

nonetheless influence how available policy frameworks and administrative tools are (or are not) used. For example, agencies may have the administrative flexibilities to overcome regulatory mismatches, but not fully utilize them due to a lack of awareness, hindering the pace and scope of AI adoption.

This RFI seeks to identify Federal regulations that hinder AI development, deployment, or adoption, particularly due to rules established before current AI capabilities were anticipated. OSTP is especially interested in regulations that, while serving important purposes, contain requirements or assumptions incompatible with how AI systems function or could function. Respondents are encouraged to identify regulations across all sectors where the underlying assumptions, technical requirements, or compliance frameworks may create unnecessary barriers to beneficial AI applications, even if the core policy objectives remain valid.

Specifically, OSTP invite responses to one or more of the following questions:

(i) What AI activities, innovations, or deployments are currently being inhibited, delayed, or otherwise constrained due to Federal statutes, regulations, or policies? Please describe the specific barrier and the AI capability or application that would be enabled if it was addressed. The barriers may directly hinder AI development or adoption, or indirectly hinder through incompatible policy frameworks.

(ii) What specific Federal statutes, regulations, or policies present barriers to AI development, deployment, or adoption in your sector? Please identify the relevant rules and authority with specificity, including a cite to the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) or the U.S. Code (U.S.C.) where applicable.

(iii) Where existing policy frameworks are not appropriate for AI applications, what administrative tools (e.g., waivers, exemptions, experimental authorities) are available, but underutilized? Please identify the administrative tools with specificity, citing the CFR or U.S.C. where applicable.

(iv) Where specific statutory or regulatory regimes are structurally incompatible with AI applications, what modifications would be necessary to enable lawful deployment while preserving regulatory objectives?

(v) Where barriers arise from a lack of clarity or interpretive guidance on how existing rules cover AI activities, what forms of clarification (e.g., standards, guidance documents, interpretive rules) would be most effective?

(vi) Are there barriers that arise from organizational factors that impact how Federal statutes, regulations, or policies

are used or not used? How might Federal action appropriately address them?

Dated: September 24, 2025.

**Stacy Murphy,**

*Deputy Chief Operations Officer/Security Officer.*

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–104019; File No. SR–CBOE–2025–068]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend Rules 4.13, 5.1, and 8.32 To Permit P.M.-Settled Options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index

September 23, 2025.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”),<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on September 10, 2025, Cboe Exchange, Inc. (“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 Rules 4.13, 5.1, and 8.32 to permit options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index to be P.M.-settled (“MGTN options”).<sup>3</sup> The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

<sup>3</sup> The Exchange is contemporaneously submitting a separate rule filing to make administrative updates to the Rules regarding the listing of options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index. The Exchange intends to begin listing options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index pursuant to Rule 4.10(b), as the underlying index satisfies the listing criteria for a narrow-based index option, and intends to submit a form pursuant to Rule 19b–4(e) no later than five days after the Exchange begins listing these options. Those options will be A.M.-settled with standard third Friday-of-the-month expirations in accordance with current Rules (see Rules 4.10(b) and 4.13(a)(2)). The Exchange may also list options on this index that are P.M.-settled with end-of-month and end-of-quarter expirations pursuant to the Monthly and Quarterly Options Programs (see Rule 4.13(a)(2)(B) and (C)).

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Commission’s website (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>), the Exchange’s website ([https://www.cboe.com/us/options/regulation/rule\\_filings/bzx/](https://www.cboe.com/us/options/regulation/rule_filings/bzx/)), and at the principal office of the Exchange.

#### 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 4.13, 5.1, and 8.32. First, the Exchange proposes to amend Rule 4.13(e), which governs its Nonstandard Expirations Program (“Program”), to permit P.M.-settled options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index (“MGTN options”) that expire any Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday (other than the third Friday-of-the-month (“Expiration Friday”) or days that coincide with an end-of-month expiration) (“Weekly Expirations”) and that expire on the last trading day of the month (“EOMs”). Currently, under this Program, the Exchange is permitted to list P.M.-settled options on any broad-based index eligible for standard trading that expire on: (1) any Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday (other than the third Friday-of-the-month or days that coincide with an EOM expiration) and (2) the last trading day of the month.<sup>4</sup> The proposal expands the availability of Weekly and EOM expirations to MGTN options,

<sup>4</sup> See Rule 4.13(e). The Exchange notes it has a separate rule filing pending to permit these expirations for options on another narrow-based index (both full- and reduced-value), the Cboe Bitcoin U.S. ETF Index, which filing proposes some of the changes in this proposed rule change. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 102502 (February 27, 2025), 90 FR 11343 (March 5, 2025) (SR–CBOE–2025–004). If the Commission approves that filing prior to this rule filing, the Exchange will amend this rule filing to delete those proposed changes from the scope of this rule filing.

which are narrow-based index options eligible for standard options trading.<sup>5</sup>

The Nonstandard Expiration Program will apply to MGTN options in the same manner as it currently applies to broad-based index options. Weekly and EOM Expirations are subject to all provisions of Rule 4.13 and treated the same as options on the same underlying index that expire on the third Friday of the expiration month; provided, however, that Weekly and EOM Expirations are P.M.-settled, and new series in Weekly and EOM Expirations may be added up to and including on the expiration date for an expiring Weekly or EOM Expiration.

