SUMMARY: Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On July 30, 2012, applicant completed its liquidating distributions to shareholders, based on net asset value. Expenses of $1,500 incurred in connection with the liquidation were paid by applicant.

FILING DATE: The application was filed on September 19, 2012.

APPLICANT’S ADDRESS: 1345 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10105.

Washington National Variable Annuity Fund B [File No. 811–1662]

SUMMARY: Applicant, Washington National Variable Annuity Fund B, a unit investment trust registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “Act”), seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. Washington National Insurance Company (“Company”), of which Applicant is a separate account, terminated the offering of Applicant’s variable annuity contracts (“Contracts”) in 1981 and has not engaged in any solicitation or marketing activities with respect to the Contracts for 31 years. Since 1981, the number of outstanding Contracts declined as a result of surrenders by owners of the Contracts and deaths of owners or annuitants under their Contracts. As a result, Applicant currently has only 24 beneficial owners of such Contracts. Applicant is not making and does not presently propose to make a public offering of the Contracts. After the deregistration order requested by the Applicant issues, securityholders under the Contracts will be promptly notified that certain legal protections afforded to securityholders of an investment company registered under the Act will no longer apply. However, after issuance of the order, the Company will continue to be responsible for satisfying all the obligations to securityholders under the Contracts.

FILING DATE: The application was filed on July 6, 2012.

APPLICANT’S ADDRESS: 11815 N. Pennsylvania Street, Carmel, IN 46032.

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

Kevin M. O’Neill,
Deputy Secretary.

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SEcurities and EXchange COMMISSION

Investment Company Act Release No. 30224; 812–14000

PACE Select Advisors Trust and UBS Global Asset Management (Americas) Inc.; Notice of Application

September 27, 2012.

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”).

ACTION: Notice of an application under section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (“Act”) for an exemption from section 15(a) of the Act and rule 18f-2 under the Act, as well as from certain disclosure requirements.

SUMMARY OF APPLICATION: Applicants request an order that would permit them to enter into and materially amend subadvisory agreements without shareholder approval and would grant relief from certain disclosure requirements. The requested order would supersede two prior orders.1

APPLICANTS: PACE Select Advisors Trust (the “Trust”) and UBS Global Asset Management (Americas) Inc. (the “Adviser”) (collectively, “Applicants”).

FILING DATES: The application was filed on January 20, 2012, and amended on April 25, 2012, and September 10, 2012. Applicants have agreed to file an amendment during the notice period, the substance of which is reflected in this notice.

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 October 22, 2012, and should be accompanied by proof of service on the 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.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jean E. Marinaric, Senior Counsel, at (202) 551–6811, or Daniele Marchesani, 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 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 Trust, a Delaware statutory trust, is registered under the Act as an open-end management investment company and currently offers 15 series of shares (each a “Series”), each with its own distinct investment objectives, policies and restrictions. The Adviser serves as the investment adviser and

2 Applicants also request relief with respect to any future Series of the Trust and to any existing or future registered open-end management investment company or series thereof that: (a) Is advised by the Adviser or any entity controlling, or under common control with the Adviser or its successors (including the term “Adviser”); (b) uses the manager of managers structure described in the application (“Manager of Managers Structure”); and (c) complies with the terms and conditions of this application (together with any Series that uses the Manager of Managers Structure, each a “Subadvised Fund”) and collectively, the “Subadvised Funds”). The only existing registered open-end management investment company that currently intends to rely on the requested order is named as an Applicant. Each Series that is or currently intends to be a Subadvised Fund, and each Subadvised Fund (as defined below) to a Subadvised Fund that currently intends to rely on the requested order, is identified in this application. For purposes of the requested order, “successor” is limited to an entity that results from a reorganization into another jurisdiction or a change in the type of business organization. If the name of any Subadvised Fund contains the name of a Subadvised Fund or trademark or trade name that is owned by the Adviser to that Subadvised Fund will precede the name of the Subadvised.
administrator to each Series pursuant to an investment management and administration agreement with the Trust (each an “Investment Management Agreement” and collectively, the “Investment Management Agreements”). Each Investment Management Agreement was approved or will be approved by the board of trustees of the Trust (the “Board”), including a majority of the trustees who are not “interested persons,” as defined in section 2(a)(19) of the Act, of the Trust, the Subadvised Fund, or the Adviser ("Independent Trustees") and by the shareholders of the relevant Subadvised Fund in the manner required by sections 15(a) and 15(c) of the Act and rule 18f–2 under the Act.

