Page 1 of * 27		ECURITIES AND EXCH WASHINGTON Form 1	l, D.C. 20549		File No. * SR 2025 - * 031 No. (req. for Amendments *)		
Filing by Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.							
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934							
Initial *	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(t	Section 19(b)	(3)(A) * Section 19(b)(3)(B) *		
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *		Rule 19b-4(f)(1) 19b-4(f)(2) 19b-4(f)(3)	19b-4(f)(4) 19b-4(f)(5) 19b-4(f)(6)		
Notice of proposed change pursuant to the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Act of 2010 Section 806(e)(1) * Section 806(e)(2) * Section 806(e)(2) * Section 3C(b)(2) *							
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document							
Description Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *). The Exchange proposes to amend the VanEck Bitcoin Trust and the VanEck Ethereum Trust, shares of which have been approved by the Commission to list and trade on the Exchange pursuant to BZX Rule 11.4, to permit in kind creation and redemptions.							
Contact Information Provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the action.							
First Name *	Sarah	Last Name * Ta	adtman				
Title *	Senior Counsel						
E-mail *	stadtman@cboe.com						
Telephone *	(913) 815-7203	Fax					
Signature Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange of 1934, Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.							
Date	02/19/2025			Title *)			
Ву	Kyle Murray (Name *)	VF	P, Associate Genera	al Counsel			
form. A digital s	the signature block at right will initiate digitally sign ignature is as legally binding as a physical signatur is form cannot be changed.	ing the e, and	Kyle Murray	Date: 2025.02.19 12:04:11 -06'00'			

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website.

Form 19b-4 Information *						
Add	Remove	View				
25-031 (VanEck ETH_BTC In-Kind) 19						

The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act.

Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change *

Add Remove View
25-031 (VanEck ETH BTC In-Kind) E

The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO]-xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3)

Exhibit 1A - Notice of Proposed Rule Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, or Advanced Notice by Clearing Agencies *

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The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO]-xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3)

Exhibit 2- Notices, Written Comments, Transcripts, Other Communications

Add Remove View

Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G.

Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire

Add Remove View

Copies of any form, report, or questionnaire that the self-regulatory organization proposes to use to help implement or operate the proposed rule change, or that is referred to by the proposed rule change.

Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies

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The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which it has been working.

Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text

Add Remove View

The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed changes to rule text in place of providing it in Item I and which may otherwise be more easily readable if provided separately from Form 19b-4. Exhibit 5 shall be considered part of the proposed rule change

Partial Amendment

Add Remove View

If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if the filing (i.e. partial amendment) is clearly understandable on its face. Such partial amendment shall be clearly identified and marked to show deletions and additions.

Item 1. Text of the Proposed Rule Change

- (a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) under the Securities

 Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act" or the "Act"), 1 and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, 2

 Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. ("BZX" or the "Exchange") is filing with the Securities and

 Exchange Commission ("Commission" or "SEC") a proposed rule change to amend the

 VanEck Bitcoin Trust (the "Bitcoin Trust") and the VanEck Ethereum Trust (the "Eth

 Trust" and, collectively with the Bitcoin Trust, the "Trusts"), shares of which have been

 approved by the Commission to list and trade on the Exchange pursuant to BZX Rule

 14.11(e)(4), to permit in-kind creations and redemptions.
 - (b) Not applicable.
 - (c) Not applicable.

Item 2. <u>Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization</u>

- (a) The Exchange's President (or designee) pursuant to delegated authority approved the proposed rule change on January 27, 2025.
- (b) Please refer questions and comments on the proposed rule change to Pat Sexton, Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary, (312) 786-7467, or Sarah Tadtman, (913) 815-7203, Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc., 433 West Van Buren Street, Chicago, Illinois 60607.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

Item 3. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

(a) <u>Purpose</u>

The Commission approved the listing and trading of shares (the "Bitcoin ETP Shares") of the Bitcoin Trust on the Exchange pursuant to Exchange Rule 14.11(e)(4), Commodity-Based Trust Shares, on January 10, 2024.³ The Commission also approved the listing and trading of shares (the "Eth ETP Shares") of the Eth Trust on the Exchange pursuant to Exchange Rule 14.11(e)(4), Commodity-Based Trust Shares, on May 23, 2024.⁴ Exchange Rule 14.11(e)(4) governs the listing and trading of Commodity-Based Trust Shares, which means a security (a) that is issued by a trust that holds (1) a specified commodity deposited with the trust, or (2) a specified commodity and, in addition to such specified commodity, cash; (b) that is issued by such trust in a specified aggregate minimum number in return for a deposit of a quantity of the underlying commodity and/or cash; and (c) that, when aggregated in the same specified minimum number, may be redeemed at a holder's request by such trust which will deliver to the redeeming holder the quantity of the

