SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-71511; File No. SR-ICC-2014-01)

February 7, 2014

Self-Regulatory Organizations; ICE Clear Credit LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Implement Collateral and Cash Management Fee Changes

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"), <sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, <sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on February 3, 2014, ICE Clear Credit LLC ("ICC") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II and III below, which Items have been prepared primarily by ICC. ICC filed the proposal pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act, <sup>3</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)<sup>4</sup> thereunder so that the proposal was effective upon filing with the Commission. 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> Rule Change

The purpose of this proposed rule change is to implement changes to the method by which ICC charges Clearing Participants for collateral and cash management services.

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, ICC included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received regarding the

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. ICC has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

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

The proposed revisions are intended to implement changes to the method by which ICC charges Clearing Participants for collateral and cash management services (e.g., custody services for collateral; investment/placement of cash deposits; establishing prearranged and highly reliable funding arrangements to allow conversion of non-cash collateral into cash; and managing collateral deposits to ensure all liquidity requirements are met). Such proposed fee changes are the result of changes to ICC's collateral and cash management services that were made in response to new U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") regulations implementing international standards related to liquidity requirements. The proposed changes are described in detail as follows.

With respect to collateral deposited by Clearing Participants with ICC for the purposes of satisfying margin and Guaranty Fund requirements, ICC will impose a 5 basis point (bp) fee (annualized) on U.S. Treasury securities balances (based on par value). This fee will be calculated and charged monthly. In addition, ICC will retain a portion of interest earned on cash balances, net of cash management expenses. The charges will apply to both house and client accounts and ICC proposes to make such changes effective beginning on February 3, 2014.

ICC believes the proposed rule changes are consistent with the requirements of the Act including Section 17A of the Act<sup>5</sup>. More specifically, the proposed rule changes establish or

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78q-1.

change a member due, fee or other charge imposed by ICC under Section  $19(b)(3)(A)(ii)^6$  of the Act and Rule  $19b-4(f)(2)^7$  thereunder. ICC believes the proposed rule changes are consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to ICC, in particular, to Section  $17(A)(b)(3)(D)^8$ , because the proposed collateral and cash management fee changes apply equally to all market participants and therefore the proposed changes provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among participants. As such, the proposed changes are appropriately filed pursuant to Section  $19(b)(3)(A)^9$  of the Act and paragraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.

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

ICC does not believe the proposed rule change would have any impact, or impose any burden, on competition. The proposed collateral and cash management fee changes apply consistently across all market participants and the implementation of the proposed collateral and cash management fee changes does not preclude the implementation of similar fee changes by other market participants. Therefore, ICC does not believe the collateral and cash management fee changes impose any burden on competition that is inappropriate 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>

Written comments relating to the proposed rule change have not been solicited or received. ICC will notify the Commission of any written comments received by ICC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(D).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective upon filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)<sup>10</sup> of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)<sup>11</sup> thereunder because, by implementing changes to the method by which ICC charges Clearing Participants for collateral and cash management services, ICC is establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge applicable only to a member. 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.<sup>12</sup>

## 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 (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>), or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-ICC-2014-01 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(C).

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ICC-2014-01. 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 (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>). 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, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filings also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of ICE Clear Credit and on ICE Clear Credit's website at <a href="https://www.theice.com/notices/Notices.shtml?regulatoryFilings">https://www.theice.com/notices/Notices.shtml?regulatoryFilings</a>.

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-ICC-2014-01 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. 13

> Kevin M. O'Neill **Deputy Secretary**

<sup>13</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).