

Securities and Similar Investments in the Custody of Management Investment Companies.” Form N-17f-2 is the cover sheet for the accountant examination certificates filed under rule 17f-2 (17 CFR 270.17f-2) by registered management investment companies (“funds”) maintaining custody of securities or other investments. Form N-17f-2 facilitates the filing of the accountant’s examination certificates prepared under rule 17f-2. The use of the form allows the certificates to be filed electronically, and increases the accessibility of the examination certificates to both the Commission’s examination staff and interested investors by ensuring that the certificates are filed under the proper Commission file number and the correct name of a fund.

Commission staff estimates that it takes: (i) on average 1.25 hours of fund accounting personnel at a total cost of \$315 to prepare each Form N-17f-2;¹ and (ii) .75 hours of administrative assistant time at a total cost of \$70.50 to file the Form N-17f-2 with the Commission.² Approximately 165 funds currently file Form N-17f-2 with the Commission. Commission staff estimates that on average each fund files Form N-17f-2 three times annually for a total annual hourly burden per fund of approximately 6 hours at a total cost of \$1,156.50. The total annual hour burden for Form N-17f-2 is therefore estimated to be approximately 990 hours at a total cost of approximately \$190,822.50.³ Form N-17f-2 does not impose any paperwork related cost burdens other than this internal hour cost.

The estimate of average burden hours is made solely for the purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act, and is not derived from a comprehensive or even a representative survey or study of the costs of Commission rules and forms. Complying with the collections of information required by Form N-17f-2 is mandatory for those funds that maintain custody of their own assets. Responses will not be kept confidential. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number.

¹ This estimate is based on the following calculation: $1.25 \times \$252$ (fund senior accountant’s hourly rate) = \$315.

² This estimate is based on the following calculation: $.75 \times \$94$ (administrative assistant hourly rate) \$70.50.

³ This estimate is based on the following calculation: $165 \text{ funds} \times \$1,156.50$ (total annual cost per fund) = \$190,822.50.

Written comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission’s estimate of the

burden of 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 by November 6, 2023.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information under the PRA unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Please direct your written comments to: David Bottom, Acting Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o John Pezzullo, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549 or send an email to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov.

Dated: August 31, 2023.

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2023-19246 Filed 9-6-23; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[SEC File No. 270-572, OMB Control No. 3235-0636]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension: Rule 0-2

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of FOIA Services, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-2736.

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) is soliciting comments on the collections of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for extension and approval.

Several sections of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (“Act” or “Investment Company Act”)¹ give the Securities and Exchange Commission

(“Commission”) the authority to issue orders granting exemptions from the Act’s provisions. The section that grants broadest authority is section 6(c), which provides the Commission with authority to conditionally or unconditionally exempt persons, securities or transactions from any provision of the Investment Company Act, or the rules or regulations thereunder, if and to the extent that 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.² Congress enacted section 6(c) to give the Commission the flexibility to address unforeseen or changed circumstances in the investment company industry. Rule 0-2 under the Investment Company Act,³ entitled “General Requirements of Papers and Applications,” prescribes general instructions for filing an application seeking exemptive relief with the Commission.

Rule 0-2(c)(1) requires that every application for an order for which a form is not specifically prescribed and which is executed by a corporation, partnership or other company and filed with the Commission contain a statement of the applicable provisions of the articles of incorporation, bylaws or similar documents, relating to the right of the person signing and filing such application to take such action on behalf of the applicant, and a statement that all such requirements have been complied with and that the person signing and filing the application is fully authorized to do so. If such authorization is dependent on resolutions of stockholders, directors, or other bodies, such resolutions must be attached as an exhibit to or quoted in the application. Any amendment to the application must contain a similar statement as to the applicability of the original statement of authorization. When any application or amendment is signed by an agent or attorney, rule 0-2(c)(1) requires that the power of attorney evidencing his authority to sign shall state the basis for the agent’s authority and shall be filed with the Commission. Every application subject to rule 0-2 must be verified by the person executing the application by executing an instrument in substantially the form specified in the rule. Each application subject to rule 0-2 must state the reasons why the applicant is deemed to be entitled to the action requested, the name and address of each applicant, and the name and address of any person to whom any questions

² 15 U.S.C. 80a-6(c).

