

collection should be addressed to Ronald J. Hodapp, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

**Chuck Mierzwa,**  
Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-21406 Filed 8-20-03; 8:45 am]

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 35-27713; 70-10083]

### Hydro-Quebec, et al.; Order Granting Limited Approval to Application of Hydro Quebec, et al.

On July 30, 2003, we issued notice of an application by Hydro-Quebec and certain of its subsidiaries under sections 9(a)(2) and 10 of the Act to acquire an interest in Cross-Sound Cable Company (New York) LLC ("CSC NY"). See Holding Co. Act Release 27703 (July 30, 2003).<sup>1</sup> The application also seeks exemptions for Hydro-Quebec and certain of its subsidiaries under sections 3(a)(5) and 3(a)(1) of the Act. As described in the notice, CSNY is constructing a transmission line (the "Cross Sound Cable") between New York and Connecticut. The transmission line has not yet entered into commercial operation. The notice period for filing comments or requests for hearing with respect to the application runs through August 25, 2003.

On August 14, 2003, in response to a sudden black-out affecting large parts of the eastern and midwestern sections of the United States, the Department of Energy issued an order pursuant to section 202(c) of the Federal Power Act requiring that the Cross Sound Cable be

operated to, among other things, "alleviate the current disruptions in electric transmission service." Department of Energy Order No. 202-03-1 (Aug. 14, 2003) ("DOE Order").

Based upon these circumstances, we hereby grant the application of Hydro-Quebec *et al.* for the limited purpose of complying with the DOE Order.<sup>2</sup> Our grant of the application for these limited purposes is without prejudice to our ability to take any action with respect to this Order or the application following the conclusion of the notice period.

The necessity for immediate action of the Commission does not permit prior notice of the Commission's action. CF. Holding Co. Act Release No. 35-27502 (Mar. 18, 2002).

Accordingly, it is ordered, pursuant to sections 3, 9(a)(2), 10 and 20 of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 that the application of Hydro-Quebec *et al.* is granted for the limited purpose of complying with Department of Energy Order 202-03-1.

By the Commission.

**Margaret H. McFarland,**

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-21401 Filed 8-20-03; 8:45 am]

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 26151; 812-13003]

### Barclays Global Fund Advisors, et al.; Notice of Application

August 15, 2003.

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

**ACTION:** Notice of an application to amend a prior order under section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("Act") granting an exemption from sections 2(a)(32), 5(a)(1), and 22(d) of the Act and rule 22c-1 under the Act, and under sections 6(c) and 17(b) of the Act granting an exemption from sections 17(a)(1) and (a)(2) of the Act.

**SUMMARY OF APPLICATION:** Applicants request an order to amend a prior order that permits: (a) An open-end management investment company, whose series are based on certain fixed-income securities indices, to issue shares of limited redeemability; (b) secondary market transactions in the

shares of the series to occur at negotiated prices; and (c) affiliated persons of the series to deposit securities into, and receive securities from, the series in connection with the purchase and redemption of aggregations of the series' shares ("Prior Order").<sup>1</sup> Applicants seek to amend the Prior Order in order to offer additional series based on different fixed-income securities indices.

**APPLICANTS:** Barclays Global Fund Advisors ("Adviser"), iShares Trust ("Trust") and SEI Investments Distribution Co. ("Distributor").

**FILING DATES:** The application was filed on August 15, 2003.

**HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING:** An order granting the requested relief will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the Commission's Secretary and serving applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. on September 5, 2003 and should be accompanied by proof of service on applicants, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons may request notification of a hearing by writing to the Commission's Secretary.

**ADDRESSES:** Secretary, Commission, 450 5th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609. Applicants: Richard F. Morris, Esq., Barclays Global Fund Advisors, c/o Barclays Global Investors, N.A., 45 Fremont Street, San Francisco, CA 94105; Susan C. Mosher, Esq., iShares Trust, c/o Investors Bank & Trust Company, 200 Clarendon Street, Boston, MA 02116; and William E. Zitelli, Esq., SEI Investments Distribution Co., One Freedom Valley Drive, Oaks, PA 19456.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Laura J. Riegel, Senior Counsel, at (202) 942-0567, or Michael W. Mundt, Senior Special Counsel, at (202) 942-0564 (Division of Investment Management).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The following is a summary of the application. The complete application may be obtained for a fee at the Commission's Public Reference Branch, 450 5th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0102 (tel. 202-942-8090).

### Applicants' Representations

1. The Trust is an open-end management investment company

<sup>1</sup> Specifically, Hydro-Québec ("HQ"), 75 René-Lévesque Blvd. West, Montréal, Québec H2Z 1A4 Canada, a corporation wholly owned by the government of Québec and a public-utility holding company that claims exemption under the Act under rule 10, and its subsidiaries, TransEnergie HQ, Inc. ("TEI"), 740 rue Notre-Dame Ouest, Bureau 800, Montréal, Québec, H3C 3X6 Canada, a Canadian corporation, TransEnergie U.S. Ltd. ("TEUS"), a Delaware corporation and Cross-Sound Cable Company (New York), LLC ("CSC NY"), a New York limited liability company, both located at 110 Turnpike Road, Westborough, MA 01581 (collectively, "Applicants") have filed an application under sections 3(a)(1), 3(a)(5), 9(a)(2) and 10 of the Act in connection with a proposed acquisition of interests in CSC NY (the "Transaction").

Applicants request an order under sections 9(a)(2) and 10 of the Act authorizing HQ through TEI and TEUS to acquire interests in CSC NY; an order exempting TEUS from registration under section 3(a)(1); and an order exempting HQ from registration under section 3(a)(5).

<sup>2</sup> The Commission has, in the past, issued orders in response to crises in the energy sector while at the same time retaining its authority to reconsider the matter at an appropriate time. See Union Electric Co., Holding Co. Act Release No. 18368 (Apr. 10, 1974).

<sup>1</sup> Barclays Global Fund Advisors, *et al.*, Investment Company Act Release Nos. 25594 (May 29, 2002) (notice) and 25622 (June 25, 2002) (order).