See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 99289 (January 8, 2024) 89 FR 2413 (January 12, 2024) (SR-CboeBZX-2023-040) (Notice of Filing of Amendment No. 2 to a Proposed Rule Change To List and Trade Shares of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust Under BZX Rule 14.11(e)(4), Commodity-Based Trust Shares) ("Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2"); 99306 (January 10, 2024) 89 FR 3008 (January 17, 2024) (SR-CboeBZX-2023-040) (Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Changes, as Modified by Amendments Thereto, To List and Trade Bitcoin-Based Commodity-Based Trust Shares and Trust Units) (the "Bitcoin ETP Approval Order"). The Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2 was later amended to change the creation unit size from 50,000 shares to 25,000 shares. See Securities Exchange Act No. 99724 (March 12, 2024) 89 FR 19379 (March 18, 2024) (SR-CboeBZX-2024-022) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend the Creation Basket Size of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust).

See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 100214 (May 22, 2024) 89 FR 46462 (May 29, 2024) (SR-CboeBZX-2023-069) (Notice of Filing of Amendment No. 2 to a Proposed Rule Change to List and Trade Shares of the VanEck Ethereum Trust Under BZX Rule 14.11(e)(4), Commodity-Based Trust Shares) ("Eth ETP Amendment No. 2"); 100224 (May 23, 2024) 89 FR 46937 (May 30, 2024) (SR-CboeBZX-2023-069) (Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Changes, as Modified by Amendments Thereto, to List and Trade Shares of Ether-Based Exchange-Traded Products) (the "Eth ETP Approval Order").

underlying commodity and/or cash. The Bitcoin ETP Shares are issued by the Bitcoin Trust and the Eth ETP Shares are issued by the Eth Trust. The Bitcoin Trust was formed as a Delaware statutory trust on December 17, 2020 and the Eth Trust was formed as a Delaware statutory trust on June 22, 2021.

Bitcoin Trust

The Exchange proposes to amend several portions of the Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2, as amended, in order to permit in-kind creation and redemptions.

Representations

The Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2, as amended, included specific representations making clear that the Bitcoin Trust would only process creations and redemptions in cash. Specifically, "VanEck Bitcoin Trust" section of the Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2, as amended, stated:⁵

When the Trust sells or redeems its Shares, it will do so in cash transactions in blocks of [25,000] Shares (a "Creation Basket") at the Trust's net asset value ("NAV"). A third party will use cash to buy and deliver bitcoin to create Shares or withdraw and sell bitcoin for cash to redeem Shares, on behalf of the Trust. For creations, authorized participants will deliver cash to the Trust's account with the Cash Custodian in exchange for Shares. Upon receipt of an approved creation order, the Sponsor, on behalf of the Trust, will submit an order to buy the amount of bitcoin represented by a Creation Basket. Based off bitcoin executions, the Cash Custodian will request the required cash from the authorized participant; the Transfer Agent will only issue ETF shares when the authorized participant has made delivery of the cash. Following receipt by the Cash Custodian of the cash from an authorized participant, the Sponsor, on behalf of the Trust, will approve an order with one or more previously onboarded trading partners to purchase the amount of bitcoin represented by the Creation Basket. This purchase of bitcoin will normally be cleared through an affiliate of the Custodian (although the purchase may also occur directly with the trading partner) and the bitcoin will settle directly into the Trust's account at the Custodian.⁶

⁵ See Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2 at 2422.

For redemptions, the process will occur in the reverse order. Upon receipt of an approved redemption order, the Sponsor, on behalf of the Trust, will submit an order to sell the amount of

The Exchange proposes to replace the above paragraph with the following:

When the Trust sells or redeems its Shares, it will do so in cash or in-kind transactions in blocks of 25,000 Shares (a "Creation Basket") at the Trust's net asset value ("NAV"). For cash creations, a third party will use cash to buy and deliver bitcoin to create Shares or withdraw and sell bitcoin for cash to redeem Shares, on behalf of the Trust. For cash creations, authorized participants will deliver cash to the Trust's account with the Cash Custodian in exchange for Shares. For cash creations and redemptions, authorized participants will deliver, or facilitate the delivery of, cash to the Trust's account with the Cash Custodian, in exchange for Shares when they create Shares, and the Trust, through the Cash Custodian, will deliver cash to such authorized participants when they redeem Shares with the Trust. For in-kind creation and redemptions, authorized participants will deliver, or facilitate delivery of, bitcoin to the Trust's account with the Custodian, in exchange for Shares when they create Shares, and the Trust, through the Custodian, will deliver bitcoin to such authorized participants when they redeem Shares with the Trust.

Additionally, the "Investment Objective" section of the Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2 stated: "In seeking to achieve its investment objective, the Trust will hold bitcoin and will value its Shares daily based on the reported Benchmark and process all creations and redemptions in cash transactions with authorized participants." The Exchange proposes to replace this language with the following: "In seeking to achieve its investment objective, the Trust will hold bitcoin and will value its Shares daily based on the reported Benchmark and process all creations and redemptions in cash or in-kind transactions with authorized participants."

