

Comments may be submitted electronically by using the Commission's internet comment form (https://www.sec.gov/rules-regulations/self-regulatory-organization-rulemaking/national-securities-exchanges?file_number=SR-SAPPHIRE-2025-13) or by sending an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include file number SR-SAPPHIRE-2025-13 on the subject line. Alternatively, paper comments may be sent to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090. All submissions should refer to file number SR-SAPPHIRE-2025-13. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (https://www.sec.gov/rules-regulations/self-regulatory-organization-rulemaking/national-securities-exchanges?file_number=SR-SAPPHIRE-2025-13). Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-SAPPHIRE-2025-13 and should be submitted on or before April 9, 2025.

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

Vanessa A. Countryman,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025-04520 Filed 3-18-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-102647; File No. SR-CBOE-2025-014]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend Rule 4.3 To Permit the Listing of Options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares

March 13, 2025.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange.

⁶ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

("Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on March 5, 2025, Cboe Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "Cboe Options") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

Cboe Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "Cboe Options") proposes to amend Rule 4.3 to permit the listing of options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Exchange's website (<http://www.cboe.com/AboutCBOE/CBOELegalRegulatoryHome.aspx>), at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend Rules 4.3 regarding the criteria for underlying securities. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to amend Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .06(a)(4) to allow the Exchange to list and trade options on Units³ that represent interests in Commodity-Based Trusts.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ Rule 1.1 defines a "Unit" (which may also be referred to as an exchange-traded fund ("ETF")) as a share or other security traded on a national securities exchange and defined as an NMS stock as set forth in Rule 4.3.

This is a competitive filing substantively identical to proposals submitted by other options exchanges that are currently pending with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission").⁴

A Commodity-Based Trust is defined in Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. 14.11(e)(4), NYSE Arca, Inc. Rule 8.201(c)(1), and The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC Rule 5711(d)(iv) as a security (a) that is issued by a trust ("Trust") that holds (1) a specified commodity deposited with the Trust, or (2) a specified commodity and, in addition to such specified commodity, cash; (b) that is issued by such Trust in a specified aggregate minimum number in return for a deposit of a quantity of the underlying commodity and/or cash; and (c) that, when aggregated in the same specified minimum number, may be redeemed at a holder's request by such Trust which will deliver to the redeeming holder the quantity of the underlying commodity and/or cash. The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .06 to provide that securities deemed appropriate for options trading include Units that represent interests in a security (A) issued by a trust that holds (i) a specified commodity deposited with the trust, or (ii) a specified commodity and, in addition to such specified commodity, cash; (B) that is issued by such trust in a specified aggregate minimum number in return for a deposit of a quantity of the underlying commodity and/or cash; and (C) that, when aggregated in the same specified minimum number, may be redeemed at a holder's request by such trust which will deliver to the redeeming holder the quantity of the underlying commodity and/or cash ("Commodity-Based Trust Share"). The proposed rule change removes from that rule provision references to the SPDR Gold Trust, the iShares COMEX Gold Trust, the iShares Silver Trust, the Aberdeen Standard Physical Silver Trust, the Aberdeen Standard Physical Gold Trust, the Aberdeen Standard Physical Palladium Trust, the Aberdeen Standard Physical Platinum Trust, the Sprott Physical Gold Trust, the Goldman Sachs Physical Gold ETF, the Fidelity Wise Origin Bitcoin Fund, the ARK 21Shares Bitcoin ETF, the iShares Bitcoin Trust, the Grayscale Bitcoin Trust, the Grayscale Bitcoin Mini Trust, or the Bitwise Bitcoin ETF, which are all Commodity-Based Trust Shares, thus making references to those trusts no

⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 102465 (February 20, 2025) (SR-ISE-2025-08); SR-NYSEArca-2025-16 (February 24, 2025); and SR-NYSEAmerican-2025-07 (February 24, 2025).

longer necessary. As a result of this proposed rule change, the Exchange's listing criteria would allow any ETF approved to list on a primary equities market as a Commodity-Based Trust Share to qualify as an underlying for options traded on the Exchange, provided other listing criteria have been met.⁵

