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-NYSEARCA-2025-41 and should be submitted on or before July 11, 2025.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.  $^{35}$ 

### Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

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# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-103259; File No. SR-CboeBZX-2025-036]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.; Order Instituting Proceedings To Determine Whether To Approve or Disapprove a Proposed Rule Change To Amend the Rules Governing the Listing and Trading of Shares of the Franklin Ethereum ETF To Permit Staking Under Rule 14.11(e)(4) (Commodity-Based Trust Shares)

June 16, 2025.

#### I. Introduction

On March 10, 2025, Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. ("BZX" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), 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> a proposed rule change to amend the rules governing the listing and trading of shares ("Shares") of the Franklin Ethereum ETF ("Trust") under BZX Rule 14.11(e)(4). The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on March 18, 2025.<sup>3</sup>

On April 29, 2025, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,<sup>4</sup> the Commission designated a longer period within which to approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove the proposed rule change.<sup>5</sup> This order institutes proceedings under Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act <sup>6</sup> to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change.

# II. Summary of the Proposal

As described in more detail in the Notice, the Exchange proposes to amend the rules governing the listing and trading of the Shares of the Trust under BZX Rule 14.11(e)(4).8 Specifically, the Exchange proposes to amend certain representations regarding the Trust in order to permit staking of the ether held by the Trust. According to the Exchange, except for these proposed amendments, all other representations relied upon by the Commission in approving the listing and trading of the Shares of the Trust will remain unchanged and will continue to constitute continued listing requirements.

# III. Proceedings To Determine Whether To Approve or Disapprove SR– CboeBZX–2025–036 and Grounds for Disapproval Under Consideration

The Commission is instituting proceedings pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act 9 to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved. Institution of proceedings is appropriate at this time in view of the legal and policy issues raised by the proposed rule change. Institution of proceedings does not indicate that the Commission has reached any conclusions with respect to any of the issues involved. Rather, the Commission seeks and encourages interested persons to provide comments on the proposed rule change.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act,<sup>10</sup> the Commission is providing notice of the grounds for disapproval under consideration. As described above, the Exchange proposes to allow staking of the Trust's ether. The Commission is instituting proceedings

to allow for additional analysis of the proposed rule change's consistency with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, which requires, among other things, that the rules of a national securities exchange be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, 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.<sup>11</sup>

# IV. Procedure: Request for Written Comments

The Commission requests that interested persons provide written submissions of their views, data, and arguments with respect to the issues identified above, as well as any other concerns they may have with the proposal. In particular, the Commission invites the written views of interested persons concerning whether the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) or any other provision of the Act, and the rules and regulations thereunder. Although there do not appear to be any issues relevant to approval or disapproval that would be facilitated by an oral presentation of views, data, and arguments, the Commission will consider, pursuant to Rule 19b-4, any request for an opportunity to make an oral presentation.<sup>12</sup>

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments regarding whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved by July 11, 2025. Any person who wishes to file a rebuttal to any other person's submission must file that rebuttal by July 25, 2025.

Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

#### Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an email to *rule-comments@* sec.gov. Please include file number SR—CboeBZX-2025-036 on the subject line.

<sup>35 17</sup> CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 102632 (Mar. 12, 2025), 90 FR 12611 ("Notice"). Comments received on the proposed rule change are available at: https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-cboebzx-2025-036/srcboebzx-2025036.htm.

<sup>4 15</sup> U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 102948, 90 FR 19040 (May 5, 2025). The Commission designated June 16, 2025, as the date by which the Commission shall approve or disapprove, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove, the proposed rule change.

<sup>6 15</sup> U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See Notice, supra note 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> BZX Rule 14.11(e)(4) governs the listing and trading of Commodity-Based Trust Shares. The Commission approved the Exchange's proposal to list and trade the Shares of the Trust on May 23, 2024. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100224 (May 23, 2024), 89 FR 46937 (May 30, 2024).