2. Under the terms of each Investment Management Agreement, the Adviser, subject to the oversight of the Board and in conformity with the stated policies of the Trust, (a) manages the investment operations of the Trust; (b) administers the Trust’s affairs; and (c) except with respect to PACE Money Market Investments, each Subadvised Fund, and based on the need of a particular Series for its investment management services and investment policies and strategies of the Series for consideration by its Board. The Adviser periodically reviews investment policies and strategies of each Series and based on the need of a particular Series may recommend changes to the investment policies and strategies of the Series for consideration by its Board. The Adviser receives a management fee for its investment management services to each Series, and receives an administrative fee for its administration services to each Series, based on each Series’ average daily net assets. The terms of the Investment Management Agreements also permit the Adviser, subject to the approval of the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees, to delegate portfolio management responsibilities of all or a portion of the assets of a Series to one or more Subadvisers (“Subadvisers”). The Adviser has entered into investment subadvisory agreements ("Subadvisory Agreements") with a number of Subadvisers to serve as Subadvisers to the Series, except for PACE Money Market Investments. Each Subadvised Fund will be an investment adviser as defined in section 2(a)(20) of the Act as well as registered with the Commission as an “investment adviser” under the Adviser’s Act. The Adviser evaluates, allocates assets to and oversees the Subadvisers and makes recommendations about their hiring, termination and replacement to the Board, at all times subject to the authority of the Board. The Adviser currently compensates each Subadviser out of the advisory fees paid to the Adviser under the relevant Investment Management Agreement; in the future, Subadvised Funds may directly pay advisory fees to the Subadvisers.

3. Applicants request an order to permit the Adviser, subject to Board approval, to select certain Subadvisers to manage all or a portion of the assets of a Series pursuant to a Sub-Advisory Agreement and materially amend Sub-Advisory Agreements without obtaining shareholder approval. The requested relief will not extend to any Subadviser that is an affiliated person, as defined in section 2(a)(3) of the Act, of the Trust or a Subadvised Fund or the Adviser, other than by reason of serving as a Subadviser to Subadvised Funds ("Affiliated Subadviser").

4. Applicants also request an order exempting the Subadvised Funds from certain disclosure requirements described below. You may require the Applicants to disclose fees paid to each Subadvised Fund by the Adviser or a Subadvised Fund. Applicants seek an order to permit each Subadvised Fund to disclose (as a dollar amount and a percentage of each Subadvised Fund’s net assets) only: (a) The aggregate fees paid to the Adviser and any Affiliated Subadvisers; and (b) the aggregate fees paid to Subadvisers other than Affiliated Subadvisers (collectively, the “Aggregate Fee Disclosure”). A Subadvised Fund that employs an Affiliated Subadviser will provide separate disclosure of any fees paid to the Affiliated Subadviser.

Applicants’ Legal Analysis:
1. Section 15(a) of the Act provides, in relevant part, that it is unlawful for any person to act as an investment adviser to a registered investment company except pursuant to a written contract that has been approved by the vote of a majority of the company’s outstanding voting securities. Rule 18f–2 under the Act provides that each series or class of stock in a series investment company affected by a matter must approve that matter if the Act requires shareholder approval.

2. Form N–1A is the registration statement used by open-end investment companies. Item 19(b)(1) of Form N–1A requires disclosure of the method and amount of the investment adviser’s compensation.

3. Rule 20a–1 under the Act requires proxies solicited with respect to an investment company to comply with Schedule 14A under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"). Items 22(c)(1)(ii), 22(c)(1)(iii), 22(c)(8) and 22(c)(9) of Schedule 14A, taken together, require a proxy statement for a shareholder meeting at which the advisory contract will be voted upon to include the “rate of compensation of the investment adviser,” the “aggregate amount of the investment adviser’s fees,” a description of the “terms of the contract to be acted upon,” and, if a change in the advisory fee is proposed, the existing and proposed fees and the difference between the two fees.

4. Regulation S–X sets forth the requirements for financial statements required to be included as part of a registered investment company’s registration statement and shareholder reports filed with the Commission. Sections 6–07(2)(a), (b) and (c) of Regulation S–X require a registered investment company to include in its financial statement information about the investment advisory fees.

