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**Kenneth E. Melson,**

*Co-Chair, Subcommittee on Forensic Science.*

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Investor Education and Advocacy, Washington, DC 20549-0213.

Extension: Rule 31; SEC File No. 270-537; OMB Control No. 3235-0597.

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

Section 31 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78ee) ("Exchange Act") requires the Commission to collect fees and assessments from national securities exchanges and national securities associations (collectively, "self-regulatory organizations" or "SROs") based on the volume of their securities transactions. To collect the proper amounts, the Commission adopted Rule 31 (17 CFR 240.31) and Form R31 (17 CFR 249.11) under the Exchange Act whereby the SROs must report to the Commission the volume of their securities transaction and the Commission, based on that data, calculates the amount of fees and assessments that the SROs owe pursuant to Section 31. Rule 31 and Form R31 require the SROs to provide this data on a monthly basis.

The Commission estimates that each respondent makes 12 such filings on an annual basis at an average hourly burden of approximately 1.47 hours per response. Currently, there are 16 respondents. However, based on past experience, the Commission is estimating an increase to 18 respondents, including 13 national securities exchanges, two security futures exchanges, and one national securities association subject to the collection of information requirements of Rule 31 and two registered clearing agencies are required to provide certain

data in their possession needed by the SROs to complete Form R31. The Commission estimates that the total burden for all 18 respondents is 318 hours (12 filings/respondent per year × 1.47 hours/filing × 18 respondents = 317.52; rounded to 318 hours) per year.

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 proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

Please direct your written comments to: Charles Boucher, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Shirley Martinson, 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, Virginia, 22312 or by sending an email to: [PRA\\_Mailbox@sec.gov](mailto:PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov).

Dated: March 2, 2010.

**Florence E. Harmon,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 29167; File No. 812-13676]

### The Chile Fund, Inc., et al.; Notice of Application

March 2, 2010.

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

**ACTION:** Notice of application under section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("Act") for an exemption from section 19(b) of the Act and rule 19b-1 under the Act.

*Applicants:* The Chile Fund, Inc. ("Chile Fund"), Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund ("Australia Fund," together with the Chile Fund, the "Current Funds"), Aberdeen Asset Management Asia Limited ("Aberdeen Asia") and Aberdeen Asset Management Investment Services Limited ("Aberdeen").

### **SUMMARY:** *Summary of Application:*

Applicants request an order to permit certain registered closed-end investment companies to make periodic distributions of long-term capital gains with respect to their outstanding common stock as frequently as monthly in any one taxable year, and as frequently as distributions are specified by or in accordance with the terms of any outstanding preferred stock that such investment companies may issue. The requested order would supersede a prior order issued to the Australia Fund.

**DATES:** *Filing Dates:* The application was filed on July 27, 2009, and amended on December 3, 2009, January 6, 2010, and February 25, 2010.

**HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING:** An order granting the application will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the Commission's Secretary and serving applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. on March 29, 2010 and should be accompanied by proof of service on applicants, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by writing to the Commission's Secretary.

**ADDRESSES:** Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090; Applicants, c/o Aberdeen Asset Management Inc., 1735 Market Street, 32nd Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lewis B. Reich, Senior Counsel, at (202) 551-6919, or Jennifer L. Sawin, Branch Chief, at (202) 551-6821 (Division of Investment Management, Office of Investment Company Regulation).

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

### **Applicants' Representations**

1. The Current Funds are both Maryland corporations registered under the Act as closed-end management investment companies.<sup>1</sup> The common

<sup>1</sup> The Current Funds are the only registered closed-end investment companies that currently