<sup>9 15</sup> U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

<sup>10</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Section 19(b)(2) of the Act, as amended by the Securities Acts Amendments of 1975, Public Law 94–29 (June 4, 1975), grants the Commission flexibility to determine what type of proceeding—either oral or notice and opportunity for written comments—is appropriate for consideration of a particular proposal by a self-regulatory organization. See Securities Acts Amendments of 1975, Senate Comm. on Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs, S. Rep. No. 75, 94th Cong., 1st Sess. 30 (1975).

#### 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-CboeBZX-2025-036. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (https://www.sec.gov/ rules/sro.shtml). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-CboeBZX-2025-036 and should be submitted on or before July 11, 2025. Rebuttal comments should be submitted by July 25, 2025.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.  $^{13}$ 

## Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025–11289 Filed 6–18–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-103271; File No. SR-OCC-2025-0081

Self-Regulatory Organizations; the Options Clearing Corporation; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by the Options Clearing Corporation Concerning the Adoption of a New Clearing Agreement That Would Permit OCC To Provide Clearing and Settlement Services to MIAX Subject to All Requisite Regulatory Approvals Being Received

June 16, 2025.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act" or "Act"),1 and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, notice is hereby given that on June 4, 2025, The Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC" or "Corporation") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared primarily by OCC. OCC filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) 3 of the Act and paragraph (f)(4) or Rule 19b-44 thereunder, such that the proposed rule change was immediately effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

## I. Clearing Agency's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

This proposed rule change would update an agreement for Clearing and Settlement Services ("Clearing Agreement") between OCC and MIAX Futures Exchange, LLC ("MIAX") in connection with MIAX's status as a designated contract market ("DCM") regulated by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC"). There are no proposed changes to OCC's By-Laws or Rules.

OCC filed as Exhibit 5 to File No. SR–OCC–2025–008 the text of the proposed Clearing Agreement. All terms with initial capitalization that are not otherwise defined herein have the same meaning as set forth in the OCC By-Laws and Rules.<sup>5</sup>

### II. Clearing Agency's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, OCC 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. OCC has prepared summaries, set forth in sections (A), (B), and (C) below, of the most significant aspects of these statements.

(A) Clearing Agency's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

#### (1) Purpose

This proposed rule is to adopt a new Clearing Agreement that would permit OCC to provide clearing and settlement services to MIAX subject to all requisite regulatory approvals being received. OCC proposes to provide clearance and settlement services for commodity futures ("Futures") including commodity futures of an underlying interest that are a broad-based security index ("Broad-Based Index Futures"), together with options on Futures ("Futures Options"), collectively referred to within the Clearing Agreement as ("Cleared Contracts"), to MIAX pursuant to the terms set forth in the Clearing Agreement. MIAX already has a DCM designation from the CFTC.6 The terms of the proposed Clearing Agreement are based on the terms of the Agreement for Clearing and Settlement Services executed with Small Exchange, Inc. ("Small Agreement"), which was approved by the Commission.7 The Clearing Agreement is similar to the Small Agreement with several differences discussed in more detail below.

# Clearing Agreement Proposal

OCC proposes to provide the clearance and settlement services as described in the Clearing Agreement that includes new provisions designed to protect OCC and the holders of outstanding contracts listed on MIAX. These provisions would enable OCC to effectively manage the risks borne from a clearing relationship with a DCM such as the one OCC proposes to establish with MIAX. More specifically, the following provisions would be added:

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

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

<sup>3 15</sup> U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>4 17</sup> CFR 240.19b-4(f).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> OCC's By-Laws and Rules can be found on OCC's public website: https://www.theocc.com/Company-Information/Documents-and-Archives/By-Laws-and-Rules.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See https://www.cftc.gov/sites/default/files/ stellent/groups/public/@otherif/documents/ifdocs/ mgexsubpartcelection.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 87774 (December 17, 2019), 84 FR 70602 (December 23, 2019) (SR-OCC-2019-011).

<sup>13 17</sup> CFR 200.30-3(a)(57).