The Exchange's initial listing standards for Units on which options may be listed and traded on the Exchange will apply to Commodity-Based Trust Shares. Pursuant to Rule 4.3(a), a security (which includes a Unit) on which options may be listed and traded on the Exchange must be duly registered (with the Commission) and be an NMS stock (as defined in Rule 600 of Regulation NMS under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Act")), and be characterized by a substantial number of outstanding shares that are widely held and actively traded. Pursuant to Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .06, requires that Units must either (1) meet the criteria and standards set forth in Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .01(a),⁶ or (2) be available for creation or redemption each business day from or through the issuer in cash or in kind at a price related to net asset value, and the issuer must be obligated to issue Units in a specified aggregate number even if some or all of the investment assets required to be deposited have not been received by the issuer, subject to the condition that the person obligated to deposit the investments has undertaken to deliver the investment assets as soon as possible and such undertaking is secured by the delivery and maintenance of collateral consisting of cash or cash equivalents satisfactory

to the issuer, as provided in the respective prospectus.

Additionally, Commodity-Based Trust Shares will also be subject to the Exchange's set forth in Rule 4.4, Interpretation and Policy .06 for Units deemed appropriate for options trading pursuant to Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .06. Rule 4.4, Interpretation and Policy .06 provides that Units that were initially approved for options trading pursuant to Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .06 shall be deemed not to meet the requirements for continued approval, and the Exchange shall not open for trading any additional series of option contracts of the class covering that such Units, if the Units cease to be an NMS stock or the Units are halted from trading in their primary market. Additionally, options on Units may be subject to the suspension of opening transactions in any of the following circumstances: (1) in the case of options covering Units approved for trading under Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .06(b)(1), in accordance with the terms of paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of Rule 4.4, Interpretation and Policy .01; (2) in the case of options covering Units approved for trading under Rule 4.3 Interpretation and Policy .06(b)(2) (as is the case for Commodity-Based Trust Shares), following the initial twelve-month period beginning upon the commencement of trading in the Units on a national securities exchange and are defined as an NMS stock, there are fewer than 50 record and/or beneficial holders of such Units for 30 or more consecutive trading days; (3) the value of the index or portfolio of securities, non-U.S. currency, or portfolio of commodities including commodity futures contracts, options on commodity futures contracts, swaps, forward contracts and/or options on physical commodities and/or financial instruments and money market instruments on which the Units are based is no longer calculated or available; or (4) such other event shall occur or condition exist that in the opinion of the Exchange makes further dealing in such options on the Exchange inadvisable. The Exchange notes that ETFs that hold financial instruments, money market instruments, precious metal commodities, or cryptocurrencies that are deemed commodities on which the Exchange may already list and trade options pursuant to Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .06 are trusts structured in substantially the same manner as options on a Commodity-Based Trust Share and essentially offer the same objectives and benefits to investors, just with respect to different

assets. The Exchange notes that it has not identified any issues with the continued listing and trading of any ETF options, including ETFs that hold commodities (e.g., precious metals, cryptocurrencies) that it currently lists and trades on the Exchange.

Options on a Commodity-Based Fund Share will be physically settled contracts with American-style exercise.⁷ Consistent with current Rule 4.5, which governs the opening of options series on a specific underlying security (including Units), the Exchange will open at least one expiration month for options on a Commodity-Based Fund Share⁸ at the commencement of trading on the Exchange and may also list series of options on a Commodity-Based Fund Share for trading on a weekly,⁹ monthly,¹⁰ or quarterly¹¹ basis. The Exchange may also list long-term equity option series ("LEAPS") that expire from 12 to 180 months from the time they are listed.¹²

Pursuant to Rule 4.5, Interpretation and Policy .07, which governs strike prices of series of options on Units, the interval of strikes prices for series of options on Commodity-Based Fund Shares will be \$1 or greater when the strike price is \$200 or less and \$5 or greater where the strike price is over

⁷ See Rule 4.2, which provides that the rights and obligations of holders and writers are set forth in the Rules of the Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC"); and Equity Options Product Specifications January 3, 2024), available at Equity Options Specifications (cboe.com); see also OCC Rules, Chapters VIII (which governs exercise and assignment) and Chapter IX (which governs the discharge of delivery and payment obligations arising out of the exercise of physically settled stock option contracts).

