

**To:** Head Traders, Technical Contacts, Compliance Officers, Heads of ETF Trading, Structured Products Traders

**From:** BX Listing Qualifications Department

**DATE:** January 15, 2009

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<b>Exchange-Traded Fund</b>	<b>Symbol</b>	<b>CUSIP #</b>
iShares FTSE China (HK Listed) Index Fund	FCHI	464288 190
iShares S&P Global Clean Energy Index Fund	ICLN	464288 224
iShares S&P Global Nuclear Energy Index Fund	NUCL	464288 232
iShares S&P Global Timber & Forestry Index Fund	WOOD	464288 174

### Background Information on the Funds

The iShares Trust (the "Trust") is a management investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). The Trust consists of several exchange-traded funds (each, a "Fund" and collectively, the "Funds"). This circular refers only to the four Funds listed above. The shares of the Funds are referred to herein as "Shares." Barclays Global Fund Advisors (the "Adviser") serves as the investment adviser for the Funds.

FCHI seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the FTSE China (HK Listed) Index (the "China Index"). FCHI's investment objective and the China Index may be changed without shareholder approval. The China Index is designed to represent the performance of the large- and mid-capitalization companies in the Chinese equity market that are available to international investors. Each security in the China Index is a current constituent of the FTSE All-World Index and all of the securities in the China Index currently trade on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. As of February 2008, the Underlying Index's top three sectors were financials, telecommunications, and oil & gas and the China Index included 81 companies.

ICLN seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the S&P Global Clean Energy Index (the "Clean Energy Index"). ICLN's investment objective and the Clean Energy Index may be changed without shareholder approval. The Clean Energy Index is designed to track performance of 30 of the most liquid and tradable global companies which represent the listed clean energy universe. The Clean Energy Index includes clean energy production companies and clean energy equipment and technology providers and the Fund will be concentrated in the clean energy industry. For these purposes, the "clean energy" universe includes biofuel and biomass, ethanol and fuel alcohol, geothermal energy, hydroelectricity, solar and wind energy. As of December 2007, each of the Clean Energy's constituents had a minimum market capitalization of \$250 million.

NUCL seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the S&P Global Nuclear Energy Index (the "Nuclear Index"). NUCL's investment objective and the Nuclear Index may be changed without shareholder approval. The Nuclear Index is comprised of 20 of the largest publicly traded companies in nuclear energy related businesses that meet investability requirements designed to provide liquid exposure to publicly listed companies in the global nuclear energy business from both developed and emerging markets. The constituents within the Nuclear Index are equally distributed between the nuclear materials, equipment and services and nuclear energy generation industries and NUCL will be concentrated in those industries. As of December 2007, each of the Nuclear Index's constituents had a minimum market capitalization of \$250 million.

WOOD seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the S&P Global Timber & Forestry Index (the "Timber Index"). WOOD's investment objective and the Timber Index may be changed without shareholder approval. The Timber Index is comprised of 25 of the largest publicly-traded companies engaged in the ownership, management or upstream supply chain of forests and timberlands. These include forest products companies, timber real estate investment trusts ("REITs"), paper products companies, paper packaging companies and agricultural products companies. Because many securities included in the Timber Index may be issued by specialized REITs and forest products companies, WOOD may be concentrated in the specialized REIT and forest products industries.

Because the value of the underlying indexes are not computed as of the close of the U.S. securities markets due to differences in trading hours between U.S. and foreign markets, correlation to the underlying indexes will be measured by comparing the daily change in each Fund's net asset value per share to the performance of one or more U.S. exchange traded securities or instruments that reflect the values of the securities underlying the various indexes as of the close of the U.S. securities markets.

For more information regarding each Fund's investment strategy, please read the prospectus for the Funds.

As described more fully in the Trust's prospectus and Statement of Additional Information ("SAI"), the Funds issue and redeem Shares at net asset value ("NAV") only in large blocks of shares, respectively, (each block of Shares called a "Creation Unit") or multiples thereof. The Creation Units for the Funds are as follows:

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Shares per Creation Unit</b>
iShares FTSE China (HK Listed) Index Fund	100,000
iShares S&P Global Clean Energy Index Fund	100,000
iShares S&P Global Nuclear Energy Index Fund	20,000
iShares S&P Global Timber & Forestry Index Fund	30,000

As a practical matter, only broker-dealers or large institutional investors with creation and redemption agreements (called Authorized Participants) can purchase or redeem these Creation Units. Except when aggregated in Creation Units, the Shares may not be redeemed with the Funds.

Dividends from net investment income, if any, are generally declared and paid semi-annually by the Funds. The Funds generally distributes net capital gains, if any, to shareholders annually.