The maximum number of expirations that may be listed for each Weekly Expiration (*i.e.*, a Monday expiration, Tuesday expiration, Wednesday expiration, Thursday expiration, or Friday expiration, as applicable) and each EOM expiration in a given class is the same as the maximum number of expirations permitted in Rule 4.13(a)(2) for standard options on the same index (which is currently six for MGTN options).<sup>6</sup> Weekly Expirations need not be for consecutive Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday expirations as applicable; however, the expiration date of a nonconsecutive expiration may not be beyond what would be considered the last expiration date if the maximum number of expirations were listed consecutively. Weekly Expirations that are first listed in a given class may expire up to four weeks from the actual listing date. Similarly, EOM expirations need not be for consecutive end of month expirations; however, the expiration date of a nonconsecutive expiration may not be beyond what would be considered the last expiration date if the maximum number of expirations were listed consecutively. EOM Expirations that are first listed in a given class may expire up to four weeks from the actual listing date. If the Exchange lists EOMs

and Weekly Expirations in a given class, the Exchange will list an EOM instead of a Weekly Expiration that expires on the same day in the given class. Other expirations in the same class are not counted as part of the maximum number of Weekly or EOM Expirations for an applicable index class.

If the Exchange is not open for business on a respective Monday, the normally Monday expiring Weekly Expirations will expire on the following business day. If the Exchange is not open for business on a respective Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday, the normally Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday expiring Weekly Expirations will expire on the previous business day. If two different Weekly Expirations on an index would expire on the same day because the Exchange is not open for business on a certain weekday, the Exchange will list only one of such Weekly Expirations. In addition, pursuant to Rule 4.13(e)(3), transactions in expiring index options with Weekly and EOM Expirations may be effected on the Exchange between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on their last trading day (Eastern Time).

Second, the Exchange proposes to amend Rule 4.13(c), which governs quarterly index expirations (“QIXs”), to add MGTN options to the list of options in Rule 4.13(c) that are eligible for quarterly index expirations (“QIXs”), which are currently available for options on the S&P 100 Index (“OEX options”), S&P 500 Index (“SPX options”), Mini-S&P 500 Index (“XSP options”), S&P 500 Equal Weight Index (full-value) (“SPEQ options”), S&P 500 Equal Weight Index (1/10th reduced-value) (“SPEQX options”), Russell 2000 Index (“RUT options”), and Mini-Russell 2000 Index (“MRUT options”).<sup>7</sup> Pursuant to Rule 4.13(c), there may be up to eight near-term quarterly expirations open for trading in a class, and these options will be P.M.-settled. The QIX program will apply to MGTN options in the same manner as it currently applies to the other options currently eligible for those expirations. QIXs are subject to all provisions of Rule 4.13 and treated the same as options on the same underlying index that expire on the third Friday of the

expiration month, except that QIXs, are P.M.-settled.

Third, the Exchange proposes to amend Rule 4.13, Interpretation and Policy .13, to permit the listing of P.M.-settled MGTN options that expire on Expiration Fridays. Currently, pursuant to Rule 4.13, Interpretation and Policy .13, the Exchange is permitted to list P.M.-settled SPX options, XSP options, SPEQ options, SPEQX options, RUT options, and MRUT options that expire on Expiration Fridays. Combined with the proposed rule change above to permit the Exchange to list P.M.-settled MGTN options with Weekly Expirations, the Exchange would be permitted to list P.M.-settled MGTN options with expirations on all Fridays (in addition to all other days of the week). MGTN options that are P.M.-settled and expire on Expiration Fridays are subject to all provisions of Rule 4.13 and treated the same as A.M.-settled MGTN options, except that they are P.M.-settled.<sup>8</sup>