Creation and Redemption of Shares

bitcoin represented by a Creation Basket and the cash proceeds will be remitted to the authorized participant when the [25,000] Shares are received by the Transfer Agent.

See Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2 at 2423.

Additionally, the "Creation and Redemption of Shares" section of the filing includes a detailed description of how the cash-only creation and redemption process works. 8 The Exchange proposes to replace this section as follows:

Creation and Redemption of Shares

When the Trust creates or redeems its Shares, it will do so in cash or in-kind. In connection with cash creations and cash redemptions, the authorized participants will submit orders to create or redeem Baskets of Shares in exchange for cash. When the Trust creates or redeems its Shares in cash, it will do so in transactions in blocks of 25,000 Shares that are based on the quantity of bitcoin attributable to each Share of the Trust (e.g., a Creation Basket) at the Trust's NAV. When the Trust creates or redeems its Shares in kind, it will do so in transfers of bitcoin in blocks of 25,000 Shares that are based on the quantity of bitcoin attributable to the Creation Basket being created or redeemed.

The authorized participants will deliver or cause to be delivered cash or bitcoin to create Shares and the authorized participant or its designee will receive cash or bitcoin when redeeming Shares. The Trust will create Shares by receiving bitcoin or cash from an authorized participant or its designee and will redeem shares by delivering bitcoin or cash to an authorized participant or its designee.

On any business day, an authorized participant may place an order to create one or more Creation Baskets. Purchase orders must be placed by the close of 4:00 p.m. or the close of regular trading on the Exchange, whichever is earlier. The day on which an order is received is considered the purchase order date.

For a cash creation order, the total deposit of cash required is an amount of cash sufficient to purchase such amount of bitcoin, the amount of which is equal to the combined NAV of the number of Shares included in the Creation Baskets being created determined as of 4:00 p.m. ET on the date the order to purchase is properly received.

For a creation order in kind, the total in-kind transfer of bitcoin is based on the quantity of bitcoin attributable to the Creation Baskets being created determined as of 4:00 p.m. ET on the date the order to purchase is properly received.

The Administrator determines the quantity of bitcoin used to calculate the Creation Basket for a given day by dividing the number of bitcoin held by the Trust as of the opening of business on that business day, adjusted for the amount of bitcoin constituting estimated accrued but unpaid fees and expenses of the Trust as of the opening of business on that business day, by the quotient of the

Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2 at 2423-2424.

number of Shares outstanding at the opening of business divided by the number of Shares in a Creation Basket.

The procedures by which an authorized participant can redeem one or more Creation Baskets mirror the procedures for the creation of Creation Baskets. For a cash creation order, an authorized participant will deliver cash to create Shares. For an in-kind creation order, an authorized participant or its designee will deliver bitcoin to create Shares. For a cash redemption order, an authorized participant will deliver Shares to the Trust and will receive cash for the Shares delivered. For an in-kind redemption order, an authorized participant will deliver Shares to the Trust and the authorized participant or its designee will receive bitcoin for the Shares delivered.

Eth Trust

Similarly, the Exchange proposes to amend several portions of the Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 in order to permit in-kind creations and redemptions.

Representations

The Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 included a specific representation making clear that the Eth Trust would only process creations and redemptions in cash. Specifically, the "VanEck Ethereum Trust" section of the Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 stated: 9

When the Trust sells or redeems its Shares, it will do so in cash transactions in blocks of 25,000 Shares (a "Creation Basket") at the Trust's net asset value ("NAV"). For creations, authorized participants will deliver cash to the Trust's account with the Cash Custodian in exchange for Shares. Upon receipt of an approved creation order, the Sponsor, on behalf of the Trust, will submit an order to buy the amount of ether represented by a Creation Basket. Based off ether executions, the Cash Custodian will request the required cash from the authorized participant; the Transfer Agent will only issue Shares when the authorized participant has made delivery of the cash. Following receipt by the Cash Custodian of the cash from an authorized participant, the Sponsor, on behalf of the Trust, will approve an order with one or more previously onboarded trading partners to purchase the amount of ether represented by the Creation Basket. This purchase of ether will normally be cleared through an affiliate of the Custodian (although the purchase may also occur directly with the trading partner) and the ether will settle directly into the Trust's account at the Custodian. 10

⁹ See Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 at 46469.

