initially will be responsible for the oversight of OCC's

⁴ See Article IV, Section 1 of the By-Laws.

technology and operations functions while the CAO will be responsible for the oversight of the finance, human resources, financial risk management, corporate planning, product and business development, and project management aspects of OCC's business. In addition, in the event of any absence or disability of the Executive Chairman, the COO and CAO will each have the authority and responsibility to fulfill the duties and have the powers of the Executive Chairman. However, in the absence or disability of the Executive Chairman, neither the COO nor the CAO will be permitted to preside at meetings of the Board or stockholders.

Under the proposed amendments to Article IV, Sections 2, 3, 9, and 13 of the By-Laws, the COO and CAO each will have authority, consistent with the authority previously granted to the President, to appoint officers and agents as they deem necessary or appropriate to carry out the functions assigned to them. This includes, but is not limited to, the authority to appoint certain Vice Presidents within management. Any officers or agents who are appointed by the COO or CAO will be subject to their supervision and will be able to be removed by the COO and CAO, respectively, at any time, with or without cause. Such officers or agents will exercise powers and perform duties as determined by the COO or the CAO and the term and salary⁵ of any such positions will also be determined by the COO or CAO, respectively. The Executive Chairman and CEO will also have the authority to set the terms, powers, duties, and salaries of any officer or agent appointed by the COO or CAO and to remove officers or agents appointed by the COO and CAO.

Other examples of the responsibilities of the President being reallocated to the COO and CAO in the By-Laws and Rules include, but are not limited to, that the COO and CAO will, under certain conditions, have shared authority with the Executive Chairman and other officers to do the following: (1) Approve banks or trust companies as Approved Custodians; (2) declare the existence of an emergency and take related actions; (3) approve clearing membership applications and grant related extensions; (4) impose restrictions on options exercises; (5) determine reasonable means through which to borrow or otherwise obtain funds using Clearing Fund

⁵ Any salary fixed by the COO or CAO will be subject to any contrary action taken by the Board, as is the case today regarding any officers or agents appointed by the Executive Chairman or the President. See Article IV, Section 13 of the By-Laws.

contributions; (6) sign certificates representing shares in OCC; (7) waive or suspend OCC's By-Laws, Rules, policies, procedures or any other of OCC's rules in emergency circumstances to protect OCC or the public interest; (8) impose restrictions on certain Clearing Member transactions, positions and activities; (9) extend settlement times in emergency conditions; (10) waive the required margin deposit of a Clearing Member in the interest of maintaining fair and orderly markets;⁶ and (11) authorize late filing of an exercise notice by a Clearing Member.⁷

OCC believes the proposed changes described above will result in an appropriate and effective management structure that combines the breadth and depth of experience and skill necessary within OCC's senior management team to (i) provide for the efficient and effective management and operation of OCC, (ii) improve OCC's ability to serve Clearing Members and the markets for which it clears, and (iii) help to ensure that OCC is so organized and has the capacity to facilitate the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of the transactions it clears. Moreover, the proposed changes to OCC's management structure will provide important flexibility to help ensure that responsibility is not unduly concentrated in any one officer, that OCC's affairs are carried out efficiently, and that management has the capacity to continue carrying out OCC's business and day-to-day affairs even if a particular officer is absent or becomes disabled.

OCC also proposes to amend Article IV, Section 12 of the By-Laws to provide that, in the event of a vacancy of the office of Controller, the Executive Chairman (in addition to the Board) will have the authority to designate a person to serve as chief accounting officer of OCC until the office of Controller is filled. OCC believes it will be appropriate for the Executive Chairman to replace the President in this role given the Executive Chairman's capacity as Management Director.

(5) Conforming Changes to Certain OCC Charters and Policies

In connection with the proposed changes described above, OCC also proposes to change certain references to

⁶ See Rule 609A. OCC also proposes to make a ministerial change to this rule to clarify a reference to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

⁷ See proposed changes in (1) OCC By-Laws Article I, Section 1; (2) Article III, Section 15; (3) Article V, Sections 1-3, I&P .01; (4) Article VI, Section 17; (5) Article VIII, Section 5; (6) Article IX, Section 12; (7) Article IX, Section 14; (8) OCC Rule 305; (9) Rule 505; (10) Rule 609A; and (11) Rule 801.

the President that appear in its Board Charter, CPC Charter, Dividend Policy and Refund Policy. These changes are described below and will not otherwise modify OCC's management structure.

