

unless it displays a currently valid control number.

Please direct your written comment to Pamela Dyson, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Remi Pavlik-Simon, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549 or send an email to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov.

Dated: July 7, 2017.

Eduardo A. Aleman,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2017-14571 Filed 7-11-17; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon Written Request Copies Available

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

Extension: Rule 433

SEC File No. 270-558, OMB Control No. 3235-0617

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 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.

Rule 433 (17 CFR 230.433) governs the use and filing of free writing prospectuses under the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77a *et seq.*). The purpose of Rule 433 is to reduce the restrictions on communications that a company can make to investors during a registered offering of its securities, while maintaining a high level of investor protection. A free writing prospectus meeting the conditions of Rule 433(d)(1) must be filed with the Commission and is publicly available. We estimate that it takes approximately 1.3 burden hours per response to prepare a free writing prospectus and that the information is filed by 3,633 respondents approximately 1.25 times a year for a total of 3,633 responses. We estimate that 25% of the 1.3 burden hours per response (0.32 hours) is prepared by the company for total annual reporting burden of 1,163 hours (0.32 hours x 3,633 responses).

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether this proposed collection of information is necessary for the

performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden imposed by 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 in writing within 60 days of this publication.

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.

Please direct your written comment to Pamela Dyson, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Remi Pavlik-Simon, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549 or send an email to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov.

Dated: July 7, 2017.

Eduardo A. Aleman,
Assistant Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 32727; 812-14751]

Nationwide Fund Advisors, et al.

July 6, 2017.

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

ACTION: Notice.

Notice of an application for an order under section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “Act”) for an exemption from sections 2(a)(32), 5(a)(1), 22(d), and 22(e) of the Act and rule 22c-1 under the Act, under sections 6(c) and 17(b) of the Act for an exemption from sections 17(a)(1) and 17(a)(2) of the Act, and under section 12(d)(1)(J) for an exemption from sections 12(d)(1)(A) and 12(d)(1)(B) of the Act. The requested order would permit (a) index-based series of certain open-end management investment companies (“Funds”) to issue shares redeemable in large aggregations only (“Creation Units”); (b) secondary market transactions in Fund shares to occur at negotiated market prices rather than at net asset value (“NAV”); (c) certain Funds to pay redemption proceeds,

under certain circumstances, more than seven days after the tender of shares for redemption; (d) certain affiliated persons of a Fund to deposit securities into, and receive securities from, the Fund in connection with the purchase and redemption of Creation Units; and (e) certain registered management investment companies and unit investment trusts outside of the same group of investment companies as the Funds (“Funds of Funds”) to acquire shares of the Funds.

APPLICANTS: Nationwide Fund Advisors (the “Initial Adviser”), a Delaware statutory trust that is registered as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, ETF Series Solutions (the “Trust”), a Delaware statutory trust registered under the Act as an open-end management investment company with multiple series, and Quasar Distributors, LLC (the “Distributor”), a Delaware limited liability company and broker-dealer registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”).

FILING DATES: The application was filed on March 3, 2017 and amended on June 14, 2017.

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 July 31, 2017, and should be accompanied by proof of service on 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: Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090; Applicants: W. John McGuire, Esq., Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, 1111 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington DC 20004-2541 and Michael D. Barolsky, Esq., U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC, 615 E. Michigan Street, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laura J. Riegel, Senior Counsel, at (202) 551-3038, or Robert H. Shapiro, Branch Chief, at (202) 551-6821 (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 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.

Summary of the Application

1. Applicants request an order that would allow Funds to operate as index exchange traded funds ("ETFs").¹ Fund shares will be purchased and redeemed at their NAV in Creation Units only. All orders to purchase Creation Units and all redemption requests will be placed by or through an "Authorized Participant", which will have signed a participant agreement with the Distributor. Shares will be listed and traded individually on a national securities exchange, where share prices will be based on the current bid/offer market. Any order granting the requested relief would be subject to the terms and conditions stated in the application.

2. Each Fund will hold investment positions selected to correspond generally to the performance of an Underlying Index. In the case of Self-Indexing Funds, an affiliated person, as defined in section 2(a)(3) of the Act ("Affiliated Person"), or an affiliated person of an Affiliated Person ("Second-Tier Affiliate"), of the Trust or a Fund, of the Adviser, of any sub-adviser to or promoter of a Fund, or of the Distributor will compile, create, sponsor or maintain the Underlying Index.²

3. Shares will be purchased and redeemed in Creation Units and generally on an in-kind basis. Except where the purchase or redemption will include cash under the limited circumstances specified in the application, purchasers will be required to purchase Creation Units by depositing specified instruments

("Deposit Instruments"), and shareholders redeeming their shares will receive specified instruments ("Redemption Instruments"). The Deposit Instruments and the Redemption Instruments will each correspond pro rata to the positions in the Fund's portfolio (including cash positions) except as specified in the application.

4. Because shares will not be individually redeemable, applicants request an exemption from section 5(a)(1) and section 2(a)(32) of the Act that would permit the Funds to register as open-end management investment companies and issue shares that are redeemable in Creation Units only.