Shares are held in book-entry form, which means that no Share certificates are issued. The Depository Trust Company or its nominee is the record owner of all outstanding Shares of the Funds and is recognized as the owner of all Shares for all purposes.

The NAV per Share for each Fund is computed by dividing the value of the net assets of the Fund (i.e., the value of its total assets less total liabilities) by the total number of Shares outstanding. Expenses and fees are accrued daily and taken into account for purposes of determining NAV. The NAV of each Fund is determined each business day after the close of trading (ordinarily 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time or "ET") of the New York Stock Exchange. Any assets or liabilities denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar are converted into U.S. dollars at the current market rates on the date of valuation as quoted by one or more sources.

The registration statement for the Funds describes the various fees and expenses for the Funds' Shares. For a more complete description of the Funds and the underlying indexes, visit the Funds' website at [www.ishares.com](http://www.ishares.com).

## **Purchases and Redemptions in Creation Unit Size**

BX members are hereby informed that procedures for purchases and redemptions of Shares in Creation Unit Size are described in the Trust's prospectus and SAI, and that Shares are not individually redeemable but are redeemable only in Creation Unit Size aggregations or multiples thereof.

## **Continuous Offering**

The method by which Creation Unit Aggregations of shares are created and traded may raise certain issues under applicable securities laws. Because new Creation Unit Aggregations of shares are issued and sold by the Funds on an ongoing basis, at any point a "distribution," as such term is used in the Securities Act, may occur. Broker-dealers and other persons are cautioned that some activities on their part may, depending on the circumstances, result in their being deemed participants in a distribution in a manner which could render them statutory underwriters and subject them to the prospectus delivery requirement and liability provisions of the Securities Act.

For example, a broker-dealer firm or its client may be deemed a statutory underwriter if it takes Creation Unit Aggregations after placing an order with the Distributor, breaks them down into constituent shares, and sells such shares directly to customers, or if it chooses to couple the creation of a supply of new shares with an active selling effort involving solicitation of secondary market demand for shares. A determination of whether one is an underwriter for purposes of the Securities Act must take into account all the facts and circumstances pertaining to the activities of the broker-dealer or its client in the particular case, and the examples mentioned above should not be considered a complete description of all the activities that could lead to a categorization as an underwriter.

Broker-dealer firms should also note that dealers who are not “underwriters” but are effecting transactions in shares, whether or not participating in the distribution of shares, generally are required to deliver a prospectus. This is because the prospectus delivery exemption in Section 4(3) of the Securities Act is not available in respect of such transactions as a result of Section 24(d) of the 1940 Act. Firms that incur a prospectus delivery obligation with respect to shares of the Funds are reminded that, pursuant to Rule 153 under the Securities Act, a prospectus delivery obligation under Section 5(b)(2) of the Securities Act owed to an exchange member in connection with a sale on the Listing Exchange is satisfied by the fact that the prospectus is available at the Listing Exchange upon request. The prospectus delivery mechanism provided in Rule 153 is only available with respect to transactions on an exchange.

## **Principal Risks**

Interested persons are referred to the discussion in the prospectus for the Funds of the principal risks of an investment in the Funds. These include Asian economic risk, asset class risk, concentration risk, country and regional risk (china), currency risk, custody risk, emerging markets risk, energy sector risk, foreign securities risks, geographic risk, issuer risk, legal enforcement of shareholder rights risk, management risk, market risk, market trading risk (for example, trading halts, trading above or below net asset value)mid-capitalization companies risks., non-diversification risk, passive investment risk, privatization risk, reliance on trading partners risk, secondary market trading risk, security risk, small-capitalization companies risk, structural risk, timber and forestry risk, tracking error risk (factors causing a Fund’s performance to not match the performance of its underlying index), trading risk and valuation risk

## **Trading Halts**

When evaluating the necessity of imposing a trading halt in an ETF, BX may consider, among other factors:

- The extent to which trading has ceased in the underlying security(s);
- Whether trading has been halted or suspended in the primary market(s) for any combination of underlying securities accounting for 20% or more of the applicable current index group value. The value being established to be the value at the close of the prior trading day;
- The presence of other unusual conditions or circumstances deemed to be detrimental to the maintenance of a fair and orderly market.

The trading of an ETF, that has been the subject of a trading halt or suspension, may resume when BX determines that the conditions which led to the halt or suspension are no longer present or that the interests of a fair and orderly market are served by a resumption of trading.