³ 17 CFR 270.0-2.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 80a-1 *et seq.*

regarding the application should be directed. Electronic filing of all applications for orders under the Investment Company Act is mandatory. Each application subject to rule 0–2 is a one-time request and the rule itself does not impose any ongoing obligations or burdens on the part of an applicant.

Based on historical filing data and estimates of the annual number of filings, the staff estimates that the Commission will receive roughly 112 applications for an exemptive order per year, and that each such applications will take an average of 20.25 hours of in-house attorney time as well as total external costs of \$92,000.

Written comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's estimate of the burden of 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 by November 6, 2023.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information under the PRA unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Please direct your written comments to: David Bottom, Acting Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o John Pezzullo, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549 or send an email to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov.

Dated: August 31, 2023.

Sherry R. Haywood,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2023–19247 Filed 9–6–23; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meetings

TIME AND DATE: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the Government in the Sunshine Act, Public Law 94–409, that the Securities and Exchange Commission Small Business Capital Formation Advisory Committee will hold a public meeting on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at the

Commission's headquarters and via videoconference.

PLACE: The meeting will be hybrid, with some Committee members attending by remote means (videoconference) and others in-person at the Commission's headquarters, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, in Multi-Purpose Room LL–006. Members of the public may watch the webcast of the meeting on the Commission's website at www.sec.gov.

STATUS: The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. (ET) and will be open to the public via webcast on the Commission's website at www.sec.gov. This Sunshine Act notice is being issued because a majority of the Commission may attend the meeting.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: The agenda for the meeting includes matters relating to rules and regulations affecting small and emerging businesses and their investors under the federal securities laws.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: For further information and to ascertain what, if any, matters have been added, deleted or postponed; please contact Vanessa A. Countryman from the Office of the Secretary at (202) 551–5400.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 552b.

Dated: September 5, 2023.

Vanessa A. Countryman,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2023–19420 Filed 9–5–23; 4:15 pm]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–98264; File No. SR–CboeBZX–2023–042]

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 WisdomTree Bitcoin Trust Under BZX Rule 14.11(e)(4), Commodity-Based Trust Shares

August 31, 2023.

On June 30, 2023, Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. (“BZX” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”), pursuant to section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)¹ and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,² a proposed rule change to list and trade shares of the WisdomTree Bitcoin Trust under BZX Rule 14.11(e)(4), Commodity-Based

Trust Shares. On July 11, 2023, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 1, which amended and replaced the proposed rule change in its entirety. The proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1, was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on July 19, 2023.³

Section 19(b)(2) of the Act⁴ provides that within 45 days of the publication of notice of the filing of a proposed rule change, or within such longer period up to 90 days as the Commission may designate if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission shall either approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved. The 45th day after publication of the notice for this proposed rule change is September 2, 2023. The Commission is extending this 45-day time period.

The Commission finds it appropriate to designate a longer period within which to take action on the proposed rule change so that it has sufficient time to consider the proposed rule change and the issues raised therein. Accordingly, the Commission, pursuant to section 19(b)(2) of the Act,⁵ designates October 17, 2023, as the date by which the Commission shall either approve or disapprove, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove, the proposed rule change (File No. SR–CboeBZX–2023–042), as modified by Amendment No. 1.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.⁶

Sherry R. Haywood,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2023–19238 Filed 9–6–23; 8:45 am]

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³ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 97904 (July 13, 2023), 88 FR 46207. Comments on the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1, are available at: <https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-cboebzx-2023-042/srcboebzx2023042.htm>.

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

⁶ 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(31).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b–4.