Finally, the Exchange proposes to amend Rule 5.1, which governs trading days and hours, in conjunction with the proposed addition of MGTN options that are P.M.-settled and expire on Expiration Friday. Rule 5.1(b)(2)(C) currently provides that on their last trading day, Regular Trading Hours for index options with Nonstandard Expirations, as well as expiring P.M.-settled SPX, XSP, RUT, and MRUT options, may be effected on the Exchange between 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time<sup>9</sup> (as opposed to the 9:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Regular Trading Hours for options with those expirations that are non-expiring). The proposed rule change amends Rule 5.1(b)(2)(C) to include MGTN P.M.-settled options.<sup>10</sup> The primary listing markets for the component securities that comprise the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index close trading in those securities at 4:00 p.m., just as the primary listing markets for the component securities that comprise the S&P 500, Mini-S&P 500, Russell 2000, and Mini-Russell 2000 Indexes close trading at 4:00 p.m. The primary listing exchanges for the component securities disseminate closing prices for the component securities, which are used to calculate the exercise settlement value

<sup>5</sup> The Exchange notes MGTN options are eligible for the Monthly Options Series program pursuant to Rule 4.13(a)(2)(C), which permits p.m.-settled options that expire on the last trading day of the month (as do options with EOM expirations). The Exchange proposes to make these options eligible for the EOM expirations pursuant to the Nonstandard Expiration for consistency since the Exchange is proposing to make these options eligible for the Weekly Expirations, which are part of the Nonstandard Expiration Program.

<sup>6</sup> The proposed rule change deletes the phrase “broad-based” in several places in Rule 4.13(e), as the proposal would result in the provisions within that Rule applying to indexes that are not broad-based. These administrative changes merely accommodate the proposed expansion of the Nonstandard Expiration Program. The Exchange is not proposing to expand the Nonstandard Expiration Program to narrow-based indices generally, but rather only to MGTN options.

<sup>7</sup> The Exchange notes MGTN options are currently eligible for the Quarterly Options Series program pursuant to Rule 4.13(a)(2)(B), which permits P.M.-settled options that expire on the last trading day of the quarter (as do QIXs). The Exchange proposes to make these options eligible for QIXs for consistency, since QIXs are currently available for certain index options available for trading on the Exchange (which options are also eligible for the Nonstandard Expirations Program).

<sup>8</sup> The proposed rule change also amends Rule 4.13, Interpretation and Policy .13 to define P.M.-settled series in the option classes specified in that Rule as “P.M.-settled Third Friday Index Options.”

<sup>9</sup> See Rule 1.6, which states that unless otherwise specified, all times in the Rules are Eastern Time.

<sup>10</sup> Current Rule 5.1(b)(2)(C) would apply to MGTN options with Nonstandard Expirations and QIXs, as proposed; therefore, the addition of MGTN P.M.-settled options to the list of options set forth in this Rule covers these options that expire on Expiration Fridays.

of these indexes. The Exchange believes that, under normal trading circumstances, the primary listing markets have sufficient bandwidth to prevent any data queuing that may cause any trades that are executed prior to the closing time from being reported after 4:00 p.m. If trading in expiring MGTN P.M.-settled options continued an additional fifteen minutes until 4:15 p.m. on their last trading day, these expiring options would be trading after the settlement index value for those expiring options was calculated. Therefore, in order to mitigate potential investor confusion and the potential for increased costs to investors as a result of potential pricing divergence at the end of the trading day, the Exchange believes that it is appropriate to cease trading in the expiring MGTN P.M.-Settled options at 4:00 p.m., as it already does for expiring P.M.-settled SPX, XSP, RUT, and MRUT options that expire on Expiration Fridays and for expiring broad-based indexes with Nonstandard Expirations (which are P.M.-settled) for the same aforementioned reasons.<sup>11</sup> The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impact volatility on the underlying cash market comprising the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index at the close on Expiration Fridays, as it already closes trading on the last trading day for expiring P.M.-settled index options at 4:00 p.m., which the Exchange does not believe has had an adverse impact on fair and orderly markets on Expiration Fridays for the underlying securities comprising the corresponding indexes.<sup>12</sup>

As noted above, current Rules permit the Exchange to list P.M.-settled MGTN options with expirations on the last calendar of the month and quarter.<sup>13</sup> As a result, it is already possible under the Rules for options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index to be P.M.-settled and to expire on any day of the week (as the end of the month or the end of a quarter may fall on any day of the week). The Rules also already allow options on the Cboe Magnificent 10

Index to expire on Thursdays for normally Friday expiring options when the Exchange is not open for business on a respective Friday. Further, options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index will be available for FLEX trading pursuant to Rule 4.20 upon initial listing on the Exchange, which would permit market participants to select expiration dates for these FLEX options for any day of the week and may select p.m.-settlement.

