

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34-74676; File No. SR-ICC-2015-008)

April 8, 2015

Self-Regulatory Organizations; ICE Clear Credit LLC; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change Related to Settlement Finality

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on April 1, 2015, 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. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The principal purpose of the proposed changes is to amend ICC Clearing Rule 401 (“Rule 401”)³ in order to provide additional clarity regarding settlement finality with respect to Mark-to-Market Margin (as defined in ICC Rule 401).

II. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

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 on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ Pursuant to a telephone call with ICC’s internal counsel on April 2, 2015, staff in the Division of Trading and Markets corrected an incorrect reference to ICC Rule 401(b)(ii). ICC intended to refer to ICC Rule 401.

ICC has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of these statements.

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

ICC proposes changes to Rule 401 in order to provide additional clarity regarding settlement finality with respect to Mark-to-Market Margin. Specifically, ICC is proposing to add new subsections (k) and (l) to Rule 401. The new subsections are not intended to change any current ICC practices; rather, such changes are intended to provide additional clarity regarding settlement finality with respect to Mark-to-Market Margin. All capitalized terms not defined herein are defined in the ICC Rules.

ICC proposes adding language in Rule 401(k) to clarify that each Transfer of Mark-to-Market Margin shall constitute a settlement (within the meaning of U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission Rule 39.14⁴) and shall be final as of the time ICC's accounts are debited or credited with the relevant payment. Further, ICC proposes adding language in Rule 401(l) to state that once settlement of a Transfer of Mark-to-Market Margin in respect of the Margin Requirements for a Mark-to-Market Margin Category is final, the fair value of the outstanding exposures for the relevant Contracts in that Mark-to-Market Margin Category (taking into account the Margin provided in respect of such Margin Requirement) will be reset to zero. Such additional language is consistent with ICC's current practices and is intended to provide further clarity regarding ICC's settlement cycle.

Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Act⁵ requires, among other things, that the rules of a clearing agency be designed to promote the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities

⁴ 17 CFR 39.14(a).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(F).

transactions, and to the extent applicable, derivative agreements, contracts and transactions and to comply with the provisions of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder. ICC believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to ICC, in particular, to Section 17(A)(b)(3)(F),⁶ because ICC believes that the proposed rule change will assure the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions, derivatives agreements, contracts, and transactions. The proposed changes to the ICC Rules provide additional clarity regarding ICC's current settlement cycle. ICC believes the proposed revisions provide further clarity and transparency in the ICC Rules. ICC believes clarity and transparency in its Rules is of value to the market in order to provide a comprehensive understanding of ICC's operations. As such, the proposed rule change is designed to promote the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions, derivatives agreements, contracts, and transactions within the meaning of Section 17A(b)(3)(F)⁷ of the Act.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

ICC does not believe the proposed rule change would have any impact, or impose any burden, on competition. The changes, which clarify aspects of ICC's settlement cycle, result in no operational changes and apply uniformly across all market participants. Therefore, ICC does not believe the proposed rule change imposes any burden on competition that is inappropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

⁶ Id.

⁷ Id.

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

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.

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

Within 45 days of the date of publication of this notice in the Federal Register or within such longer period up to 90 days (i) as the Commission may designate if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

(A) by order approve or disapprove such proposed rule change, or

(B) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

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 rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-ICC-2015-008 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ICC-2015-008. 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, 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 <https://www.theice.com/clear-credit/regulation>.

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-2015-008 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.⁸

Brent J. Fields
Secretary

⁸ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).