5. Section 6(c) 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 provisions of the Act, or from any rule thereunder, 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. Applicants...
state that the requested relief meets this standard for the reasons discussed below.

6. Applicants assert that the shareholders expect the Adviser, subject to the review and approval of the Board, to select the Subadvisers who are best suited to achieve the Subadvised Fund’s investment objective. Applicants assert that, from the perspective of the shareholder, the role of the Subadviser is substantially equivalent to the role of the individual portfolio managers employed by an investment adviser to a traditional investment company. Applicants state that requiring shareholder approval of each Subadvisory Agreement would impose unnecessary delays and expenses on the Subadvised Funds and may preclude the Subadvised Funds from acting promptly when the Adviser and Board consider it appropriate to hire Subadvisers or amend Subadvisory Agreements. Applicants note that the Investment Management Agreements and any Subadvisory Agreement with an Affiliated Subadviser (if any) will continue to be subject to the shareholder approval requirements of section 15(a) of the Act and rule 18f–2 under the Act.

7. If new Subadvisers are hired, the Subadvised Fund will inform shareholders of the hiring of a new Subadviser pursuant to the following procedures (“Modified Notice and Access Procedures”): (a) Within 90 days after a new Subadviser is hired for any Subadvised Fund, that Subadvised Fund will send its shareholders either a Multi-manager Notice or a Multi-manager Information Statement; and (b) the Subadvised Fund will make the Multi-manager Information Statement available on the Web site identified in the Multi-manager Notice no later than when the Multi-manager Notice (or Multi-manager Information Statement) is first sent to shareholders, and will maintain it on that Web site for at least 90 days. In the circumstances described in this Application, a proxy solicitation to approve the appointment of new Subadvisers provides no more meaningful information to shareholders than the proposed Multi-manager Information Statement. Moreover, as indicated above, the applicable Board would comply with the requirements of Sections 15(a) and 15(c) of the 1940 Act before entering into or amending Subadvisory Agreements.

8. Applicants assert that the requested disclosure relief would benefit shareholders of the Subadvised Funds because it would improve the Adviser’s ability to negotiate the fees paid to Subadvisers. Applicants state that the Adviser may be able to negotiate rates that are below a Subadviser’s “posted” amounts if the Adviser is not required to disclose the Subadvisers’ fees to the public. Applicants submit that the requested relief will also encourage Subadvisers to negotiate lower subadvisory fees with the Adviser if the lower fees are not required to be made public.

Applications’ Conditions:

Applicants agree that any order granting the requested relief will be subject to the following conditions:

1. Before a Subadvised Fund may rely on the order, the operation of the Subadvised Fund in the manner described in the Application will be approved by a majority of the Subadvised Fund’s outstanding voting securities as defined in the Act or, in the case of a Subadvised Fund whose public shareholders purchased shares on the basis of a prospectus containing the disclosure contemplated by condition 2 below, by the initial shareholder before such Subadvised Fund’s shares are offered to the public.

2. The prospectus for each Subadvised Fund will disclose the existence, substance, and effect of any order granted pursuant to the Application. In addition, each Subadvised Fund will hold itself out to the public as employing the Manager of Managers Structure. The prospectus will prominently disclose that the Adviser has the ultimate responsibility, subject to oversight by the Board, to oversee the Subadvisers and recommend their hiring, termination, and replacement.

3. Subadvised Funds will inform shareholders of the hiring of a new Subadviser within 90 days after the hiring of the new Subadviser pursuant to the Modified Notice and Access Procedures.

4. The Adviser will not enter into a Subadvisory Agreement with any Affiliated Subadviser without that agreement, including the compensation to be paid thereunder, being approved by the shareholders of the applicable Subadvised Fund.

5. At all times, at least a majority of the Board will be Independent Trustees, and the nomination of new or additional Independent Trustees will be placed within the discretion of the then-existing Independent Trustees.

6. Independent legal counsel, as defined in rule 0–1a(a)(6) under the Act, will be engaged to represent the Independent Trustees. The selection of such counsel will be within the discretion of the then-existing Independent Trustees.

7. Whenever a Subadviser change is proposed for a Subadvised Fund with an Affiliated Subadviser, the Adviser, including a majority of the Independent Trustees, will make a separate finding, reflected in the Trust’s Board minutes, that the change is in the best interests of the Subadvised Fund and its shareholders, and does not involve a conflict of interest from which the Adviser or the Affiliated Subadviser derives an inappropriate advantage.