The Exchange believes that the introduction of Weekly Expirations and Expiration Friday expirations for options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index that are P.M.-settled will provide market participants with additional hedging tools and greater trading opportunities, regardless of in which index option market they participate. By offering expanded expirations along with the current standard A.M.-settled expirations (as well as P.M.-settled monthly and quarterly expirations), the proposed rule change will allow market participants to purchase options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index available for trading on the Exchange in a manner more aligned with specific timing needs (such as to hedge special events) and more effectively tailor their investment and hedging strategies and manage their portfolios. In particular, the proposed rule change will allow market participants to roll their positions on more trading days, thus with more precision, spread risk across more trading days and incorporate daily changes in the markets, which may reduce the premium cost of buying protection. For example, the Exchange believes that market participants may pay for more protection than they need if they are seeking to hedge weekend or special event risk that occurs. Therefore, the Exchange believes that P.M.-settled daily expirations (including on all Fridays) would allow market participants to purchase an option based on their needed timing and allow them to tailor their investment or hedging needs more effectively. In addition, because P.M.-settlement permits trading throughout the day on the day the contract expires, the Exchange believes this will permit market participants to more effectively manage overnight risk and trade out of their positions up until the time the contract settles.

The Exchange believes there is sufficient investor interest and demand in Weekly Expirations and Expiration Friday P.M.-settled expirations for options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index to warrant inclusion in the Program and in the Rules, and that the Program and the Rules, as amended, will continue to provide investors with

additional means of managing their risk exposures and carrying out their investment objectives.<sup>14</sup>

With regard to the impact of this proposal on system capacity, the Exchange has analyzed its capacity and represents that it believes that the Exchange and OPRA have the necessary systems capacity to handle any potential additional traffic associated with trading of P.M.-settled Weekly and Expiration Friday expirations for MGTN options. The Exchange does not believe that its Trading Permit Holders ("TPHs") will experience any capacity issues as a result of this proposal and represents that it will monitor the trading volume associated with any possible additional series of options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index listed as a result of this proposal and the effect (if any) of these additional series on market fragmentation and on the capacity of the Exchange's automated systems.

In addition to this, the Exchange believes that its existing surveillance and reporting safeguards in place are adequate to deter and detect possible manipulative behavior which might arise from listing and trading MGTN options with Weekly Expirations or Expiration Friday expirations (as the Exchange currently applies these surveillances to other options that are P.M.-settled with these expirations and would for MGTN options that are P.M.-settled with monthly and quarterly expirations pursuant to current Rules) and will support the protection of investors and the public interest. Furthermore, the trading of MGTN options with Weekly and Expiration Friday expirations will be subject to the same rules that currently govern the trading of options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index with other expirations, including governing customer accounts, position and exercise limits,<sup>15</sup> margin requirements

<sup>14</sup> The Exchange currently may list Weekly and EOM Expirations for any broad-based index option pursuant to the Program, and lists Expiration Friday P.M.-settled expirations pursuant to the Rules, for SPX, XSP, RUT, and MRUT.

<sup>15</sup> The proposed rule change amends Rule 8.32(f) to provide that positions in Nonstandard Expiration Program series will be aggregated with positions in options contracts in the same index class. Therefore, MGTN options positions that have Nonstandard Expirations will be aggregated for purposes of position limits with positions in MGTN options, respectively with other expirations (including short-term, monthly, and quarterly expirations). This is consistent with the treatment of positions for purposes of position limits for other classes that participate in the Nonstandard Expiration Program. See Rule 8.31(b). Similarly, the proposed rule change adds QIXs and P.M.-Settled Third Friday Index Options to the list of series types in Rule 8.32(f) that will be aggregated with positions in options contracts in the same index class. This is true today and merely codifies this in

<sup>11</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 68888 (February 8, 2013), 78 FR 10668 (February 14, 2013) (SR-CBOE-2012-120) ("SPXPM Pilot Approval Order"); 70087 (July 31, 2013), 78 FR 47809 (August 6, 2013) (SR-CBOE-2013-055) ("XSPPM Pilot Approval Order"); and 91067 (February 5, 2021), 86 FR 9108 (February 11, 2021) (SR-CBOE-2020-116) ("MRUTPM Pilot Approval Order").

<sup>12</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 98454 (September 20, 2023), 88 FR 66103 (September 26, 2023) (SR-CBOE-2023-005) ("SPXPM Permanent Approval Order"); and 98455 (September 20, 2023), 88 FR 66073 (September 26, 2023) (SR-CBOE-2023-019) ("XSPPM and MRUTPM Permanent Approval Order").

<sup>13</sup> See Rule 4.13(a)(2)(C) and (B), respectively.

and trading halt procedures, among other Rules, which are designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices.