⁸ See Rule 4.5(b). The monthly expirations are subject to certain listing criteria for underlying securities described within Rule 4.3. Monthly listings expire the third Friday of the month. The term "expiration date" (unless separately defined elsewhere in the OCC By-Laws), when used in respect of an option contract (subject to certain exceptions), means the third Friday of the expiration month of such option contract, or if such Friday is a day on which the exchange on which such option is listed is not open for business, the preceding day on which such exchange is open for business. See OCC By-Laws Article I, Section 1. Pursuant to Rule 4.5(c), additional series of options of the same class may be opened for trading on the Exchange when the Exchange deems it necessary to maintain an orderly market, to meet customer demand or when the market price of the underlying stock moves more than five strike prices from the initial exercise price or prices. New series of options on an individual stock may be added until the beginning of the month in which the options contract will expire. Due to unusual market conditions, the Exchange, in its discretion, may add a new series of options on an individual stock until the close of trading on the business day prior to expiration.

⁹ See Rule 4.5(d).

¹⁰ See Rule 4.5(g).

¹¹ See Rule 4.5(e).

¹² See Rule 4.5(f).

⁵ The Exchange believes this proposal is consistent with the Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") recent amendment of "Fund Share" (which covers ETFs), as defined in OCC's By-Laws (including the Interpretation and Policy), to remove references to specific precious metal commodity-based ETFs as "no longer relevant or necessary." See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 102018 (December 20, 2024), 89 FR 106660 (December 30, 2024) (SR-OCC-2024-018). The impetus for this rule change was the staff advisory issued by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") that deemed it "substantially likely" that spot commodity ETF shares would be held to be securities⁵ which, in turn, resulted in the OCC's determination that "it no longer needs to seek product-by-product exemptive relief from the CFTC to clear spot commodity-based ETF products, including precious metals commodity-based ETFs." See *id.* at 106661; see also CFTC Staff Advisory Relating to the Clearing of Options on Spot Commodity Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs), Letter No. 24-16 (Nov. 15, 2024), available at <https://www.cftc.gov/csl/24-16/download>.

⁶ Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .01 provides for guidelines to be followed by the Exchange when evaluating potential underlying securities for Exchange option transactions.

\$200.¹³ Additionally, the Exchange may list series of options pursuant to the \$1 Strike Price Interval Program,¹⁴ the \$0.50 Strike Program,¹⁵ the \$2.50 Strike Price Program,¹⁶ and the \$5 Strike Program.¹⁷ Pursuant to Rule 5.4, where the price of a series of a Commodity-Based Fund Share option is less than \$3.00, the minimum increment will be \$0.05, and where the price is \$3.00 or higher, the minimum increment will be \$0.10.¹⁸ Any and all new series of Commodity-Based Fund Share options that the Exchange lists will be consistent and comply with the expirations, strike prices, and minimum increments set forth in Rules 4.5 and 5.4, as applicable.

Options on a Commodity-Based Trust Share will trade in the same manner as options on other ETFs on the Exchange. The Exchange Rules that currently apply to the listing and trading of all Unit options on the Exchange, including, for example, Rules that govern listing criteria, expirations, exercise prices, minimum increments, position and exercise limits, margin requirements, customer accounts, and trading halt procedures will apply to the listing and trading of options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares on the Exchange in the same manner as they apply to other options on all other Units that are listed and traded on the Exchange.

Position and exercise limits for options, including options on a Commodity-Based Trust Share are determined pursuant to Rules 8.30 and 8.42, respectively. Position and exercise limits for options on ETFs vary according to the number of outstanding shares and the trading volumes of the underlying security over the past six months, where the largest in capitalization and the most frequently traded funds have an option position and exercise limit of 250,000 contracts (with adjustments for splits, re-capitalizations, etc.) on the same side of the market; and smaller capitalization

funds have position and exercise limits of 200,000, 75,000, 50,000 or 25,000 contracts (with adjustments for splits, re-capitalizations, etc.) on the same side of the market.¹⁹ Further, the Exchange notes that Rule 10.3, which governs margin requirements applicable to the trading of all options on the Exchange, including options on ETFs, will also apply to the trading of options on a Commodity-Based Trust Share.

