

The public portions of the Postal Service's filing are available for review on the Commission's website (<http://www.prc.gov>). Comments and other material filed in this proceeding will be available for review on the Commission's website, unless the information contained therein is subject to an application for non-public treatment. The Commission's rules on non-public materials (including access to documents filed under seal) appear in 39 CFR part 3007.

Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Anne C. O'Connor continues to be designated as an officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in this proceeding.<sup>5</sup>

## V. Ordering Paragraphs

*It is ordered:*

1. Comments on the planned price adjustments and related classification changes for First-Class Mail, as amended, are due no later than November 27, 2019.

2. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Anne C. O'Connor will continue to serve as an officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in this proceeding.

3. The Commission directs the Secretary of the Commission to arrange for prompt publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

By the Commission.

**Darcie S. Tokioka,**

*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2019-25705 Filed 11-26-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7710-FW-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.

seeks issuance of a final order by December 12, 2019. See Response to Order No. 5302 at 21. However, the Commission notes that in order to sufficiently address the issues identified in *Carlson v. Postal Reg. Comm'n*, 938 F.3d 337 (D.C. Cir. 2019), the Commission's determination may exceed the 14-day deadline set forth in 39 CFR 3010.11(h). Order No. 5302 at 3.

<sup>5</sup> See Notice and Order on Price Adjustments and Classification Changes for Market Dominant Products, October 10, 2019, at 4, 5 (Order No. 5273).

**DATES:** *Date of required notice:* November 27, 2019.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sean Robinson, 202-268-8405.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The United States Postal Service® hereby gives notice that, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3642 and 3632(b)(3), on November 21, 2019, it filed with the Postal Regulatory Commission a *USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Contract 565 to Competitive Product List*. Documents are available at [www.prc.gov](http://www.prc.gov), Docket Nos. MC2020-35, CP2020-33.

**Sean Robinson,**

*Attorney, Corporate and Postal Business Law.*

[FR Doc. 2019-25716 Filed 11-26-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7710-12-P**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 33703; File No. 812-15021]

### Blackstone Alternative Alpha Fund, et al.

November 22, 2019.

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

Notice of an application for an order pursuant to: (a) Section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("Act") granting an exemption from sections 18(f) and 21(b) of the Act; (b) section 12(d)(1)(j) of the Act granting an exemption from section 12(d)(1) of the Act; (c) sections 6(c) and 17(b) of the Act granting an exemption from sections 17(a)(1), 17(a)(2) and 17(a)(3) of the Act; and (d) section 17(d) of the Act and rule 17d-1 under the Act to permit certain joint arrangements and transactions. Applicants request an order that would permit certain registered management investment companies to participate in a joint lending and borrowing facility.

*Applicants:* Blackstone Alternative Investment Funds, registered under the Act as an open-end management investment company on behalf of all existing series;<sup>1</sup> Blackstone Alternative Alpha Fund, Blackstone Alternative Alpha Fund II, and Blackstone Alternative Alpha Master Fund, each registered under the Act as a closed-end management investment company; and

<sup>1</sup> Certain of the Funds (defined below) may be money market funds that comply with Rule 2a-7 under the Act (each a "Money Market Fund"). None of the existing Funds is a Money Market Fund, but if Money Market Funds rely on this relief in the future, they typically will not participate as borrowers because such Funds rarely need to borrow cash to meet redemptions.

Blackstone Alternative Asset Management L.P. ("BAAM") and Blackstone Alternative Investment Advisors LLC ("BAIA"), each registered as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.

*Filing Dates:* The application was filed on April 18, 2019 and amended on September 5, 2019.

*Hearing or Notification of Hearing:* An order granting the requested relief 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 December 17, 2019 and should be accompanied by proof of service on the applicants, in the form of an affidavit, or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Pursuant to Rule 0-5 under the Act, hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, any facts bearing upon the desirability of a hearing on the matter, 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 Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090; Applicants: c/o James Hannigan, Blackstone Alternative Investment Advisors LLC, 345 Park Avenue, 28th Floor, New York, NY 10154.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Erin Loomis Moore, Senior Counsel, at (202) 551-6721, or Parisa Haghshenas, Branch Chief, at (202) 551-6723 (Division of Investment Management, Chief Counsel's Office).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The following is a summary of the application. The complete application may be obtained via the Commission's website by searching for the file number, or an applicant using the Company name box, at <http://www.sec.gov/search/search.htm> or by calling (202) 551-8090.

### Summary of the Application

1. Applicants request an order that would permit the applicants to participate in an interfund lending facility where each Fund could lend money directly to and borrow money directly from other Funds to cover unanticipated cash shortfalls, such as unanticipated redemptions or trade fails.<sup>2</sup> The Funds will not borrow under

<sup>2</sup> Applicants request that the order apply to the applicants and to any existing or future registered

Continued

the facility for leverage purposes and the loans' duration will be no more than 7 days.<sup>3</sup>

2. Applicants anticipate that the proposed facility would provide a borrowing Fund with a source of liquidity at a rate lower than the bank borrowing rate at times when the cash position of the Fund is insufficient to meet temporary cash requirements. In addition, Funds making short-term cash loans directly to other Funds would earn interest at a rate higher than they otherwise could obtain from investing their cash in repurchase agreements or certain other short-term money market instruments. Thus, applicants assert that the facility would benefit both borrowing and lending Funds.