## 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.<sup>16</sup> Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)<sup>17</sup> 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 facilitation 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)<sup>18</sup> 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 that the proposed rule change will 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. The Exchange believes that the introduction of P.M.-settled Weekly and Expiration Friday expirations for MGTN options (rather than offering those expirations for just broad-based indexes) will provide investors with expanded hedging tools and greater trading opportunities and flexibility for an additional index option.<sup>19</sup> As a result, investors will have

additional means to manage their risk exposures and carry out their investment objectives. By offering expanded expirations for options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index (along with the currently available P.M.-settled monthly and quarterly options and standard A.M.-settled options), the proposed rule change will allow market participants to purchase options on an additional index in a manner more aligned with specific timing needs and more effectively tailor their investment and hedging strategies and manage their portfolios. For example, the proposed rule change will allow market participants to roll their positions in options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index on more trading days, thus with more precision, spread risk across more trading days and incorporate daily changes in the markets, which may reduce the premium cost of buying protection. The Exchange represents that it believes that it has the necessary systems capacity to support any additional traffic associated with trading of options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index with Weekly and Expiration Friday (P.M.-settled) expirations and does not believe that its TPHs will experience any capacity issues as a result of this proposal.

The Exchange does not believe that the addition of MGTN options to the Nonstandard Expirations Program, to the P.M.-settled Expiration Friday program, or the QIX program will raise any prohibitive regulatory concerns, nor adversely impact fair and orderly markets on expiration days. The Exchange has not experienced any meaningful regulatory concerns, nor adverse impact on fair and orderly markets, in connection with these programs and is unaware of any reason why adding P.M.-settled options with expirations each day of the week for MGTN options (which overlie a narrow-based index rather than a broad-based index) would be create such concerns or impact. Particularly, the Exchange does not believe increases in the number of P.M.-settled options series and expirations will have any significant adverse economic impact on the futures, index, or underlying index component securities markets.<sup>20</sup> The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change

P.M.-settled Weeklys and Expiration Friday expirations. The proposed rule change merely adds these options to different programs within the Rules that permit these same expirations for consistency within the Rules.

<sup>20</sup> The Exchange’s affiliate, the Cboe Futures Exchange, LLC (“CFE”) intends to list MGTN futures at or prior to the time when the Exchange begins listing options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index.

will provide investors with greater trading and hedging opportunities and flexibility, allowing them to transact in options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index in a manner more aligned with specific timing needs and more effectively tailor their investment and hedging objectives by listing these options that expire each trading day of the week, in addition to options that expire at the end of calendar month and quarter (which, as noted above, current Rules already permit the Exchange to do).

As also discussed above, current Rules permit the Exchange to list P.M.-settled options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index that expire on the last calendar day of the month and quarter; the proposed rule change merely permits these listings to occur under different programs within the Rules for consistency within the Exchange’s Rules.<sup>21</sup> Therefore, it is already possible under the Rules for options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index to be P.M.-settled and to expire on any day of the week (as the end of the month or the end of a quarter may fall on any day of the week). The Rules also already allow options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index to expire on Thursdays for normally Friday expiring options when the Exchange is not open for business on a respective Friday. Further, options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index will be available for FLEX trading pursuant to Rule 4.20 when the Exchange begins listing these options, and thus, market participants will be able to select expiration dates for these FLEX options for any day of the week and may select p.m.-settlement. The Exchange has no reason to believe this proposed rule change will cause any significant adverse economic impact on the futures, index, or underlying index component securities markets as a result of these listings.

The Commission previously recognized that listing P.M.-settled index options with Weekly Expirations and Expiration Friday expirations (in addition to EOM Expirations (which would include expirations on the last day of calendar quarters)) was consistent with the Act.<sup>22</sup> The

the Rules. Pursuant to Rule 8.42(b), which provides that the exercise limits for index options (including MGTN options) are equivalent to the position limits set forth in Rule 8.32. Pursuant to Rule 8.32(a) and 8.42(b), the current position and exercise limits for MGTN options are 24,000 contracts (and may not be more than 31,500 without rule changes). Therefore, investors would not be able to maintain significant open interest in these options, which may further prevent investors from being able to impact the value of the index.

<sup>16</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>17</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

<sup>18</sup> *Id.*

<sup>19</sup> Options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index may already be listed with P.M.-settlement and expirations on the last calendar day of the month or quarter pursuant to Rule 4.13(a)(2)(C) and (B), respectively; therefore, the additional series that this proposed rule would permit to be listed are

<sup>21</sup> For example, it may be confusing to list Weeklys under the Nonstandard Expirations Program but monthlys under the Monthly program rather than the Nonstandard Expirations Program. As proposed, all index options the Exchange lists with expirations other than Expiration Fridays would be eligible for those expirations under the same programs.