OCC proposes to amend the Board Charter to reflect that the Board has responsibility for selecting, overseeing and, where appropriate, replacing the COO and CAO, and that the Board evaluates and sets the compensation of these officers. The proposed amendments will also state that the Board provides counsel and advice to the COO and CAO and oversees those officers as part of the Board's evaluation of whether OCC's business is being appropriately managed. OCC notes that the proposed amendments are consistent with the Board's existing obligations with respect to the election and oversight of the President.

Additionally, OCC proposes to amend the CPC Charter to reflect that the CPC will generally oversee the compensation, benefits and perquisites of the COO and CAO, including responsibility for making associated recommendations to the Board, and to identify that the CPC is responsible for reviewing and approving the annual goals and objectives of the COO and CAO. OCC also proposes to amend the CPC Charter to reflect that the CPC will now meet at least annually with the COO and CAO (instead of the President) to discuss and review compensation and performance levels of senior management and other key officers. In addition, the CPC Charter will be amended to reflect that the CPC reviews OCC's employment contracts with the COO and CAO (in place of the President) and makes recommendations to the Board regarding related approvals.

OCC's Refund Policy will be amended to reflect that, in addition to the Executive Chairman, the COO or CAO will have authority under certain conditions to determine the payment date of refunds. This authority is currently reserved to the Executive Chairman and the President. OCC will also amend the Dividend Policy to reflect that, in addition to the Executive Chairman, the COO or CAO (rather than the President) will have authority under certain conditions to determine the payment date of dividends if for any reason OCC's Refund Policy is not in effect. As a housekeeping matter that is unrelated to the COO and CAO assuming certain responsibilities of the President, OCC is also updating its Dividend Policy and Refund Policy to reflect that the Commission recently

adopted its Standards for Covered Clearing Agencies.⁸

(6) Separation of Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer Positions

OCC proposes to amend Article IV, Section 11 of the By-Laws to eliminate a sentence that provides that OCC's Treasurer shall also serve as CFO absent another person being designated by the Board to serve in that capacity. OCC believes that separating these positions and eliminating this provision of the By-Laws will allow for greater flexibility relative to the structure, management and operation of OCC's corporate finance group. Under the proposed rule change, the Board will continue to appoint OCC's Treasurer as currently required under Article IV, Section 1 of the By-Laws; however, the Treasurer will no longer automatically serve as CFO, and the Board will not be responsible for appointing OCC's CFO.

(7) Administrative Changes and Refinements

OCC is proposing a number of administrative changes and refinements to its By-Laws and Rules. Specifically, OCC proposes to add a definition of "Designated Officer" in Article I, Section 1 of the By-Laws. The term is already used elsewhere in OCC's By-Laws and Rules (e.g., Article III, Section 15 of the By-Laws and Rule 1102). OCC believes that locating this definition in Article, I, Section 1 of the By-Laws with the majority of the other definitions that are used in OCC's By-Laws and Rules promotes organizational consistency and clarity in OCC's legal framework. OCC also proposes to amend Interpretation and Policy .01 of Rule 309 to change a reference to "OCC" to "the Corporation" to conform to existing convention in OCC's By-Laws and Rules.

Additionally, OCC proposes to amend Interpretation and Policy .01 of Article III, Section 7 of the By-Laws, which concerns the use of the criteria of OCC's Fitness Standards for Directors, Clearing Members and Others in the election of Management Directors, to remove a reference to the President. OCC notes that, in addition to the proposed elimination of the office of President in this proposed rule change, in 2014, the Commission approved a proposed rule change providing that OCC's President will no longer be considered a Management Director.⁹ OCC also

proposes to amend Interpretation and Policy .02 of Rule 1104 to remove references to the Management Vice Chairman. In September 2016, the Commission approved a proposed rule change by OCC to eliminate the role of Management Vice Chairman.¹⁰ OCC is proposing to remove remaining references to this position that were intended to be removed as part of SR-OCC-2016-002.

Finally, OCC proposes a number of non-substantive amendments to correct typographical errors in the By-Laws and Rules (e.g., correction of typographical error in Rule 305(c) to refer to the "Executive" Chairman and in Rule 309A to state "an" Appointed Clearing Member).

II. Discussion and Commission Findings

Section 19(b)(2)(C) of the Act¹¹ directs the Commission to approve a proposed rule change of a self-regulatory organization if it finds that such proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and rules and regulations thereunder applicable to such organization. The Commission finds that the proposal is consistent with Section 17A(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹² and Rules 17Ad-22(e)(1)¹³ and 17Ad-22(e)(2)¹⁴ thereunder, as described in detail below.