The Exchange represents it has an adequate surveillance program in place for options and intends to apply those same program procedures to options on Commodity-Based Fund Shares that it applies to the Exchange's other options products.²⁰ The Exchange believes that existing surveillance procedures are designed to deter and detect possible manipulative behavior which might potentially arise from listing and trading the proposed options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares. Additionally, the Exchange is a member of the Intermarket Surveillance Group ("ISG") under the Intermarket Surveillance Group Agreement. ISG members work together to coordinate surveillance and investigative information sharing in the stock, options, and futures markets. In addition, the Exchange has a Regulatory Services Agreement with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") for certain market surveillance, investigation and examinations functions. Pursuant to a multi-party 17d-2 joint plan, all options exchanges allocate amongst themselves and FINRA responsibilities to conduct certain options-related market surveillance that are common to rules of all options exchanges.²¹ Further, the Exchange will implement any new surveillance procedures it deems necessary to effectively monitor the

trading of options on Commodity-Based Fund Shares.

The Exchange has also analyzed its capacity and represents that it believes the Exchange and the Options Price Reporting Authority ("OPRA") have the necessary systems capacity to handle the additional traffic associated with the listing of new series of ETFs, including on Commodity-Based Trust Shares, up to the number of expirations currently permissible under the Rules. The Exchange believes any additional traffic generated from the trading of options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares would be manageable. The Exchange represents that Exchange members will not have a capacity issue as a result of this proposed rule change.

Further, quotation and last sale information for Commodity-Based Trust Shares is available via the Consolidated Tape Association ("CTA") high speed line. Quotation and last sale information for such securities is also available from the exchange on which such securities are listed. Quotation and last sale information for options on Commodity-Based Fund Shares will be available via OPRA²² and major market data vendors.

The Exchange notes that the Commission has previously approved generic listing standards pursuant to Rule 19b-4(e) of the Act²³ for ETFs based on indexes that consist of stocks listed on U.S. exchanges.²⁴ In addition, the Commission has previously approved proposals for the listing and trading of options on ETFs based on international indexes as well as global indexes (e.g., based on non-U.S. and U.S. component stocks).²⁵

In approving Commodity-Based Trust Shares for equities exchange trading, the

²² Last sale reports and quotations are the core of the information that OPRA disseminates. OPRA also disseminates certain other types of information with respect to the trading of options on the markets of the OPRA participants, such as the number of options contracts traded, open interest and end of day summaries. OPRA also disseminates certain kinds of administrative messages.

²³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(e).

²⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 54739 (November 9, 2006), 71 FR 66993 (November 17, 2006) (SR-AMEX-2006-78) (approval order relating to generic listing standards for ETFs based on international or global indexes).

²⁵ See, e.g., Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 56778 (November 9, 2007), 72 FR 65113 (November 19, 2007) (SR-AMEX-2007-100) (approval order to list and trade options on iShares MSCI Mexico Index Fund); and 55648 (April 19, 2007), 72 FR 20902 (April 26, 2007) (SR-AMEX-2007-09) (approval order to list and trade options on Vanguard Emerging Markets ETF); see also Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 50189 (August 12, 2004), 69 FR 51723 (August 20, 2004) (SR-AMEX-2001-05) (approving the listing and trading of certain Vanguard International Equity Index Funds); and 44700 (August 14, 2001), 66 FR 43927 (August 21, 2001) (SR-2001-34) (approving the listing and trading of series of the iShares Trust based on foreign stock indexes).

¹³ The Exchange notes that for options listed pursuant to the Short Term Option Series Program, the Monthly Options Series Program, and the Quarterly Options Series Program, Rules 4.5(d), (e), and (g) specifically sets forth intervals between strike prices on Quarterly Options Series, Short Term Option Series, and Monthly Options Series, respectively.

¹⁴ See Rule 4.5, Interpretation and Policy .01(a).

¹⁵ See Rule 4.5, Interpretation and Policy .01(b).