5. Applicants also request an exemption from section 22(d) of the Act and rule 22c-1 under the Act as secondary market trading in shares will take place at negotiated prices, not at a current offering price described in a Fund's prospectus, and not at a price based on NAV. Applicants state that (a) secondary market trading in shares does not involve a Fund as a party and will not result in dilution of an investment in shares, and (b) to the extent different prices exist during a given trading day, or from day to day, such variances occur as a result of third-party market forces, such as supply and demand. Therefore, applicants assert that secondary market transactions in shares will not lead to discrimination or preferential treatment among purchasers. Finally, applicants represent that share market prices will be disciplined by arbitrage opportunities, which should prevent shares from trading at a material discount or premium from NAV.

6. With respect to Funds that effect creations and redemptions of Creation Units in kind and that are based on certain Underlying Indexes that include foreign securities, applicants request relief from the requirement imposed by section 22(e) in order to allow such Funds to pay redemption proceeds within fifteen calendar days following the tender of Creation Units for redemption. Applicants assert that the requested relief would not be inconsistent with the spirit and intent of section 22(e) to prevent unreasonable, undisclosed or unforeseen delays in the actual payment of redemption proceeds.

7. Applicants request an exemption to permit Funds of Funds to acquire Fund shares beyond the limits of section 12(d)(1)(A) of the Act; and the Funds, and any principal underwriter for the Funds, and/or any broker or dealer registered under the Exchange Act, to sell shares to Funds of Funds beyond the limits of section 12(d)(1)(B) of the Act. The application's terms and

conditions are designed to, among other things, help prevent any potential (i) undue influence over a Fund through control or voting power, or in connection with certain services, transactions, and underwritings, (ii) excessive layering of fees, and (iii) overly complex fund structures, which are the concerns underlying the limits in sections 12(d)(1)(A) and (B) of the Act.

8. Applicants request an exemption from sections 17(a)(1) and 17(a)(2) of the Act to permit persons that are Affiliated Persons, or Second-Tier Affiliates, of the Funds, solely by virtue of certain ownership interests, to effectuate purchases and redemptions in-kind. The deposit procedures for in-kind purchases of Creation Units and the redemption procedures for in-kind redemptions of Creation Units will be the same for all purchases and redemptions and Deposit Instruments and Redemption Instruments will be valued in the same manner as those investment positions currently held by the Funds. Applicants also seek relief from the prohibitions on affiliated transactions in section 17(a) to permit a Fund to sell its shares to and redeem its shares from a Fund of Funds, and to engage in the accompanying in-kind transactions with the Fund of Funds.³ The purchase of Creation Units by a Fund of Funds directly from a Fund will be accomplished in accordance with the policies of the Fund of Funds and will be based on the NAVs of the Funds.

9. 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)(J) 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

³ The requested relief would apply to direct sales of shares in Creation Units by a Fund to a Fund of Funds and redemptions of those shares. Applicants, moreover, are not seeking relief from section 17(a) for, and the requested relief will not apply to, transactions where a Fund could be deemed an Affiliated Person, or a Second-Tier Affiliate, of a Fund of Funds because an Adviser or an entity controlling, controlled by or under common control with an Adviser provides investment advisory services to that Fund of Funds.

¹ Applicants request that the order apply to the new series of the Trust and any additional series of the Trust, and any other open-end management investment company or series thereof (each, included in the term "Fund"), each of which will operate as an ETF and will track a specified index comprised of domestic or foreign equity and/or fixed income securities (each, an "Underlying Index"). Any Fund will (a) be advised by the Initial Adviser or an entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control with the Initial Adviser (each, an "Adviser") and (b) comply with the terms and conditions of the application.

² Each Self-Indexing Fund will post on its Web site the identities and quantities of the investment positions that will form the basis for the Fund's calculation of its NAV at the end of the day. Applicants believe that requiring Self-Indexing Funds to maintain full portfolio transparency will help address, together with other protections, conflicts of interest with respect to such Funds.

that (a) the terms of the proposed 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.

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

Eduardo A. Aleman,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2017-14558 Filed 7-11-17; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-81084; File No. SR-BatsBZX-2017-35]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Bats BZX Exchange, Inc.; Order Granting Approval of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend Rule 20.6, Nullification and Adjustment of Options Transactions Including Obvious Errors, and Rule 20.3, Trading Halts

July 6, 2017.

I. Introduction

On May 5, 2017, Bats BZX Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “BZX”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² a proposed rule change to amend Exchange Rule 20.6 (“Rule 20.6”), relating to the adjustment and nullification of transactions that occur on the Exchange’s equity options platform, and Exchange Rule 20.3 (“Rule 20.3”), relating to trading halts. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on May 23, 2017.³ The Commission received no comments regarding the proposal. This order approves the proposed rule change.