<sup>22</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 98454 (September 20, 2023), 88 FR 66103 (September 26, 2023) (SR-CBOE-2023-005) (“SPXPM Permanent Approval Order”); 98455

Commission noted that expirations in those index options would “offer additional investment options to investors and may be useful for their investment or hedging objectives . . . .”<sup>23</sup> The Exchange also notes it previously listed P.M.-settled broad-based index options with Weekly, EOM, and Expiration Friday expirations pursuant to pilot programs, so the Commission could monitor the impact of P.M.-settlement of cash-settled index derivatives on the underlying cash markets (while recognizing that these risks may have been mitigated given enhanced closing procedures in use in the primary equity markets); however, the Commission approved proposed rule changes to make those pilot programs permanent. The Commission noted that the data it reviewed in connection with the pilot demonstrated that these options “benefitted investors and other market participants by providing more flexible trading and hedging opportunities while also having no disruptive impact on the market” and were thus consistent with the Act.<sup>24</sup> The proposed rule change is consistent with these findings, as it will benefit investors and other market participants that participate in the markets for additional index options in the same manner by providing them with more flexible trading and hedging opportunities.

Further, the Exchange believes P.M.-settlement is appropriate for options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index because they will be trading within a complex of other correlated instruments that track the performance of the underlying components, in addition to the underlying components themselves (e.g., options on the components, ETFs

that track the most active stocks (including the components), and futures on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index). This reduces the risk that listing these options would strain liquidity providers. Further, the size of the markets of the underlying components<sup>25</sup> and the equal weighting of the components make it unlikely the proposed rule change would materially impact the component markets, the index value, or the broader market.

As is the case for options on broad-based indexes, the Exchange does not believe the listing of additional P.M.-settled options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index (which are narrow-based index options) will have any significant economic impact (such as on market quality or volatility) on the component securities underlying the index surrounding the close as a result of expiring p.m.-settled options or impact market quality. This is based on the data provided to and reviewed by the Commission (and the Commission’s own conclusions based on that review, as noted above) and due to the significant changes in closing procedures in the decades since index options moved to a.m.-settlement.<sup>26</sup> The Exchange believes the potential for any such impact is not only no greater for narrow-based indexes than broad-based

indexes, but may be less likely for narrow-based indexes such as the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index, as the indexes underlying such options are by definition not representative of an entire market (as is the case for options on the S&P 500 Index). Therefore, any potential impact would be limited in scope (as noted above, the Commission found no material impact with respect to P.M.-settled broad-based index options), unlike for a broad-based index, which would impact the market as a whole. Therefore, because, as noted above, the Commission found no material impact with respect to broad-based index options, the Exchange believes that it is reasonable that no material impact would occur with respect to MGTN options for the reasons described above (including the significant liquidity of the components and correlation of the component securities and the availability of multiple correlated instruments for hedging). The narrow scope of narrow-based indexes aligns closer to the scope of equity options (which are P.M.-settled, such as the options overlying the constituent securities that comprise the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index).

Further, the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index satisfies the generic listing criteria in Rule 4.10(b). Upon approval of those listing criteria, the Commission noted that these generic standards were reasonably designed to ensure the protection of investors and the public interest and to ensure that the trading markets for the components were adequately capitalized and sufficiently liquid, and that no one component dominated the index, thus minimizing the potential for manipulation.<sup>27</sup> This listing criteria includes the following:

- each component security has a market capitalization of at least \$75 million, except that for each of the lowest weighted component securities in the index that in the aggregate account for no more than 10% of the weight of the index, the market capitalization is at least \$50 million;
- trading volume of each component security has been at least one million shares for each of the last six months,

(September 20, 2023), 88 FR 66073 (September 26, 2023) (SR-CBOE-2023-019) (“XSPPM and MRUTPM Permanent Approval Order”) (the Exchange initially listed P.M.-Settled SPX, XSP, and MRUT options that expire on Expiration Fridays pursuant to pilot programs, so the Commission could monitor the impact of P.M. settlement of cash-settled index derivatives on the underlying cash markets (while recognizing that these risks may have been mitigated given enhanced closing procedures in use in the primary equity markets); 94682 (April 12, 2022), 87 FR 22993, 22994 (April 18, 2022) (SR-CBOE-2022-005) (approval of proposed rule change to list P.M.-settled SPX options that expire on Tuesdays and Thursdays) (“Daily SPX Option Approval”); and 95795 (September 15, 2022), 87 FR 57745, 57746 (September 21, 2022) (SR-CBOE-2022-039) (approval of proposed rule change to list P.M.-settled XSP options that expire on Tuesdays and Thursdays) (“Daily XSP Option Approval”).

<sup>23</sup> See Daily SPX Option Approval at 22995; and Daily XSP Option Approval at 57746.

