SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-81149; File No. SR-IEX-2017-23)

July 14, 2017

Self-Regulatory Organizations: Investors Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Make a Clarifying Amendment to IEX Rule 16.135 Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)¹ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")² and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,³ notice is hereby given that, on July 7, 2017, the Investors Exchange LLC 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 Substance of the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change</u>

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),⁴ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,⁵ Investors Exchange LLC ("IEX" or "Exchange") is filing with the Commission a proposed rule change to amend IEX Rule 16.135(b)(1) to clarify that the description in a proposal under Section 19(b) of the Act to list a series of Managed Fund Shares constitutes continued listing standards for such series of Managed Fund Shares.

The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Exchange's website at www.iextrading.com, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

- ¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).
- ² 15 U.S.C. 78a.
- ³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.
- ⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).
- ⁵ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and the Statutory Basis for,</u> <u>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 it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statement [sic] may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The self-regulatory organization 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 the Statutory</u> <u>Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

1. <u>Purpose</u>

Overview

The Exchange proposes to amend IEX Rule 16.135(b)(1) to clarify that the description in a proposal under Section 19(b) of the Act to list a series of Managed Fund Shares constitutes continued listing standards for such series of Managed Fund Shares. The proposed rule change is substantially identical to a recent Nasdaq Stock Market ("Nasdaq") rule change.⁶

Specifically, the Exchange proposes to amend the applicability section of IEX Rule 16.135(b)(1) to specify that any of the statements or representations regarding not just the description of the portfolio, but also of the reference assets, among other things, will constitute continued listing requirements for listing of shares. This revision will conform the language to current criteria in IEX Rule 16.135(d)(2)(C)(iv) with respect to criteria for IEX to consider the

⁶ <u>See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 80810 (May 30, 2017), 82 FR 26205 (June 6, 2017) (SR-NASDAQ-2017-052)</u>

suspension of trading and initiation of delisting proceedings of a series of Managed Fund Shares under the IEX Rule Series 14.500.⁷

The Exchange does not currently list any Managed Fund Shares.

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

IEX believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section $6(b)^8$ of the Act in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁹ in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes that the proposed change to amend the applicability section of IEX Rule 16.135(b)(1) to specify that any of the statements or representations regarding not just the description of the portfolio, but also of the reference assets, among other things, will constitute continued listing requirements for listing of shares will provide clarity and accurately reflect the intent of the rule to the benefit of investors and the public interest.

Accordingly, based on the foregoing, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act.

⁷ <u>See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 80545</u> (April 27, 2017), 82 FR 20648 (May 3, 2017) SR-IEX-2017-03).

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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

IEX does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change may enhance competition since it addresses an inconsistency in the applicability of listing standards applicable to Managed Fund Shares.

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 were neither solicited nor received.

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

The Exchange has designated this rule filing as non-controversial under Section $19(b)(3)(A)^{10}$ of the Act and Rule $19b-4(f)(6)^{11}$ thereunder. Because the proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) 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. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings under Section $19(b)(2)(B)^{12}$ of the Act to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

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 email to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-IEX-2017-23 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-IEX-2017-23. This file number should be included in the subject line if email 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 Section, 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 the filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the

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principal office of the Exchange and on its Internet website at www.iextrading.com. 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-IEX-2017-23 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.¹³

Jill M. Peterson Assistant Secretary

¹³ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).