3. Applicants agree that any order granting the requested relief will be subject to the terms and conditions stated in the application. Among others, the Advisers, through a designated committee, would administer the facility as a disinterested fiduciary as part of its duties under the investment management agreements with each Fund and would receive no additional fee as compensation for their services in connection with the administration of the facility. The facility would be subject to oversight and certain approvals by the Funds' Boards, including, among others, approval of the interest rate formula and of the method for allocating loans across Funds, as well as review of the process in place to evaluate the liquidity implications for the Funds. A Fund's aggregate outstanding interfund loans will not exceed 15% of its current net assets, and the Fund's loans to any one Fund will not exceed 5% of the lending Fund's net assets.<sup>4</sup>

4. Applicants assert that the facility does not raise the concerns underlying section 12(d)(1) of the Act given that the Funds are part of the same group of

open-end or closed-end management investment company or series thereof for which BAAM or BAIA or any successor thereto or an investment adviser controlling, controlled by, or under common control (within the meaning of Section 2(a)(9) of the 1940 Act) with BAAM or BAIA or any successor thereto serves as investment adviser (each such investment adviser entity being included in the term "Adviser," and each such investment company, or series thereof, a "Fund" and collectively the "Funds"). For purposes of the requested order, "successor" is limited to any entity that results from a reorganization into another jurisdiction or a change in the type of a business organization. The Funds that are closed-end management investment companies will not participate as borrowers in the interfund lending facility.

<sup>3</sup> Any Fund, however, will be able to call a loan on one business day's notice.

<sup>4</sup> Under certain circumstances, a borrowing Fund will be required to pledge collateral to secure the loan.

investment companies and there will be no duplicative costs or fees to the Funds.<sup>5</sup> Applicants also assert that the proposed transactions do not raise the concerns underlying sections 17(a)(1), 17(a)(3), 17(d) and 21(b) of the Act as the Funds would not engage in lending transactions that unfairly benefit insiders or are detrimental to the Funds. Applicants state that the facility will offer both reduced borrowing costs and enhanced returns on loaned funds to all participating Funds and each Fund would have an equal opportunity to borrow and lend on equal terms based on an interest rate formula that is objective and verifiable. With respect to the relief from section 17(a)(2) of the Act, applicants note that any collateral pledged to secure an interfund loan would be subject to the same conditions imposed by any other lender to a Fund that imposes conditions on the quality of or access to collateral for a borrowing (if the lender is another Fund) or the same or better conditions (in any other circumstance).<sup>6</sup>

5. Applicants also believe that the limited relief from section 18(f)(1) of the Act that is necessary to implement the facility (because the lending Funds are not banks) is appropriate in light of the conditions and safeguards described in the application and because the open-end Funds would remain subject to the requirement of section 18(f)(1) that all borrowings of the open-end Fund, including combined interfund loans and bank borrowings, have at least 300% asset coverage.

6. Section 6(c) of the Act permits the Commission to exempt any persons or transactions from any provision of the Act if such exemption is necessary or appropriate in the public interest and consistent with the protection of investors and the purposes fairly intended by the policy and provisions of the Act. Section 12(d)(1)(f) of the Act provides that the Commission may exempt any person, security, or transaction, or any class or classes of persons, securities, or transactions, from any provision of section 12(d)(1) if the exemption is consistent with the public interest and the protection of investors. Section 17(b) of the Act authorizes the Commission to grant an order permitting a transaction otherwise prohibited by section 17(a) if it finds that (a) the terms of the proposed

<sup>5</sup> Applicants state that the obligation to repay an interfund loan could be deemed to constitute a security for the purposes of sections 17(a)(1) and 12(d)(1) of the Act.

<sup>6</sup> Applicants state that any pledge of securities to secure an interfund loan could constitute a purchase of securities for purposes of section 17(a)(2) of the Act.

transaction are fair and reasonable and do not involve overreaching on the part of any person concerned; (b) the proposed transaction is consistent with the policies of each registered investment company involved; and (c) the proposed transaction is consistent with the general purposes of the Act. Rule 17d-1(b) under the Act provides that in passing upon an application filed under the rule, the Commission will consider whether the participation of the registered investment company in a joint enterprise, joint arrangement or profit sharing plan on the basis proposed is consistent with the provisions, policies and purposes of the Act and the extent to which such participation is on a basis different from or less advantageous than that of the other participants.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, under delegated authority.

**Eduardo A. Aleman,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2019-25798 Filed 11-26-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8011-01-P**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-87581; File No. SR-CboeBZX-2019-076]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Designation of a Longer Period for Commission Action on a Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment No. 1, To List and Trade Shares of the Clearbridge Small Cap Value ETF Under Currently Proposed Rule 14.11(k)

November 21, 2019.

On September 26, 2019, Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> a proposed rule change to list and trade shares of the Clearbridge Small Cap Value ETF under currently proposed Rule 14.11(k) (Managed Portfolio Shares). On October 9, 2019, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change, which amended and replaced the rule change in its entirety. The proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1, was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on October 17, 2019.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>3</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 87286 (October 10, 2019), 84 FR 55608.