<sup>24</sup> See SPXPM Permanent Approval Order at 66106; and XSPPM and MRUTPM Permanent Approval Order at 66076 (citing data the Commission reviewed in connection with the pilot programs);

<sup>25</sup> The index is designed to measure the price return of a group of large capitalization U.S. technology and growth-oriented companies and are intended to be among the most actively traded stocks. Pursuant to the methodology for the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index, each component will have a market capitalization of at least \$500,000,000, a free float of at least 25%, a minimum of 1,000,000 shares trading volume in the preceding six months, one of the 100 largest market capitalizations, and one of the highest six-month aggregate dollar values of average daily trading volume. Additionally, the narrow-based listing criteria pursuant to which these index options are listed impose various requirements on the component securities related to the market capitalization and liquidity, which further reduce the risk that the markets for the components would be impacted by additional derivatives. For example, pursuant to Rule 4.10(b): (1) the market capitalization for the lowest-weighted component securities in the index that in the aggregate account for no more than 10% of the weight of the index must be at least \$50 million, and the market capitalization of all other components must be at least \$75 million; (2) the trading volume in each component must be at least 1,000,000 shares for each of the last six months (from October 2024 through March 2025, the lowest monthly trading volume for a component was over 1.5 million shares), except that for each of the lowest-weighted component securities in the index that in the aggregate account for no more than 10% of the weight of the index, the trading volume must be at least 500,000 shares for each of the last six months; and (3) no single component security may represent more than 25% of the weight of the index, and the five highest-weighted component securities in the index may not in the aggregate account for more than 50% (60% for an index consisting of fewer than 25 component securities) of the weight of the index.

<sup>26</sup> See *id.*

<sup>27</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 34157 (June 3, 1994), 59 FR 30062 (June 10, 1994) (SR-Amex-92-35, SR-CBOE-93-59, SR-NYSE-94-17, SR-PSE-94-07, and SR-Phlx-94-10). The Commission made substantially similar findings with respect to generic listing criteria for broad-based index options. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 53266 (February 9, 2006), 71 FR 8321 (February 16, 2006) (SR-CBOE-2005-59) (the Commission noted that the listing criteria were “designed to ensure that the markets for the index’s component stocks are adequately capitalized and sufficiently liquid, and that no one stock dominates the index” and thus “minimize the potential for manipulating the underlying index”).

except that for each of the lowest weighted component securities in the index that in the aggregate account for no more than 10% of the weight of the index, trading volume has been at least 500,000 shares for each of the last six months;

- in a capitalization-weighted index or a modified capitalization-weighted index, the lesser of the five highest weighted component securities in the index or the highest weighted component securities in the index that in the aggregate represent at least 30% of the total number of component securities in the index each have had an average monthly trading volume of at least 2,000,000 shares over the past six months;

- no single component security represents more than 25% of the weight of the index, and the five highest weighted component securities in the index do not in the aggregate account for more than 50% (60% for an index consisting of fewer than 25 component securities) of the weight of the index; and

- component securities that account for at least 90% of the weight of the index and at least 80% of the total number of component securities in the index satisfy the requirements of Rule 4.3 applicable to individual underlying securities.

Therefore, by satisfying the generic listing criteria for narrow-based index options, the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index is, like broad-based indexes, designed to minimize the potential for manipulation, further reducing any potential concerns associated with P.M.-settlement.

In addition, the Exchange believes that the proposal to end trading at 4:00 p.m. on the last trading day for transactions in expiring P.M.-settled MGTN options will prevent continued trading on a product after the exercise settlement value has been fixed, thereby mitigating potential investor confusion and the potential for increased costs to investors as a result of potential pricing divergence at the end of the trading day.

Finally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change that Nonstandard Expiration Program series of options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index will be aggregated with other options within those classes for purposes of position (and exercise) limits is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices and to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and thus protect investors. This proposed aggregation is consistent with the treatment of positions for purposes of position (and exercise) limits for other classes that participate in the

Nonstandard Expiration Program.<sup>28</sup> Therefore, the current position and exercise limits that apply to options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index will continue to apply, as the proposed additional expirations for these options would have no impact on the number of positions that may be held (or exercised) within a single account.

#### *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. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on intramarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act because P.M.-settled options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index with Weekly and Expiration Friday expirations will be available to all market participants. By listing options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index with these expirations (in addition to the monthly, quarterly, and standard Expiration Friday expirations (A.M.-settled) that are currently permitted under the Rules), the proposed rule change will provide all investors that participate in the markets for these index options available for trading on the Exchange with greater trading and hedging opportunities and flexibility to meet their investment and hedging needs, which are already available for broad-based index options. Further, the proposed change to make options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index that are P.M.-settled and expire on the last business day of the month or quarter eligible for listing under different programs under the Rules will have any burden on competition, as this proposed rule change is intended to maintain consistency within the Rules and will result in the same series being listed. The proposed 4:00 p.m. closing time for expiring P.M.-settled MGTN options on their expiration dates will apply equally to all market participants trading these options.

