SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-66651; File No. SR-C2-2012-010)

March 23, 2012

Self-Regulatory Organizations; C2 Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Amend its Fees Schedule

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 March 19, 2012, C2 Options Exchange, Incorporated (the "Exchange" or "C2") 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</u> <u>Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend its Fees Schedule. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website (<u>http://www.c2exchange.com/Legal/</u>), 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 Basis for, the</u> <u>Proposed Rule Change</u>

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.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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

The Exchange proposes to amend a number of its application-related fees, as listed below:

Fee	Current Fee	Proposed New Fee
	Amount	Amount
Application Fee (Organizations)	\$4,000	\$5,000
Application Fee (Sole-Proprietors)	\$2,500	\$3,000
Engage in Customer Business	\$2,500	\$3,000
Associated Person	\$350	\$500
Renewal (Organizations)	\$2,000	\$2,500
Statutory Disqualification	\$2,750	\$5,000
Fingerprint	\$50	\$60

The costs of processing these applications and activities have increased, and the Exchange therefore proposes increasing the fees in order to recoup such costs. Further, these changes will make these fee amounts equivalent to corresponding fees on the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated ("CBOE").³

The Exchange also proposes waiving Renewal fees for a six-month period beginning on April 1, 2012. The Renewal fee is assessed to organizations and sole proprietorships that were once C2 Trading Permit Holders but gave up their trading permits, and now want to return. The Exchange proposes waiving the Renewal fee for a six-month period beginning on April 1, 2012 in order to provide an incentive to former C2 Trading Permit Holders to return to C2.

The proposed changes are to take effect April 1, 2012.

2. <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

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See CBOE Fees Schedule, Section 11.

Section 6(b) of the Act.⁴ Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act⁵, which provides that Exchange rules may provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its Trading Permit Holders and other persons using its facilities. The proposed increases in TPH Application fees are reasonable because such increases are necessary to cover the increased costs of processing such applications and activities. The proposed increases in TPH Application fees are equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because they apply equally to all qualifying market participants. Further, these changes will make these fee amounts equivalent to corresponding fees on CBOE.⁶

The proposed waiver of the Renewal fees for a six-month period beginning on April 1, 2012 is reasonable because it will permit former C2 Trading Permit Holders to avoid having to pay a fee they would otherwise have to pay to return to C2. The proposed waiver of the Renewal fees for a six-month period beginning on April 1, 2012 is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it will apply equally to all former C2 Trading Permit Holders who wish to return to C2. Moreover, this waiver will encourage former C2 Trading Permit Holders to return to C2, which will in turn bring greater liquidity and more trading opportunities for all market participants.

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

⁶ <u>See</u> Note 3.

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

C2 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.

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

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

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section $19(b)(3)(A)^7$ of the Act and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4⁸ thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

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 (<u>http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</u>); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-C2-2012-010 on the subject line.

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁸ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f).

Paper Comments:

• Send paper comments in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-C2-2012-010. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail 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 (<u>http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro/shtml</u>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with 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 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the

Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-C2-2012-010 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from date of publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.⁹

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

⁹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).