¹⁶ See Rule 4.5, Interpretation and Policy .04.

¹⁷ See Rule 4.5, Interpretation and Policy .01(f).

¹⁸ If options on a Commodity-Based Fund Share are eligible to participate in the Penny Interval Program, the minimum increment will be \$0.01 for series with a price below \$3.00 and \$0.05 for series with a price at or above \$3.00. See 5.4(d) (which describes the requirements for the Penny Interval Program).

¹⁹ See Rule 8.30, Interpretation and Policy .02.

²⁰ The surveillance program includes surveillance patterns for price and volume movements as well as patterns for potential manipulation (e.g., spoofing and marking the close).

²¹ Section 19(g)(1) of the Act, among other things, requires every self-regulatory organization ("SRO") registered as a national securities exchange or national securities association to comply with the Act, the rules and regulations thereunder, and the SRO's own rules, and, absent reasonable justification or excuse, enforce compliance by its members and persons associated with its members. See 15 U.S.C. 78q(d)(1) and 17 CFR 240.17d-2. Section 17(d)(1) of the Act allows the Commission to relieve an SRO of certain responsibilities with respect to members of the SRO who are also members of another SRO ("common members"). Specifically, Section 17(d)(1) allows the Commission to relieve an SRO of its responsibilities to: (i) receive regulatory reports from such members; (ii) examine such members for compliance with the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder, and the rules of the SRO; or (iii) carry out other specified regulatory responsibilities with respect to such members.

Commission thoroughly considered the structure of the Commodity-Based Trust Shares, their usefulness to investors and to the markets, and self-regulatory organization rules that govern their trading. The Exchange believes that allowing the listing of options overlying Commodity-Based Trust Shares that are listed pursuant to Commission approval on equities exchanges and applying Rule 19b-4(e)²⁶ should fulfill the intended objective of that rule by allowing options on those Commodity-Based Trust Shares that have satisfied the generic listing standards to commence trading, without the need for the public comment period and Commission approval. The proposed rule change has the potential to significantly reduce the time and costs associated with bringing options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares to market, thereby reducing the burden on issuers and other market participants, while also promoting competition among options exchanges, to the benefit of the investing public. The failure of a particular Commodity-Based Trust Share to comply with the generic listing standards under Rule 19b-4(e)²⁷ would not, however, preclude the Exchange from submitting a separate filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)²⁸ requesting Commission approval to list and trade options on a particular Commodity-Based Trust Share.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”) and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.²⁹ Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)³⁰ requirements that the rules of an exchange be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with

the Section 6(b)(5)³¹ requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

In particular, the Exchange believes the proposal will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system because it would allow the Exchange to immediately list and trade options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares, provided the initial listing criteria has been met, without requiring additional approvals from the Commission.³² Commodity-Based Trust Shares are securities approved for trading by the Commission. The Exchange believes that allowing options on qualifying Commodity-Based Trust Shares soon after the listing of such underlying security in the primary market will benefit investors and the public interest as it will afford market participants the opportunity to hedge their positions in the underlying ETF in a timely manner. Given the potential to reduce the time to market for options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares, the proposed rule change will also reduce the burdens on issuers and other market participants, while also promoting competition among options exchanges to the benefit of the investing public. This proposal will enable the listing of options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares in the same manner as other securities listed and traded on the Exchange. The Exchange notes that most ETFs are eligible for options trading without the need for additional approvals, provided the ETFs meet the initial listing criteria. Accordingly, the proposed rule change would align the treatment of Commodity-Based Trust Shares with other ETFs for purposes of options trading, which would add internal consistency to Exchange rules.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change will facilitate the listing and trading of options on additional ETFs that will enhance competition among market participants, to the benefit of investors and the marketplace. Like options on any other securities, options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares will provide investors with the ability to hedge exposure to the underlying security. The Exchange believes that offering options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares will benefit investors by providing them with a relatively lower-cost risk

management tool, which will allow them to manage their positions and associated risk in their portfolios more easily in connection with exposure to the price of a commodity. Additionally, the Exchange’s offering of options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares will provide investors with the ability to transact in such options in a listed market environment as opposed to in the unregulated over-the-counter market, which would increase market transparency and enhance the process of price discovery conducted on the Exchange through increased order flow to the benefit of all investors.