A. Consistency With Section 17A(b)(3)(A) of the Act

The Commission finds OCC's proposed changes to be consistent with Section 17A(b)(3)(A) of the Act.¹⁵ Section 17A(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹⁶ requires, among other things, that a clearing agency be so organized and have the capacity to be able to facilitate the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions and derivative agreements, contracts, and transactions for which it is responsible. As noted above, after implementation of the proposed changes, OCC's Executive Chairman will also serve as OCC's CEO, the President's duties and powers will be reallocated among the Executive Chairman, COO and CAO, the COO and CAO will have authority to take action or grant exceptions under certain conditions, and the positions of Treasurer and CFO will be separated. According to OCC, these leadership and

organizational changes are intended to promote efficient management and operation by doing the following: (i) Providing for a broad range of knowledge, skills, and experience within OCC's management team, (ii) improving the alignment of officers' responsibilities with their skills and experience and thereby enhancing efficiency and effectiveness within OCC's management, and (iii) ensuring that there continues to be an appropriate allocation of duties and powers among officers such that management has the capacity to continue carrying out OCC's affairs even if a particular officer is absent or disabled. By promoting OCC's efficient management and operation, the proposed leadership and organizational changes will support OCC's efforts to ensure that it is organized and has the capacity to be able to facilitate the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions.

B. Consistency With Rule 17Ad-22(e)(1)

The Commission finds that the proposed changes are consistent with Rule 17Ad-22(e)(1).¹⁷ Rule 17Ad-22(e)(1)¹⁸ requires each covered clearing agency to establish, implement, maintain and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to provide for a well-founded, clear, transparent, and enforceable legal basis for each aspect of its activities in all relevant jurisdictions. Pursuant to this proposal, OCC is centralizing the definition of "Designated Officer" in Article I, Section 1 and making other clarifying and conforming changes to OCC's governing documents. OCC states that such conforming and clarifying changes will promote organizational consistency and clarity in OCC's legal framework to ensure that the legal framework remains well-founded, transparent and enforceable in all relevant jurisdictions.

C. Consistency With Rule 17Ad-22(e)(2)

The Commission finds that the proposed changes to specify the responsibilities of the Chairman/CEO, COO and CAO, as well as the proposed changes to specify which positions are board-appointed, are consistent with the requirements in Rule 17Ad-22(e)(2).¹⁹ Rule 17Ad-22(e)(2)²⁰ requires each covered clearing agency to establish, implement, maintain and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to provide for governance arrangements that, among

⁸ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 78961 (September 28, 2016), 81 FR 70786 (October 13, 2016).

⁹ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 73785 (December 8, 2014), 79 FR 73915 (December 12, 2014) (SR-OCC-2014-18).

¹⁰ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 78862 (September 16, 2016), 81 FR 65415 (September 22, 2016) (SR-OCC-2016-002).

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(C).

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(A).

¹³ 17 CFR 240.17Ad-22(e)(1).

¹⁴ 17 CFR 240.17Ad-22(e)(2).

¹⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(A).

¹⁶ *Id.*

¹⁷ 17 CFR 240.17Ad-22(e)(1).

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ 17 CFR 240.17Ad-22(e)(2).

²⁰ *Id.*

other things, are clear and transparent and specify clear and direct lines of responsibility. According to OCC, the proposed amendments to OCC's By-Laws, Rules, charters and policies will provide clear and transparent statements of the responsibilities of its Executive Chairman/CEO, COO and CAO within the overall management structure of OCC. In addition, the proposed amendments support clarity and transparency by reflecting in OCC's By-Laws and Rules organizational changes to provide that the President will no longer be a recognized officer of OCC, to provide that the Board will appoint the COO and CAO, and to separate the positions of Treasurer and CFO. Finally, the proposed changes, in specifying the responsibilities of the Chairman/CEO, COO and CAO, support the requirement that OCC provide for governance arrangements that specify clear and direct lines of responsibility, helping to clarify the roles that each individual will fulfill and fostering accountability at OCC.

III. Conclusion

On the basis of the foregoing, the Commission finds that the proposed change is consistent with the requirements of the Act, and in particular, with the requirements of Section 17A of the Act²¹ and the rules and regulations thereunder.