## **Dissemination of Fund Data**

Beginning Wednesday, June 25, 2008, BX will begin disseminating the Intraday Portfolio Value (IPV) for the Funds through the BX Index Dissemination Service<sup>SM</sup> (NIDS<sup>SM</sup>) under the following symbols:

<b>Fund Name</b>	<b>Symbol</b>
iShares FTSE China (HK Listed) Index Fund	FCHI.IV

iShares S&P Global Clean Energy Index Fund	ICLN.IV
iShares S&P Global Nuclear Energy Index Fund	NUCL.IV
iShares S&P Global Timber & Forestry Index Fund	WOOD.IV

Expressed as a dollar amount per share, the IPV will be disseminated every 15 seconds from 9:15:00 a.m. to 5:16:00 p.m., ET.

BX will also begin disseminating daily valuation information for the Funds on June 25, 2008. These daily valuations will be posted on the BX Trader<sup>®</sup> website as well as disseminated through NIDS. Please refer to the [Index and ETF Symbol List](#) for the full list of the Funds' valuation symbols.

### **Suitability**

Trading in the Shares on BX will be subject to the provisions of BX Rule 2310. Members recommending transactions in the Shares to customers should make a determination that the recommendation is suitable for the customer. In addition, members must possess sufficient information to satisfy the "know your customer" obligation that is embedded in the BX Conduct Rules.

Members also should review NASD Notice to Members 03-71 for guidance on trading these products. The Notice reminds members of their obligations to: (1) conduct adequate due diligence to understand the features of the product; (2) perform a reasonable-basis suitability analysis; (3) perform customer-specific suitability analysis in connection with any recommended transactions; (4) provide a balanced disclosure of both the risks and rewards associated with the particular product, especially when selling to retail investors; (5) implement appropriate internal controls; and (6) train registered persons regarding the features, risk and suitability of these products.

### **Delivery of a Prospectus**

BX members should be mindful of applicable prospectus delivery requirements under the federal securities laws with respect to transactions in the Funds.

Prospectuses may be obtained through the [Funds' website](#). The prospectus for the Funds does not contain all of the information set forth in the Funds' registration statement (including the exhibits to the registration statement), parts of which have been omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). For further information about the Funds, please refer to the registration statement.

In the event that the Funds rely upon an order by the SEC exempting the Shares from certain prospectus delivery requirements under Section 24(d) of the 1940 Act and in the future make available a written product description, BX Rule 4420(j)(2) requires that BX members provide to all purchasers of Shares a written description of the terms and characteristics of such securities, in a form prepared by the Trust for the Funds, no later than the time a confirmation of the first transaction in the Shares is delivered to such purchaser. In addition, BX members shall include such a written description with any sales material relating to the Shares that is provided to customers or the public. Any other written materials provided by a BX member to customers or the public making specific reference to the Shares as an investment vehicle must include a statement in substantially the following form: "A circular

describing the terms and characteristics of the Shares of the Fund has been prepared by the Trust and is available from your broker. It is recommended that you obtain and review such circular before purchasing Shares of the Fund. In addition, upon request you may obtain from your broker a prospectus for Shares of the Fund.”

A BX member carrying an omnibus account for a non-member broker-dealer is required to inform such non-member that execution of an order to purchase Shares for such omnibus account will be deemed to constitute agreement by the non-member to make such written description available to its customers on the same terms as are directly applicable to BX member under this rule.

Upon request of a customer, BX members also shall provide a copy of the prospectus.

### **Exemptive, Interpretive and No-Action Relief Under Federal Securities Regulations**

The SEC has issued exemptive, interpretive or no-action relief from certain provisions of rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”) regarding trading in the above mentioned exchange-traded Funds.

#### **Regulation M Exemptions**

Generally, Rules 101 and 102 of Regulation M prohibit any “distribution participant” and its “affiliated purchasers” from bidding for, purchasing, or attempting to induce any person to bid for or purchase any security which is the subject of a distribution until after the applicable restricted period, except as specifically permitted in Regulation M. The provisions of the Rules apply to underwriters, prospective underwriters, brokers, dealers, and other persons who have agreed to participate or are participating in a distribution of securities.

The SEC has granted an exemption from Rule 101 under Regulation M to permit persons participating in a distribution of shares of the above-mentioned Funds to engage in secondary market transactions in such shares during their participation in such a distribution. In addition, the SEC has granted relief under Regulation M to permit persons who may be deemed to be participating in the distribution of Shares of the above-mentioned Funds (i) to purchase securities for the purpose of purchasing Creation Unit Aggregations of Fund Shares and (ii) to tender securities for redemption in Creation Unit Aggregations. Further, the SEC has clarified that the tender of Fund Shares to the Funds for redemption does not constitute a bid for or purchase of any of the Funds’ securities during the restricted period of Rule 101. The SEC has also granted an exemption pursuant to paragraph (e) of Rule 102 under Regulation M to allow the redemption of Fund Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations during the continuous offering of Shares.

