## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Issuer Delisting; Order Granting the Application of Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc. to Withdraw its Common Stock, \$.01 par value, from Listing and Registration on the American Stock Exchange LLC File No. 1-15781

December 7, 2005

On October 20, 2005, Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Issuer"), filed an application with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Section 12(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 12d2-2(d) thereunder,<sup>2</sup> to withdraw its common stock, \$.01 par value ("Security"), from listing and registration on the American Stock Exchange LLC ("Amex"). Notice of such application requesting comments was published in the Federal Register on November 15, 2005,<sup>3</sup> No comments were received. As discussed below, the Commission is granting the application.

On July 27, 2005, the Board of Directors ("Board") of the Issuer approved a resolution to withdraw the Security from listing and registration on Amex and to list the Security on the Nasdaq National Market ("Nasdaq"). The Issuer stated that the Board believes it is in the best interests of the Issuer and its shareholders to move the Security from listing on Amex to Nasdaq because Nasdaq will provide the Issuer with the opportunity to increase its exposure among investors and improve the liquidity of the Security.

The Issuer stated in its application that it has met the requirements of Amex Rule 18 by complying with all applicable laws in effect in the state of Delaware, in which it is incorporated, and by providing written notice of withdrawal to Amex. The Issuer's application relates solely to

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.12d2-2(d).

<sup>15</sup> U.S.C. 78<u>l</u>(d).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 52749 (November 8, 2005), 70 FR 69363.

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withdrawal of the Security from listing on the Amex and from registration under Section 12(b) of the Act,<sup>4</sup> and shall not affect its obligation to be registered under Section 12(g) of the Act.<sup>5</sup>

The Commission, having considered the facts stated in the application and having due regard for the public interest and protection of investors, orders that the application be, and it hereby is, granted, effective at the opening of business on December 8, 2005.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.  $^{6}$ 

Jonathan G. Katz Secretary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78<u>1</u>(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78<u>1(g)</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(1).