The Exchange does not believe that the proposal to list P.M.-options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index with Weekly and Expiration Friday expirations will impose any burden on intermarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act because these options are proprietary Exchange products. The Exchange may currently list the same expirations for other index

options, so the proposed rule change merely expands the availability of these expiration programs to additional products. Other exchanges offer similar expirations for index options as well as short-term options programs for certain equity options that expire each day of the week, at the end of the calendar month, at the end of the calendar quarter, and on Expiration Fridays<sup>29</sup> and are welcome to similarly propose to list options on those index or equity products with similar expirations. To the extent that the addition of these expirations for options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index makes the Exchange a more attractive marketplace to market participants at other exchanges, such market participants are free to elect to become market participants on the Exchange.

Additionally, options on the Cboe Magnificent 10 Index with these expirations will trade in the same manner as other options with these expirations currently do.

#### *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 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:

<sup>29</sup> See, e.g., Nasdaq PHLX, LLC Options 4A, Section 12 (permitting nonstandard expirations, including daily expirations for Nasdaq-100 index options and Nasdaq 100-Micro index options); and Nasdaq ISE, LLC Options 4, Section 5, Supplementary Material .03 (permitting short-term options series with daily expirations for SPY and QQQ options).

<sup>28</sup> See Rule 8.31(b).

*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](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include file number SR-CBOE-2025-068 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-2025-068. 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 filing 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-2025-068 and should be submitted on or before October 17, 2025.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>30</sup>

**Sherry R. Haywood,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2025-18674 Filed 9-25-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 35758; File No. 812-15887]

### Partners Group Lending Fund, LLC and Partners Group (USA), Inc.

September 24, 2025.

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

Notice of an application under Section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("Act") for an exemption from Sections 18(a)(2), 18(c), 18(i), and 61(a) of the Act.

**SUMMARY OF APPLICATION:** Applicants request an order to permit certain registered closed-end investment

companies that intend to elect to be regulated as business development companies to issue multiple classes of shares with varying sales loads and asset-based distribution and/or service fees.

**APPLICANTS:** Partners Group Lending Fund, LLC and Partners Group (USA), Inc.

**FILING DATES:** The application was filed on September 2, 2025.

**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 on any application by emailing the SEC's Secretary at [Secretaries-Office@sec.gov](mailto:Secretaries-Office@sec.gov) and serving the Applicants with a copy of the request by email, if an email address is listed for the relevant Applicant below, or personally or by mail, if a physical address is listed for the relevant Applicant below.

Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. on October 20, 2025, 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 emailing the Commission's Secretary at [Secretaries-Office@sec.gov](mailto:Secretaries-Office@sec.gov).

**ADDRESSES:** The Commission: [Secretaries-Office@sec.gov](mailto:Secretaries-Office@sec.gov). Applicants: Robert Collins, Partners Group Lending Fund, LLC, 1114 6th Avenue of the Americas, 37th Floor, New York, NY 10036; Harry S. Pangas and Darius I. Ravangard, Dechert LLP, 1900 K Street NW, Washington, DC, 20006.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jacob D. Krawitz, Senior Special Counsel, or Kaitlin Bottock, Assistant Director, at (202) 551-6825 (Division of Investment Management, Chief Counsel's Office).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** For Applicants' representations, legal analysis, and conditions, please refer to Applicants' application, dated September 2, 2025, which may be obtained via the Commission's website by searching for the file number at the top of this document, or for an Applicant using the Company name search field, on the SEC's EDGAR system. The SEC's EDGAR system may be searched at, <https://www.sec.gov/edgar/searchedgar/companysearch>. You

may also call the SEC's Office of Investor Education and Advocacy at (202) 551-8090.

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

**Sherry R. Haywood,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2025-18767 Filed 9-25-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-104027; File No. SR-NYSETEX-2025-34]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE Texas, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Amend its Fee Schedule To Introduce Transaction Fees, Credits and Performance-Based Financial Incentives for Lead Market Makers

September 23, 2025.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on September 15, 2025, the NYSE Texas, Inc. ("NYSE Texas" or the "Exchange") 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

The Exchange proposes to amend its Fee Schedule to introduce transaction fees and credits and performance-based financial incentives for Lead Market Makers. The proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website at [www.nyse.com](http://www.nyse.com), at the principal office of the Exchange, 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 self-regulatory organization 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

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>30</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).