For redemptions, the process will occur in the reverse order. Upon receipt of an approved redemption order, the Sponsor, on behalf of the Trust, will submit an order to sell the amount of

The Exchange proposes to replace this language with the following:

When the Trust creates or redeems its Shares in cash transactions, it will do so in blocks of 25,000 Shares (a "Creation Basket") at the Trust's net asset value ("NAV"). For cash creations or redemptions, Authorized participants will deliver, or facilitate the delivery of, cash to the Trust's account with the Cash Custodian in exchange for Shares when they create Shares, and the Trust, through the Cash Custodian, will deliver cash to such authorized participants when they redeem Shares with the Trust. When the Trust creates or redeems its Shares in-kind, it will do so in Creation Units in exchange for ether. Authorized participants will deliver, or facilitate delivery of, ether to the Trust's account with the Custodian, in exchange for Shares when they create Shares, and the Trust, through the Custodian, will deliver ether to such authorized participants when they redeem Shares with the Trust.

Additionally, the "Investment Objective" section of the Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 stated: "In seeking to achieve its investment objective, the Trust will hold ether and will value its Shares daily based on the reported Benchmark (as discussed below) and process all creations and redemptions in cash transactions with authorized participants." The Exchange proposes to replace this language with the following:

In seeking to achieve its investment objective, the Trust will hold ETH, cash, and cash equivalents and will value its Shares daily based on the reported Benchmark (as discussed below) and process all creations and redemptions in transactions in cash or in-kind transactions with authorized participants.

Creation and Redemption of Shares

Additionally, the "Creation and Redemption of Shares" section of the filing includes a detailed description of how the cash-only creation and redemption process works. ¹² The Exchange proposes to replace this section as follows:

Creation and Redemption of Shares

ether represented by a Creation Basket and the cash proceeds will be remitted to the authorized participant when the 25,000 Shares are received by the Transfer Agent.

¹¹ Id

See Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 at 46471.

When the Trust creates or redeems its Shares, it will do so in cash or in-kind. In connection with cash creations and cash redemptions, the authorized participants will submit orders to create or redeem Baskets of Shares in exchange for cash. When the Trust creates or redeems its Shares in cash, it will do so in transactions in blocks of 25,000 Shares that are based on the quantity of ether attributable to each Share of the Trust (e.g., a Creation Basket) at the Trust's NAV. When the Trust creates or redeems its Shares in-kind, it will do so in transfers of ether in blocks of 25,000 Shares that are based on the quantity of ether attributable to the Creation Basket being created or redeemed.

The authorized participants will deliver or cause to be delivered cash or ether to create Shares and the authorized participant or its designee will receive cash or ether when redeeming Shares. The Trust will create Shares by receiving ether or cash from an authorized participant or its designee and will redeem Shares by delivering ether or cash to an authorized participant or its designee.

On any business day, an authorized participant may place an order to create one or more Creation Baskets. Purchase orders must be placed by the close of 4:00 p.m. or the close of regular trading on the Exchange, whichever is earlier. The day on which an order is received is considered the purchase order date.

For a cash creation order, the total deposit of cash required is an amount of cash sufficient to purchase such amount of ether, the amount of which is based on the combined NAV of the number of Shares included in the Creation Baskets being created determined as of 4:00 p.m. ET on the date the order to purchase is properly received.

For a creation order in kind, the total in-kind transfer of ether is based on the quantity of ether attributable to the Creation Baskets being created determined as of 4:00 p.m. ET on the date the order to purchase is properly received.

The Administrator determines the quantity of ether used to calculate the Creation Basket for a given day by dividing the number of ether held by the Trust as of the opening of business on that business day, adjusted for the amount of ether constituting estimated accrued but unpaid fees and expenses of the Trust as of the opening of business on that business day, by the quotient of the number of Shares outstanding at the opening of business divided by the number of Shares in a Creation Basket.

The procedures by which an authorized participant can redeem one or more Creation Baskets mirror the procedures for the creation of Creation Baskets. For a cash creation order, an authorized participant will deliver cash to create Shares. For an in-kind creation order, an authorized participant or its designee will deliver ether to create Shares. For a cash redemption order, an authorized participant will deliver Shares to the Trust and will receive cash for the Shares delivered. For an in-kind redemption order, an authorized participant will deliver Shares to the

Trust and the authorized participant or its designee will receive ether for the Shares delivered.

Conclusion

Except for the above changes, all other representations in the Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2, as amended, and the Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 remain unchanged and will continue to constitute continuing listing requirements. In addition, the Bitcoin Trust will continue to comply with the terms of Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2, as amended, and the Eth Trust will continue to comply with the terms of Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 and the Trusts will continue to comply with the requirements of Rule 14.11(e)(4).

(b) <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act. Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)¹⁴ 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 facilitating 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.

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is designed to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, to

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

protect investors and the public interest because it would update representations in both the Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2, as amended, and the Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 such that the Trusts would both be able to engage in in-kind creation and redemptions with authorized participants or their designees, as described above. This ability would make the Trusts (and the market more generally) operate more efficiently because authorized participants would be able to source bitcoin or ether, as applicable, rather than to provide cash to the applicable Trust and to receive bitcoin or ether from the Trusts. This means that the authorized participant would be responsible for buying and selling the applicable crypto asset rather than the Trust itself, which would potentially lessen the impact on the market of the Trusts on both sides of the transaction by allowing the authorized participant to decide how and where to source the underlying crypto asset for creations and deciding how, where, and whether to sell the underlying crypto asset received for redemptions. This would improve the creation and redemption process for both authorized participants and the Trusts, increase efficiency, and ultimately benefit the end investors in the Trusts.