#### **Customer Confirmations for Creation or Redemption of Fund Shares (SEC Rule 10b-10)**

Broker-dealers who handle purchases or redemptions of Fund Shares in Creation Unit size for customers will be permitted to provide such customers with a statement of the number of Creation Unit Aggregations created or redeemed without providing a statement of the identity, number and price of shares of the individual securities tendered to a Fund for purposes of purchasing Creation Unit Aggregations (“Deposit

Securities”) or the identity, number and price of shares to be delivered by the Trust for the Fund to the redeeming holder (“Redemption Securities”). The composition of the securities required to be tendered to the Fund for creation purposes and of the securities to be delivered on redemption will be disseminated each business day and will be applicable to requests for creations or redemption, as the case may be, on that day. This exemptive relief under Rule 10b-10 with respect to creations and redemptions is subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Confirmations to customers engaging in creations or redemptions must state that all information required by Rule 10b-10 will be provided upon request;
- 2) Any such request by a customer for information required by Rule 10b-10 will be filed in a timely manner, in accordance with Rule 10b-10(c);
- 3) Except for the identity, number and price of shares of the component securities of the Deposit Securities and Redemption Securities, as described above, confirmations to customers must disclose all other information required by Rule 10b-10(a).

### **SEC Rule 14e-5**

An exemption from Rule 14e-5 has been granted to permit any person acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a component security of a Fund (1) to redeem Fund Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations from the issuer that may include a security subject to such tender offer and (2) to purchase Fund Shares during such tender offer. In addition, a no-action position has been taken under Rule 14e-5 if a broker-dealer acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a security of a Fund purchases or arranges to purchase such securities in the secondary market for the purpose of tendering such securities to purchase one or more Creation Unit Aggregations of Shares, if made in conformance with the following:

- 1) such bids or purchases are effected in the ordinary course of business, in connection with a basket of 20 or more securities in which any security that is the subject of a distribution, or any reference security, does not comprise more than 5% of the value of the basket purchased; or
- 2) purchases are effected as adjustments to such basket in the ordinary course of business as a result of a change in the composition of the underlying index; and
- 3) such bids or purchases are not effected for the purpose of facilitating such tender offer.

### **Section 11(d)(1); SEC Rules 11d1-1 and 11d1-2**

Section 11(d)(1) of the Act generally prohibits a person who is both a broker and a dealer from effecting any transaction in which the broker-dealer extends credit to a customer on any security which was part of a new issue in the distribution of which he participated as a member of a selling syndicate or group within thirty days prior to such transaction. The SEC has clarified that Section 11(d)(1) does not apply to broker-dealers that are not Authorized Participants (and, therefore, do not create Creation Unit Aggregations) that engage in both proprietary and customer transactions in Shares of the Fund in the secondary market, and for broker-dealer Authorized Participants that engage in creations of Creation Unit Aggregations. This

relief is subject to specific conditions, including the condition that such broker-dealer (whether or not an Authorized Participant) does not, directly or indirectly, receive from the fund complex any payment, compensation or other economic incentive to promote or sell the Shares of a Fund to persons outside the fund complex, other than non-cash compensation permitted under NASD Rule 2830(l)(5)(A), (B) or (C). (See [letter](#) from Catherine McGuire, Chief Counsel, SEC Division of Market Regulation, to Securities Industry Association, Derivative Products Committee, dated November 21, 2005.) The SEC also has taken a no-action position under Section 11(d)(1) of the Act that broker-dealers may treat Shares of a Fund, for purposes of Rule 11d1-2, as "securities issued by a registered open-end investment company as defined in the Investment Company Act" and thereby extend credit or maintain or arrange for the extension or maintenance of credit on Shares that have been owned by the persons to whom credit is provided for more than 30 days, in reliance on the exemption contained in the rule.

### **SEC Rule 15c1-5 and 15c1-6**

The SEC has taken a no-action position with respect to Rule 15c1-5 and Rule 15c1-6 as to the required disclosure of control by a broker or dealer with respect to creations and redemptions of Fund Shares and secondary market transactions therein. (See [letter](#) from Catherine McGuire, Chief Counsel, SEC Division of Market Regulation, to Securities Industry Association, Derivative Products Committee, dated November 21, 2005.)

**This Information Circular is not a statutory prospectus. BX members should consult the Funds' prospectus and/or the [Funds' website](#) for relevant information.**

Inquiries regarding this Information Circular should be directed to:

- [Will Slattery](#), BX Listing Qualifications, at 301.978.8088
- [BX Market Sales](#) at 800.846.0477

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