As noted herein, the Exchange already lists options on other commodity-based ETFs,³³ which are trusts structured in substantially the same manner as Commodity-Based Trust Shares. The Exchange has not identified any issues with the continued listing and trading of options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares. The Exchange also believes the proposed rule change will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, because it is consistent with current Exchange Rules previously filed with the Commission. Options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares must satisfy the initial listing standards and continued listing standards currently in the Exchange Rules applicable to options on all ETFs, including ETFs that hold other commodities already deemed appropriate for options trading on the Exchange.³⁴ Options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares will trade in the same manner as any other ETF options—the same Exchange Rules that currently govern the listing and trading of options, including permissible expirations, strike prices minimum increments, position and exercise limits, and margin requirements, will govern the listing and trading of options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares in the same manner.

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change will result in increased competition as other exchanges will likely adopt an identical rule to the one proposed by the Exchange that would allow the listing and trading of options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares that are approved for trading on those other markets.³⁵ Multiple listing of ETFs, options and other securities and competition are some of the central features of the national market system. The Exchange believes that the proposal would encourage a more open market

²⁶ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(e).

²⁷ *Id.*

²⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

²⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

³⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

³¹ *Id.*

³² As noted herein, the Exchange believes this proposal is consistent with the OCC’s determination that, based on a staff advisory from the CFTC, the “it no longer needs to seek product-by-product exemptive relief from the CFTC to clear spot commodity-based ETF products.” *See supra* note 5.

³³ *See* Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .06.

³⁴ *See id.*

³⁵ *See supra* note 4.

and national market system based on competition and multiple listing. The Exchange represents that it has the necessary systems capacity to support the listing and trading of options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares as the Exchange lists these products today, except that it requires additional approvals prior to listing. The Exchange believes that its existing surveillance and reporting safeguards are designed to deter and detect possible manipulative behavior which might arise from listing and trading of options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. To the contrary, the Exchange believes that the proposal is pro-competitive and is a competitive response to the Exchange's inability to list options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares without submitting a separate proposed rule change. The Exchange believes the proposed rule change will result in additional investment options and opportunities to achieve the investment objectives of market participants seeking efficient trading and hedging vehicles, to the benefit of investors, market participants, and the marketplace in general. Competition is one of the principal features of the national market system. The Exchange believes that this proposal will expand competitive opportunities to list and trade products on the Exchange as noted.

The Exchange does not believe the proposal will impose any burden on intramarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act because Commodity-Based Trust Shares, like any other ETF, would have to satisfy the Exchange's initial listing standards to be eligible for options trading. Additionally, the proposed rule change would apply to all market participants in the same manner as options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares will be equally available to all market participants who wish to trade such options.

The Exchange does not believe the proposal will impose any burden on inter-market competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as nothing prevents the other options exchanges from proposing similar rules to list and trade options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares. As noted herein, other options exchanges have submitted

proposed rule changes to adopt identical rules to permit the listing and trading of options on Commodity-Based Trust Shares without submitting a separate proposed rule change.³⁶ Furthermore, the Exchange notes that listing and trading options on a Commodity-Based Trust Share on the Exchange will subject such options to transparent exchange-based rules as well as price discovery and liquidity, as opposed to alternatively trading such options in the OTC market. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change may relieve any burden on, or otherwise promote, competition as it is designed to increase competition for order flow on the Exchange in a manner that is beneficial to investors by providing them with a lower-cost option to hedge their investment portfolios in a timely manner.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

The Exchange neither solicited nor received written comments on the proposed rule change.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within 45 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period up to 90 days (i) as the Commission may designate if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the Exchange consents, the Commission will:

- A. by order approve or disapprove such proposed rule change, or
- B. institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include file number SR-CBOE-2025-014 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to file number SR-CBOE-2025-014. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-CBOE-2025-014 and should be submitted on or before April 9, 2025.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.³⁷

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025-04502 Filed 3-18-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

³⁶ See *id.*

³⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).