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Exchange Act,²² that the proposed rule change (SR-OCC-2017-002) be, and it hereby is, approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.²³

Eduardo A. Aleman,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2017-08814 Filed 5-1-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-80529; File No. SR-BatsBZX-2017-14]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Bats BZX Exchange, Inc.; Order Granting Approval of a Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment Nos. 3 and 5, To List and Trade Shares of the Amplify YieldShares Oil Hedged MLP Fund, a Series of the Amplify ETF Trust, Under BZX Rule 14.11(i), Managed Fund Shares

April 26, 2017.

I. Introduction

On February 17, 2017, Bats BZX Exchange, Inc. ("Exchange" or "BZX") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act" or "Exchange Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² a proposed rule change to list and trade shares ("Shares") of the Amplify YieldShares Oil Hedged MLP Fund ("Fund"), a series of the Amplify ETF Trust ("Trust"). The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on March 7, 2017.³ On March 30, 2017, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 2 to the proposed rule change.⁴ On April 7, 2017, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 3 to the proposed rule change,⁵ and on April 24, 2017, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 5 to the proposed rule change.⁶ The Commission

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 34-80136 (March 1, 2017), 82 FR 12860.

⁴ The Exchange filed and withdrew Amendment No. 1 on March 30, 2017. Amendment No. 2 replaced the original filing in its entirety.

⁵ In Amendment No. 3, which amended and replaced the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 2, in its entirety, the Exchange: (a) Added representations clarifying that the proposed rule change will constitute continued listing requirements for listing Shares on the Exchange; (b) added representations that the Fund will conform with certain requirements applicable to Managed Fund Shares; and (c) made other technical and clarifying amendments. Because Amendment No. 3 does not materially alter the substance of the proposed rule change or raise unique or novel regulatory issues, it is not subject to notice and comment. Amendment No. 3 is available at <https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-batsbzx-2017-14/batsbzx201714-1692102-149689.pdf>.

⁶ The Exchange filed Amendment No. 4 on April 19, 2017, and withdrew it on April 24, 2017. In Amendment No. 5, the Exchange: (1) Clarified how the composition of the Fund's holdings would be calculated; and (2) provided additional detail regarding the historical average daily contract volume for WTI Crude Oil Futures (as defined below). Because Amendment No. 5 does not materially alter the substance of the proposed rule change or raise unique or novel regulatory issues, it is not subject to notice and comment. Amendment No. 5 is available at <https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-batsbzx-2017-14/batsbzx201714-1719288-150433.pdf>.

received no comments on the proposed rule change. This order approves the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment Nos. 3 and 5.

II. Exchange's Description of the Proposal

The Exchange proposes to list and trade the Shares under BZX Rule 14.11(i), which governs the listing and trading of Managed Fund Shares on the Exchange. The Shares will be offered by the Trust, which is registered with the Commission as an investment company and has filed a Registration Statement on Form N-1A with the Commission.⁷

The Exchange states that the Fund will invest in equity securities of energy master limited partnerships ("MLPs") and selectively hedge its positions to limit the correlation of its performance to the price of West Texas Intermediate Crude Oil ("WTI Crude Oil"). WTI Crude Oil, also known as Texas light sweet, is a grade of crude oil used as a benchmark in oil futures contracts pricing. According to the Exchange, the Fund will seek to exceed the performance of the Oil Hedged MLP Index ("Benchmark")⁸ by actively selecting its investments from the underlying components of the Benchmark. The Exchange represents that the Fund is not an index tracking exchange-traded fund and is not required to invest in all of the components of the Benchmark. However, the Exchange states that generally, the Fund will seek to hold similar instruments to those in the Benchmark and will therefore invest in MLPs and short exposure oil futures contracts included in the Benchmark.

The Exchange represents that it submitted the proposal in order to allow the Fund to hold listed derivatives, specifically WTI Crude Oil futures traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange and ICE Futures Europe ("WTI Crude Oil Futures"), in a manner that would exceed the limitations of BZX Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv)(b), which prevents, among other things, a series of Managed Fund Shares from holding listed derivatives based on any single underlying reference asset in excess of 30 percent of the weight of its portfolio (including gross notional exposures) ("30% Limitation").⁹ Namely, the

⁷ www.sec.gov/comments/sr-batsbzx-2017-14/batsbzx201714-1719288-150433.pdf.

⁸ See Post-Effective Amendment No. 27 to Registration Statement on Form N-1A for the Trust, dated January 6, 2017 (File Nos. 333-207937 and 811-23108).

⁹ The Benchmark is developed, maintained, and sponsored by ETP Ventures LLC.

⁹ BZX Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv)(b) requires that the aggregate gross notional value of listed derivatives

²¹ In approving this proposed rule change, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

²² 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

²³ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).