SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-71137; File No. SR-CHX-2013-22)

December 19, 2013

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Stock Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend the Single-Sided Order Fees and Credits

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)¹ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")² and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,³ notice is hereby given that on December 18, 2013, the Chicago Stock Exchange, Inc. ("CHX" or "Exchange") 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 self-regulatory organization. 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 the Substance of the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change</u>

CHX proposes to amend its Schedule of Participant Fees and Assessments (the "Fee Schedule") to amend the Single-Sided Order Fees and Credits and the Order Cancellation Fee.

The Exchange proposes to implement the fee changes on January 2, 2014. The text of this proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website at http://www.chx.com/rules/proposed_rules.htm, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

In its filing with the Commission, the self-regulatory organization included statements concerning the purpose of, and basis for, the proposed rule change and discussed any comments

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 15 U.S.C. 78a.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

it received on the proposed rule change. The text of those 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 parts of such statements.

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

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend Section E.1 of the Fee Schedule, effective January 2, 2014. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to amend Section E.1 to set the Liquidity Providing Credit for all single-sided orders of 100 or more shares executed in the Matching System in Tape A, B, and C securities priced greater than or equal to \$1.00/share at \$0.0020/share. The Exchange does not propose to make any other amendments to the Fee Schedule.

Current Section E.1

On July 1, 2013, the Exchange adopted current Section E.1 of the Fee Schedule, ⁴ which applies to all single-sided orders of 100 or more shares executed in the CHX Matching System. Specifically, the Exchange set the Liquidity Providing Credit for all Tape A, B, and C securities priced greater than or equal to \$1.00/share at \$0.00250/share and set the corresponding Liquidity Removing Fee at \$0.0030/share. In doing so, the Exchange unified pricing across all Tapes, eliminated the distinction between Derivative Securities Products and Non-Derivative Securities Products throughout the Fee Schedule and eliminated the distinction between "Regular Trading Session" and "Early or Late Trading Session" in Section E.1 of the Fee Schedule.⁵

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 69903 (July 1, 2013), 78 FR 40788 (July 8, 2013) (SR-CHX-2013-12) ("Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend the Single-Sided Order Fees and Credits and the Order Cancellation Fee"); see also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 69903A (August 13, 2013), 78 FR 49308 (August 13, 2013).

⁵ <u>Id</u>.

Proposed Section E.1

The Exchange now proposes to reduce the Liquidity Providing Credit for all single-sided orders of 100 shares or more executed in the Matching System in Tape A, B, and C securities priced greater than or equal to \$1.00/share from \$0.00250/share to \$0.0020/share. As such, the Exchange proposes to amend paragraph (b) under Section E.1 to replace "\$0.00250/share" with "\$0.0020/share."

However, the Exchange does not propose to change the corresponding Liquidity Removing Fee, which is currently \$0.0030/share. In addition, for all single-sided orders of 100 or more shares executed in the CHX Matching System in securities priced less than \$1.00/share, the Exchange will maintain the current Liquidity Providing Credit of \$0.00009/share and the Liquidity Removing Fee of 0.30% of the trade value.

Despite the proposed decrease in the Liquidity Providing Credit, the Exchange believes that a combination of the proposed Liquidity Providing Credit and the Exchange's recently-adopted Market Data Revenue Rebates program⁶ will continue to incentivize activity by Participants on the Exchange's trading facilities, encourage order flow, and allow the Exchange to remain competitive in today's orders marketplace.

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act⁷ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4) of the Act⁸ in particular, in that

See Section P of the Fee Schedule; see also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 70546 (October 3, 2013), 78 FR 61413 (September 27, 2013) ("Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Adopt a Market Data Revenue Rebates Program").

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and other persons using any facility or system which the Exchange operates or controls, and does not unfairly discriminate between customers, issuers, or broker dealers.

Specifically, since the proposed Liquidity Providing Credit will continue to apply to all single-sided orders of 100 or more shares executed in the CHX Matching System and the corresponding Liquidity Removing Fee will remain unchanged, the Exchange believes that the proposed Section E.1 will equitably allocate credits and fees among Participants in a non-discriminatory nature. Furthermore, the proposed Liquidity Providing Credit of \$0.0020/share is reasonable, where the proposed value is similar to liquidity credits offered by other exchanges, such as NASDAO. 9

The Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues. In such an environment, the Exchange must continually review, and consider adjusting, its fees and credits to remain competitive with other exchanges. For the reasons described above, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change reflects this competitive environment.

B. 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.

Specifically, the proposed Liquidity Providing Credit will contribute to the protection of investors and the public interest by maintaining the simplified schedule of credits paid and fees assessed by the Exchange, as it will be applied to all single-sided orders of 100 shares or more executed in the Matching System in Tape A, B, and C securities priced greater than or equal to

NASDAQ "Rebate to Add Displayed Liquidity, Shares Executed at or Above \$1.00" ranges from \$0.0020/share to \$0.00305/share.

\$1.00/share. Moreover, the combination of the proposed Liquidity Providing Credit and Market Data Revenue Rebates will continue to incentivize order senders to submit orders to the Exchange, which will, in turn, enhance competition amongst competing trading centers and contribute to the production of investors and the public interest.

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

No written comments were solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

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

The foregoing rule change is effective upon filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act¹⁰ and subparagraph(f)(2) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder¹¹ because it establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange.

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. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

As fully discussed above, the Exchange believes that the proposed Fee Schedule will create equable credit and fee amounts to incent activity among all Participants within the Exchange's trading facilities.

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

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 (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-CHX-2013-22 on the subject line.

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-CHX-2013-22. 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 (http://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 20549-1090, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal offices of CHX. 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 Number SR-CHX-2013-22, and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. 12

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

¹² 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).