Except for the addition of in-kind creation and redemption for the Bitcoin Trust as specifically set forth herein, all other representations made in the Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2, as amended, remain unchanged and will continue to constitute continuing listing requirements for the Bitcoin Trust. Similarly, except for the addition of in-kind creation and redemption for the Eth Trust as specifically set forth herein, all other representations made in the Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 remain unchanged and will continue to constitute continuing listing requirements for the Eth Trust.

Item 4. 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. As noted above, the proposed amendment is intended to allow the Trusts to operate more efficiently by allowing for in-kind creation and redemption. The Exchange believes these changes will not impose any burden on competition.

Item 5. 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.

Item 6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action Not applicable.

Item 7. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) or Section 19(b)(7)(D)</u>

Not applicable.

Item 8. Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission

The proposed rule change is not based on a rule either of another self-regulatory organization or of the Commission.

Item 9. Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act

Not applicable.

Item 10. Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervision Act

Not applicable.

Item 11. Exhibits

Exhibit 1. Completed Notice of Proposed Rule Change for publication in the Federal Register.

Exhibits 2-5. Not applicable.

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-CboeBZX-2025-031]

[Insert date]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing of a Proposed Rule Change to Amend the VanEck Bitcoin Trust and the VanEck Ethereum Trust, Shares of Which Have Been Approved by the Commission to List and Trade on the Exchange Pursuant to BZX Rule 11.4(e)(4), to Permit In-Kind Creation and Redemptions

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on [insert date], Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "BZX") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "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. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. ("BZX" or the "Exchange") is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission" or "SEC") a proposed rule change to amend the VanEck Bitcoin Trust (the "Bitcoin Trust") and the VanEck Ethereum Trust (the "Eth Trust" and, collectively with the Bitcoin Trust, the "Trusts"), shares of which have been approved by the Commission to list and trade on the Exchange pursuant to BZX Rule 14.11(e)(4), to permit in-kind creations and redemptions.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Exchange's website (http://markets.cboe.com/us/equities/regulation/rule_filings/bzx/), at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory</u> 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. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory</u> <u>Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

1. <u>Purpose</u>

The Commission approved the listing and trading of shares (the "Bitcoin ETP Shares") of the Bitcoin Trust on the Exchange pursuant to Exchange Rule 14.11(e)(4), Commodity-Based Trust Shares, on January 10, 2024.³ The Commission also approved the listing and trading of shares (the "Eth ETP Shares") of the Eth Trust on the Exchange pursuant to Exchange Rule 14.11(e)(4), Commodity-Based Trust Shares, on May 23, 2024.⁴

See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 99289 (January 8, 2024) 89 FR 2413 (January 12, 2024) (SR-CboeBZX-2023-040) (Notice of Filing of Amendment No. 2 to a Proposed Rule Change To List and Trade Shares of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust Under BZX Rule 14.11(e)(4), Commodity-Based Trust Shares) ("Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2"); 99306 (January 10, 2024) 89 FR 3008 (January 17, 2024) (SR-CboeBZX-2023-040) (Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Changes, as Modified by Amendments Thereto, To List and Trade Bitcoin-Based Commodity-Based Trust Shares and Trust Units) (the "Bitcoin ETP Approval Order"). The Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2 was later amended to change the creation unit size from 50,000 shares to 25,000 shares. See Securities Exchange Act No. 99724 (March 12, 2024) 89 FR 19379 (March 18, 2024) (SR-CboeBZX-2024-022) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend the Creation Basket Size of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust).

See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 100214 (May 22, 2024) 89 FR 46462 (May 29, 2024) (SR-CboeBZX-2023-069) (Notice of Filing of Amendment No. 2 to a Proposed Rule Change to List and Trade Shares of the VanEck Ethereum Trust Under BZX Rule 14.11(e)(4), Commodity-

Exchange Rule 14.11(e)(4) governs the listing and trading of Commodity-Based Trust Shares, which means a security (a) that is issued by a trust that holds (1) a specified commodity deposited with the trust, or (2) a specified commodity and, in addition to such specified commodity, cash; (b) that is issued by such trust in a specified aggregate minimum number in return for a deposit of a quantity of the underlying commodity and/or cash; and (c) that, when aggregated in the same specified minimum number, may be redeemed at a holder's request by such trust which will deliver to the redeeming holder the quantity of the underlying commodity and/or cash. The Bitcoin ETP Shares are issued by the Bitcoin Trust and the Eth ETP Shares are issued by the Eth Trust. The Bitcoin Trust was formed as a Delaware statutory trust on December 17, 2020 and the Eth Trust was formed as a Delaware statutory trust on June 22, 2021.