8. Whenever a Subadviser is hired or terminated, the Adviser will provide the Board with information showing the expected impact on the profitability of the Adviser.

9. The Adviser will provide the Board, no less frequently than quarterly, with information about the profitability of the Adviser on a per Subadvised Fund basis. The information will reflect the impact on profitability of the hiring or termination of any Subadviser during the applicable quarter.

10. The Adviser will provide general management and administrative services to each Subadvised Fund, including overall supervisory responsibility for the general management and investment of the Subadvised Fund’s assets and, subject to review and approval of the Board, will: (i) Set the Subadvised Fund’s overall investment strategies; (ii) evaluate, select, and recommend Subadvisers to manage all or a part of the Subadvised Fund’s assets; (iii) allocate and, when appropriate, reallocate the Subadvised Fund’s assets among Subadvisers; (iv) monitor and evaluate the investment performance of Subadvisers; and (v) implement procedures reasonably designed to ensure that Subadvisers comply with the Subadvised Fund’s investment objective, policies and restrictions.

A “Multi-manager Notice” will be modeled on a Notice of Internet Availability as defined in rule 14a–16 under the Exchange Act, and specifically will, among other things: (a) Summarize the relevant information regarding the new Subadviser; (b) inform shareholders that the Multi-manager Information Statement is available on a Web site; (c) provide the Web site address; (d) state the time period during which the Multi-manager Information Statement will remain available on that Web site; (e) provide instructions for accessing and printing the Multi-manager Information Statement; and (f) instruct the shareholder that a paper or email copy of the Multi-manager Information Statement may be obtained, without charge, by contacting the Subadvised Funds.

A “Multi-manager Information Statement” will meet the requirements of Regulation 14C, Schedule 14C and Item 22 of Schedule 14A under the Exchange Act for an information statement, except as modified by amended and restated order to permit Aggregate Fee Disclosure. Multi-manager Information Statements will be filed electronically with the Commission via the EDGAR system.
11. No Trustee or officer of the Trust or of a Subadvised Fund or director or officer of the Adviser, will own directly or indirectly (other than through a pooled investment vehicle that is not controlled by such person) any interest in a Subadvised except for (i) ownership of interests in the Adviser or any entity that controls, is controlled by or is under common control with the Adviser; or (ii) ownership of less than 1% of the outstanding securities of any class of equity or debt of any publicly traded company that is either a Subadvised or an entity that controls, is controlled by or is under common control with a Subadviser.

12. Each Subadvised Fund will disclose in its registration statement the Aggregate Fee Disclosure.

13. In the event the Commission adopts a rule under the Act providing substantially similar relief to that in the order requested in the Application, the requested order will expire on the effective date of that rule.

14. For Subadvised Funds that pay fees to a Subadviser directly from fund assets, any changes to a Subadvisory Agreement that would result in an increase in the total management and advisory fees payable by a Subadvised Fund will be required to be approved by the shareholders of the Subadvised Fund.

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

Kevin M. O’Neill, Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2012–24458 Filed 10–3–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE Arca, Inc.; International Securities Exchange, LLC; Notice of Filing of Amendments No. 1 and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Changes as Modified by Amendments No. 1 To List and Trade Option Contracts Overlying 10 Shares of Certain Securities


I. Introduction

On June 15, 2012, NYSE Arca, Inc. (“NYSE Arca”), and on June 20, 2012, International Securities Exchange, LLC (“ISE,” and together with NYSE Arca, “Exchanges”), 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 proposed rule changes to list and trade option contracts overlying 10 shares of certain securities (“mini options”). The proposed rule changes were published for comment in the Federal Register on July 3, 2012.3 The Commission initially received two comment letters on the proposals.4 On August 9, 2012, the Commission extended the time period for Commission action on both proposals to October 1, 2012.5 On September 20, 2012, NYSE Arca filed Amendment No. 1 to its proposed rule change. Also, on September 20, 2012, ISE submitted a response letter6 and filed Amendment No. 1 to its proposed rule change.7 On September 24, 2012, NYSE Arca submitted a response letter.8 The Commission subsequently received one additional comment letter9 and one additional response letter from each of the Exchanges.10 The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the Exchanges’ proposals, as modified by Amendments No. 1, from interested persons and is approving the Exchanges’ proposals, as modified by Amendments No. 1, on an accelerated basis.