II. Description of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 20.6, entitled “Nullification and Adjustment of Options Transactions including Obvious Errors,” to: (i) Adopt procedures to determine Theoretical Price in the event a reliable national best bid or offer (“NBBO”) is not available; and (ii) expand the category of

invalid quotes. The Exchange also proposes to amend Rule 20.3, entitled “Trading Halts,” to require the Exchange to nullify any transaction that occurs during a regulatory halt on the primary listing market for the underlying security.

A. Background

The Exchange and other options exchanges previously adopted new, harmonized rules related to the adjustment and nullification of erroneous options transactions.⁴ The Exchange believes that the changes the options exchanges implemented with the new, harmonized rules have led to increased transparency and finality with respect to the adjustment and nullification of erroneous options transactions.⁵ However, as part of the initial initiative, the Exchange and other options exchanges deferred a few specific matters for further discussion, including the calculation of Theoretical Price in the event a reliable NBBO is not available and the handling of erroneous complex orders and stock-option orders.⁶ The calculation of Theoretical Price is used in determining whether an options transaction is potentially erroneous and subject to a nullification or adjustment under Rule 20.6.

B. Calculation of Theoretical Price Using a Third Party Provider

Pursuant to Rule 20.6, when reviewing a transaction as potentially erroneous, the Exchange needs to first determine the “Theoretical Price” of the option, *i.e.*, the Exchange’s estimate of the correct market price for the option. If the applicable option series is traded on at least one other options exchange, then the Theoretical Price of an option series is generally the last national best bid (“NBB”) just prior to the trade in question with respect to an erroneous sell transaction or the last national best offer (“NBO”) just prior to the trade in question with respect to an erroneous buy transaction. However, there may be situations where the NBB or NBO is not

available or may not be reliable. Specifically, under sub-paragraphs (b)(1)–(3) of Rule 20.6, these situations occur when there are no quotes or no valid quotes for comparison purposes, when the NBBO is determined to be too wide to be reliable, and at the open of each trading day. In each of these circumstances, because the NBB or NBO is not available or is deemed to be unreliable, the Exchange determines Theoretical Price.⁷ The Exchange notes that the process for determining Theoretical Price in such situations could be subjective and lead to disparate results for a transaction that spans multiple options exchanges.⁸

Accordingly, the Exchange proposes to adopt Interpretation and Policy .03 to Rule 20.6 to specify how the Exchange would determine Theoretical Price when required by sub-paragraphs (b)(1)–(3) of Rule 20.6.⁹ In particular, the Exchange worked with other options exchanges to identify and select a reliable third party vendor (“TP Provider”) that would provide Theoretical Price to the Exchange whenever one or more transactions is under review pursuant to Rule 20.6 and the NBBO is unavailable or deemed unreliable pursuant to Rule 20.6(b).¹⁰ The Exchange and other options exchanges selected CBOE Livevol, LLC (“Livevol”) as the TP Provider.¹¹ According to the Exchange, Livevol will develop a new tool in connection with this proposal based on its existing technology and services that would supply Theoretical Price to the Exchange and other options exchanges upon request.¹² Accordingly, pursuant to proposed Interpretation and Policy .03 of Rule 20.6, when the Exchange must determine Theoretical Price pursuant to sub-paragraphs (b)(1)–(3) of

⁷ The Exchange states that when determining Theoretical Price under the current Rule, Exchange personnel generally consult and refer to data such as the prices of related series (especially the closest strikes in the option in question), the price of the underlying security, volatility characteristics of the option, and historical pricing of the option and/or similar options. See Notice, *supra* note 3, at 23685.

⁸ See *id.*

⁹ The Exchange has further proposed to modify paragraph (b) to Rule 20.6 to state that the Exchange will rely on paragraph (b) and Interpretation and Policy .03 when determining Theoretical Price.

¹⁰ See Notice, *supra* note 3, at 23685.

¹¹ See *id.* The Exchange proposes to codify the selection of Livevol in proposed paragraph (d) to Interpretation and Policy .03 of Rule 20.6. See *id.*

¹² See *id.* The Exchange states that the Theoretical Price tool would leverage current market data and surrounding strikes to assist in a relative value pricing approach to generating a Theoretical Price. See *id.* When relative value methods are incapable of generating a valid Theoretical Price, the Theoretical Price tool will utilize historical trade and quote data to calculate Theoretical Price. See *id.*

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 80709 (May 17, 2017), 82 FR 23684 (“Notice”).

⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 74556 (March 20, 2015), 80 FR 16031 (March 26, 2015) (order approving SR-BATS-2014-067); see also Securities and Exchange Act Release No. 73884 (December 18, 2014), 79 FR 77557 (December 24, 2014) (notice of filing of SR-BATS-2014-067).

⁵ See Notice, *supra* note 3, at 23684.

⁶ Since adopting the initial harmonized rule, the exchanges that offer complex orders and/or stock-option orders have addressed the handling of erroneous options transactions that result from the execution of complex orders and stock-option orders. See, e.g., Securities Exchange Act Release No. 80040 (February 14, 2017), 82 FR 11248 (February 21, 2017) (SR-CBOE-2016-088) (granting approval of a proposal related to the nullification and adjustment of erroneous complex order and stock-option order transactions).