Bitcoin Trust

The Exchange proposes to amend several portions of the Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2, as amended, in order to permit in-kind creation and redemptions.

Representations

The Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2, as amended, included specific representations making clear that the Bitcoin Trust would only process creations and redemptions in cash. Specifically, "VanEck Bitcoin Trust" section of the Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2, as amended, stated:⁵

When the Trust sells or redeems its Shares, it will do so in cash transactions in blocks of [25,000] Shares (a "Creation Basket") at the Trust's net asset value

Based Trust Shares) ("Eth ETP Amendment No. 2"); 100224 (May 23, 2024) 89 FR 46937 (May 30, 2024) (SR-CboeBZX-2023-069) (Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Changes, as Modified by Amendments Thereto, to List and Trade Shares of Ether-Based Exchange-Traded Products) (the "Eth ETP Approval Order").

⁵ See Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2 at 2422.

("NAV"). A third party will use cash to buy and deliver bitcoin to create Shares or withdraw and sell bitcoin for cash to redeem Shares, on behalf of the Trust. For creations, authorized participants will deliver cash to the Trust's account with the Cash Custodian in exchange for Shares. Upon receipt of an approved creation order, the Sponsor, on behalf of the Trust, will submit an order to buy the amount of bitcoin represented by a Creation Basket. Based off bitcoin executions, the Cash Custodian will request the required cash from the authorized participant; the Transfer Agent will only issue ETF shares when the authorized participant has made delivery of the cash. Following receipt by the Cash Custodian of the cash from an authorized participant, the Sponsor, on behalf of the Trust, will approve an order with one or more previously onboarded trading partners to purchase the amount of bitcoin represented by the Creation Basket. This purchase of bitcoin will normally be cleared through an affiliate of the Custodian (although the purchase may also occur directly with the trading partner) and the bitcoin will settle directly into the Trust's account at the Custodian.

The Exchange proposes to replace the above paragraph with the following:

When the Trust sells or redeems its Shares, it will do so in cash or in-kind transactions in blocks of 25,000 Shares (a "Creation Basket") at the Trust's net asset value ("NAV"). For cash creations, a third party will use cash to buy and deliver bitcoin to create Shares or withdraw and sell bitcoin for cash to redeem Shares, on behalf of the Trust. For cash creations, authorized participants will deliver cash to the Trust's account with the Cash Custodian in exchange for Shares. For cash creations and redemptions, authorized participants will deliver, or facilitate the delivery of, cash to the Trust's account with the Cash Custodian, in exchange for Shares when they create Shares, and the Trust, through the Cash Custodian, will deliver cash to such authorized participants when they redeem Shares with the Trust. For in-kind creation and redemptions, authorized participants will deliver, or facilitate delivery of, bitcoin to the Trust's account with the Custodian, in exchange for Shares when they create Shares, and the Trust, through the Custodian, will deliver bitcoin to such authorized participants when they redeem Shares with the Trust.

Additionally, the "Investment Objective" section of the Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2 stated: "In seeking to achieve its investment objective, the Trust will hold bitcoin and will value its Shares daily based on the reported Benchmark and process all creations and

For redemptions, the process will occur in the reverse order. Upon receipt of an approved redemption order, the Sponsor, on behalf of the Trust, will submit an order to sell the amount of bitcoin represented by a Creation Basket and the cash proceeds will be remitted to the authorized participant when the [25,000] Shares are received by the Transfer Agent.

redemptions in cash transactions with authorized participants." The Exchange proposes to replace this language with the following: "In seeking to achieve its investment objective, the Trust will hold bitcoin and will value its Shares daily based on the reported Benchmark and process all creations and redemptions in cash or in-kind transactions with authorized participants."

Creation and Redemption of Shares

Additionally, the "Creation and Redemption of Shares" section of the filing includes a detailed description of how the cash-only creation and redemption process works. 8 The Exchange proposes to replace this section as follows:

Creation and Redemption of Shares

When the Trust creates or redeems its Shares, it will do so in cash or in-kind. In connection with cash creations and cash redemptions, the authorized participants will submit orders to create or redeem Baskets of Shares in exchange for cash. When the Trust creates or redeems its Shares in cash, it will do so in transactions in blocks of 25,000 Shares that are based on the quantity of bitcoin attributable to each Share of the Trust (e.g., a Creation Basket) at the Trust's NAV. When the Trust creates or redeems its Shares in kind, it will do so in transfers of bitcoin in blocks of 25,000 Shares that are based on the quantity of bitcoin attributable to the Creation Basket being created or redeemed.

The authorized participants will deliver or cause to be delivered cash or bitcoin to create Shares and the authorized participant or its designee will receive cash or bitcoin when redeeming Shares. The Trust will create Shares by receiving bitcoin or cash from an authorized participant or its designee and will redeem shares by delivering bitcoin or cash to an authorized participant or its designee.

