SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-82211; File No. SR-ICC-2017-014)

December 4, 2017

Self-Regulatory Organizations; ICE Clear Credit LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to the ICC Stress Testing Framework and the ICC Liquidity Risk Management Framework

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 November 27, 2017, ICE Clear Credit LLC ("ICC") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been primarily prepared by ICC. ICC filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act, ³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(3) thereunder,⁴ 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>Clearing Agency's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule</u> <u>Change</u>

The principal purpose of the proposed changes is to make clarifying revisions to

the ICC Stress Testing Framework and the ICC Liquidity Stress Testing Framework.

II. <u>Clearing Agency's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the</u> <u>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

- ² 17 CFR 240.19b-4
- ³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).
- ⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(3)

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1)

received on the 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 these statements.

(A) <u>Clearing Agency's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change</u>

ICC proposes revisions to its Stress Testing Framework and Liquidity Risk Management Framework. Specifically, ICC proposes clarifying changes to document current aspects of its stress testing and liquidity stress testing practices. The proposed changes are described in detail as follows.

ICC proposes changes to its Stress Testing Framework to provide further clarity regarding its calculation of the Foreign Exchange ("FX") shock percentages utilized in ICC's stress testing practices. Specifically, ICC proposes adding language noting that ICC calculates a FX shock percentage for each considered risk horizon.

ICC proposes changes to its Liquidity Risk Management Framework to provide further clarify regarding the applicability of FX adverse stress scenarios to its predefined liquidity stress tests. Specifically, ICC proposes adding language noting that adverse stress scenarios are applied to the Historically Observed Extreme but Plausible scenarios and Hypothetically Constructed Extreme but Plausible scenarios. ICC also added a description of its FX shock percentage calculation to the ICC Liquidity Risk Management Framework.

Section 17(A)(b)(3)(F) of the Act⁵ requires, among other things, that the rules of a clearing agency be designed to protect investors and the public interest and to comply with the provisions of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder. ICC believes that

15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(F).

5

2

the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to ICC, in particular, Section $17(A)(b)(3)(F)^6$, because ICC believes that the proposed rule change will protect investors and the public interest, as the proposed revision provides additional clarity regarding ICC's stress testing and liquidity stress testing practices. As such, the proposed rule change is designed to protect investors and the public interest within the meaning of Section $17(A)(b)(3)(F)^7$ of the Act. Further, through these revisions, ICC is complying with a directive from the CFTC by including requested clarifying details in its Stress Testing Framework and Liquidity Risk Management Framework.

(B) Clearing Agency's Statement on Burden on Competition

ICC does not believe the proposed rule change would have any impact, or impose any burden, on competition. ICC is adding clarifying details regarding its current stress testing and liquidity stress testing practices and not making any substantive changes to its overall stress testing and liquidity stress testing practices. Therefore, ICC does not believe the changes impose any burden on competition that is inappropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

(C) Clearing Agency's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change

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.

⁶ Id.

⁷ Id.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section $19(b)(3)(A)^8$ of the Act and paragraph (f)(3) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.⁹ 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-ICC-2017-014 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange

Commission, 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ICC-2017-014. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(3).

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, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filings will also 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. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ICC-2017-014 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.¹⁰

Eduardo A. Aleman Assistant Secretary

¹⁰ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).