II. Description of the Proposed Rule Changes

The Exchanges propose to list and trade mini options11 on certain underlying securities—SPDR S&P 500 ETF (‘‘SPY’’), Apple Inc. (‘‘AAPL’’), SPDR Gold Trust (‘‘GLD’’), Google Inc. (‘‘GOOG’’), and Amazon.com, Inc. (‘‘AMZN’’).12 According to the Exchanges, these underlying securities were selected because they are currently trading at prices greater than $100 and are actively traded.13 The Exchanges also note that the standard option contracts overlying these five securities are among the most actively traded, with average daily volume over the previous three calendar months of at least 45,000 contracts, excluding LEAPS and FLEX series.14

The Exchanges propose to designate mini options contracts with different trading symbols than their corresponding standard contracts.15 In addition, the Exchanges propose that strike prices for mini options would be set at the same level as full-sized options.16 Bids and offers for mini options would be expressed in terms of dollars or 1/10th of the total value of the options contract.17 As expressed in the Exchanges’ proposals, the table below demonstrates the proposed differences between a mini options contract and a standard contract with a strike price of $125 per share and a bid or offer of $3.20 per share:

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2 See letters to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Commission, from Christopher Nog, President, KOR Trading LLC, dated July 10, 2012 (‘‘KOR Trading Letter’’) and Edward T. Tilly, President and Chief Operating Officer, Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated, dated July 24, 2012 (‘‘CBOE Letter’’).
4 See letter to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Commission, from Michael J. Simon, Secretary and General Counsel, ISE, dated September 20, 2012 (‘‘ISE Response Letter I’’).
5 In its Amendment No. 1, each Exchange represents that its current schedule of fees will not commence trading in mini options until it files with the Commission, as a proposed rule change, specific fees for mini options.
6 See letter to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Commission, from Janet McGinnis, EVP & Corporate Secretary, General Counsel, NYSE Markets, NYSE Euronext, dated September 24, 2012 (‘‘NYSE Arca Response Letter I’’).
7 See letter to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Commission, from Anthony D. McCormick, Chief Executive Officer, BOX Options Exchange LLC (‘‘BOX’’), dated September 24, 2012 (‘‘BOX Letter’’).
8 See letters to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Commission, from Janet McGinnis, EVP & Corporate Secretary, General Counsel, NYSE Markets, NYSE Euronext, dated September 26, 2012 (‘‘NYSE Arca Response Letter II’’) and Katherine Simmons, Deputy General Counsel, ISE, dated September 26, 2012 (‘‘ISE Response Letter II’’).
9 Mini options contracts would represent a deliverable of 10 shares of an underlying security, whereas standard contracts represent a deliverable of 100 shares.
10 The Exchanges note that any expansion of the mini options program would require that a subsequent proposed rule change be submitted to the Commission. See NYSE Arca Notice, supra note 3, at n.3 and ISE Notice, supra note 3, at n.3.
11 See NYSE Arca Notice, supra note 3, at n.3 and ISE Notice, supra note 3, at n.3.
12 The Exchanges note that any expansion of the mini options program would require that a subsequent proposed rule change be submitted to the Commission. See NYSE Arca Notice, supra note 3, at n.3 and ISE Notice, supra note 3, at n.3.
13 See NYSE Arca Notice, supra note 3, at n.3 and ISE Notice, supra note 3, at n.3.
14 See NYSE Arca Notice, supra note 3, at n.3 and ISE Notice, supra note 3, at n.3.
15 See NYSE Arca Notice, supra note 3, at 39536 and ISE Notice, supra note 3, at 39546. According to the Exchanges, the Options Clearing Corporation (‘‘OCC’’) symbology is structured for contracts that have a deliverable of other than 100 shares to be designated with a numeric added to the standard trading symbol. See NYSE Arca Notice, supra note 3, at n.6 and ISE Notice, supra note 3, at 39546. See also NYSE Arca Response Letter II, supra note 10, at 1.
16 See NYSE Arca Rule 6.4, Commentary .14(b) and ISE Rule 504, Supplementary Material .12(b).
17 See NYSE Arca Rule 6.71(c) and ISE Rule 708(b).