On any business day, an authorized participant may place an order to create one or more Creation Baskets. Purchase orders must be placed by the close of 4:00 p.m. or the close of regular trading on the Exchange, whichever is earlier. The day on which an order is received is considered the purchase order date.

For a cash creation order, the total deposit of cash required is an amount of cash sufficient to purchase such amount of bitcoin, the amount of which is equal to the

⁷ See Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2 at 2423.

Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2 at 2423-2424.

combined NAV of the number of Shares included in the Creation Baskets being created determined as of 4:00 p.m. ET on the date the order to purchase is properly received.

For a creation order in kind, the total in-kind transfer of bitcoin is based on the quantity of bitcoin attributable to the Creation Baskets being created determined as of 4:00 p.m. ET on the date the order to purchase is properly received.

The Administrator determines the quantity of bitcoin used to calculate the Creation Basket for a given day by dividing the number of bitcoin held by the Trust as of the opening of business on that business day, adjusted for the amount of bitcoin constituting estimated accrued but unpaid fees and expenses of the Trust as of the opening of business on that business day, by the quotient of the number of Shares outstanding at the opening of business divided by the number of Shares in a Creation Basket.

The procedures by which an authorized participant can redeem one or more Creation Baskets mirror the procedures for the creation of Creation Baskets. For a cash creation order, an authorized participant will deliver cash to create Shares. For an in-kind creation order, an authorized participant or its designee will deliver bitcoin to create Shares. For a cash redemption order, an authorized participant will deliver Shares to the Trust and will receive cash for the Shares delivered. For an in-kind redemption order, an authorized participant will deliver Shares to the Trust and the authorized participant or its designee will receive bitcoin for the Shares delivered.

Eth Trust

Similarly, the Exchange proposes to amend several portions of the Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 in order to permit in-kind creations and redemptions.

Representations

The Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 included a specific representation making clear that the Eth Trust would only process creations and redemptions in cash. Specifically, the "VanEck Ethereum Trust" section of the Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 stated: 9

When the Trust sells or redeems its Shares, it will do so in cash transactions in blocks of 25,000 Shares (a "Creation Basket") at the Trust's net asset value ("NAV"). For creations, authorized participants will deliver cash to the Trust's account with the Cash Custodian in exchange for Shares. Upon receipt of an

See Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 at 46469.

approved creation order, the Sponsor, on behalf of the Trust, will submit an order to buy the amount of ether represented by a Creation Basket. Based off ether executions, the Cash Custodian will request the required cash from the authorized participant; the Transfer Agent will only issue Shares when the authorized participant has made delivery of the cash. Following receipt by the Cash Custodian of the cash from an authorized participant, the Sponsor, on behalf of the Trust, will approve an order with one or more previously onboarded trading partners to purchase the amount of ether represented by the Creation Basket. This purchase of ether will normally be cleared through an affiliate of the Custodian (although the purchase may also occur directly with the trading partner) and the ether will settle directly into the Trust's account at the Custodian. ¹⁰

The Exchange proposes to replace this language with the following:

When the Trust creates or redeems its Shares in cash transactions, it will do so in blocks of 25,000 Shares (a "Creation Basket") at the Trust's net asset value ("NAV"). For cash creations or redemptions, Authorized participants will deliver, or facilitate the delivery of, cash to the Trust's account with the Cash Custodian in exchange for Shares when they create Shares, and the Trust, through the Cash Custodian, will deliver cash to such authorized participants when they redeem Shares with the Trust. When the Trust creates or redeems its Shares in-kind, it will do so in Creation Units in exchange for ether. Authorized participants will deliver, or facilitate delivery of, ether to the Trust's account with the Custodian, in exchange for Shares when they create Shares, and the Trust, through the Custodian, will deliver ether to such authorized participants when they redeem Shares with the Trust.

Additionally, the "Investment Objective" section of the Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 stated: "In seeking to achieve its investment objective, the Trust will hold ether and will value its Shares daily based on the reported Benchmark (as discussed below) and process all creations and redemptions in cash transactions with authorized participants." The Exchange proposes to replace this language with the following:

In seeking to achieve its investment objective, the Trust will hold ETH, cash, and cash equivalents and will value its Shares daily based on the reported Benchmark (as

For redemptions, the process will occur in the reverse order. Upon receipt of an approved redemption order, the Sponsor, on behalf of the Trust, will submit an order to sell the amount of ether represented by a Creation Basket and the cash proceeds will be remitted to the authorized participant when the 25,000 Shares are received by the Transfer Agent.

¹¹ Id.

discussed below) and process all creations and redemptions in transactions in cash or in-kind transactions with authorized participants.

Creation and Redemption of Shares

Additionally, the "Creation and Redemption of Shares" section of the filing includes a detailed description of how the cash-only creation and redemption process works. ¹² The Exchange proposes to replace this section as follows:

Creation and Redemption of Shares

When the Trust creates or redeems its Shares, it will do so in cash or in-kind. In connection with cash creations and cash redemptions, the authorized participants will submit orders to create or redeem Baskets of Shares in exchange for cash. When the Trust creates or redeems its Shares in cash, it will do so in transactions in blocks of 25,000 Shares that are based on the quantity of ether attributable to each Share of the Trust (e.g., a Creation Basket) at the Trust's NAV. When the Trust creates or redeems its Shares in-kind, it will do so in transfers of ether in blocks of 25,000 Shares that are based on the quantity of ether attributable to the Creation Basket being created or redeemed.

The authorized participants will deliver or cause to be delivered cash or ether to create Shares and the authorized participant or its designee will receive cash or ether when redeeming Shares. The Trust will create Shares by receiving ether or cash from an authorized participant or its designee and will redeem Shares by delivering ether or cash to an authorized participant or its designee.

On any business day, an authorized participant may place an order to create one or more Creation Baskets. Purchase orders must be placed by the close of 4:00 p.m. or the close of regular trading on the Exchange, whichever is earlier. The day on which an order is received is considered the purchase order date.

For a cash creation order, the total deposit of cash required is an amount of cash sufficient to purchase such amount of ether, the amount of which is based on the combined NAV of the number of Shares included in the Creation Baskets being created determined as of 4:00 p.m. ET on the date the order to purchase is properly received.

For a creation order in kind, the total in-kind transfer of ether is based on the quantity of ether attributable to the Creation Baskets being created determined as of 4:00 p.m. ET on the date the order to purchase is properly received.

See Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 at 46471.

The Administrator determines the quantity of ether used to calculate the Creation Basket for a given day by dividing the number of ether held by the Trust as of the opening of business on that business day, adjusted for the amount of ether constituting estimated accrued but unpaid fees and expenses of the Trust as of the opening of business on that business day, by the quotient of the number of Shares outstanding at the opening of business divided by the number of Shares in a Creation Basket.

The procedures by which an authorized participant can redeem one or more Creation Baskets mirror the procedures for the creation of Creation Baskets. For a cash creation order, an authorized participant will deliver cash to create Shares. For an in-kind creation order, an authorized participant or its designee will deliver ether to create Shares. For a cash redemption order, an authorized participant will deliver Shares to the Trust and will receive cash for the Shares delivered. For an in-kind redemption order, an authorized participant will deliver Shares to the Trust and the authorized participant or its designee will receive ether for the Shares delivered.

Conclusion

Except for the above changes, all other representations in the Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2, as amended, and the Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 remain unchanged and will continue to constitute continuing listing requirements. In addition, the Bitcoin Trust will continue to comply with the terms of Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2, as amended, and the Eth Trust will continue to comply with the terms of Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 and the Trusts will continue to comply with the requirements of Rule 14.11(e)(4).

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.¹³ Specifically, the Exchange believes the

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proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)¹⁴ 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 facilitating 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.

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is designed to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest because it would update representations in both the Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2, as amended, and the Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 such that the Trusts would both be able to engage in in-kind creation and redemptions with authorized participants or their designees, as described above. This ability would make the Trusts (and the market more generally) operate more efficiently because authorized participants would be able to source bitcoin or ether, as applicable, rather than to provide cash to the applicable Trust and to receive bitcoin or ether from the Trusts. This means that the authorized participant would be responsible for buying and selling the applicable crypto asset rather than the Trust itself, which would potentially lessen the impact on the market of the Trusts on both sides of the transaction by allowing the authorized participant to decide how and where to source the underlying crypto asset for creations and deciding how, where, and whether to sell the underlying crypto asset received for redemptions. This would improve the creation and redemption process for

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

both authorized participants and the Trusts, increase efficiency, and ultimately benefit the end investors in the Trusts.

Except for the addition of in-kind creation and redemption for the Bitcoin Trust as specifically set forth herein, all other representations made in the Bitcoin ETP Amendment No. 2, as amended, remain unchanged and will continue to constitute continuing listing requirements for the Bitcoin Trust. Similarly, except for the addition of in-kind creation and redemption for the Eth Trust as specifically set forth herein, all other representations made in the Eth ETP Amendment No. 2 remain unchanged and will continue to constitute continuing listing requirements for the Eth Trust.

B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

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. As noted above, the proposed amendment is intended to allow the Trusts to operate more efficiently by allowing for in-kind creation and redemption. The Exchange believes these changes will not impose any burden on competition.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed</u> Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others

The Exchange neither solicited nor received comments on the proposed rule change.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

Within 45 days of the date of publication of this notice in the <u>Federal Register</u> 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:

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-2025-031 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-CboeBZX-2025-031. 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-2025-031 and should be submitted on or before [INSERT DATE 21 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. 15

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.