SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-83049; File No. SR-MRX-2018-11)

April 13, 2018

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Nasdaq MRX, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Adopt Data Feeds Offered to MRX Members

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"), and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, notice is hereby given that on April 4, 2018, Nasdaq MRX, LLC ("MRX" or "Exchange") 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 by the Exchange. 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 Exchange proposes to adopt data feeds offered to MRX Members.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Website at http://nasdaqmrx.cchwallstreet.com/, 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 Exchange 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. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

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

1. Purpose

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to adopt data feeds for MRX. The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 718, which is currently reserved, to rename the rule "Data Feeds" and include a description of each data feed within the rule. The data feed offerings are as follows:

Nasdaq MRX Depth of Market Data Feed ("Depth of Market Feed"), the Nasdaq MRX Order Feed ("Order Feed"), the Nasdaq MRX Top Quote Feed ("Top Quote Feed") and the Nasdaq MRX Trades Feed ("Trades Feed"). A description of each data offering follows below.

Depth of Market Feed

The Depth of Market Data Feed provides aggregate quotes and orders at the top five price levels on MRX, and provides subscribers with a consolidated view of tradable prices beyond the BBO, showing additional liquidity and enhancing transparency for MRX traded options. The data provided for each option series includes the symbols (series and underlying security), put or call indicator, expiration date, the strike price of the series, and whether the option series is available for trading on ISE and identifies if the series is available for closing transactions only. In addition, subscribers are provided with total aggregate quantity, Public Customer aggregate quantity, Priority Customer aggregate quantity, price, and side (i.e., bid/ask). This information is provided for each of the top five price levels on the Depth Feed. The feed also provides order imbalances on opening/reopening.

Order Feed

The Order feed provides information on new orders resting on the book (e.g. price, quantity and market participant capacity). In addition, the feed also announces all auctions. The data provided for each option series includes the symbols (series and underlying security), put or

call indicator, expiration date, the strike price of the series, and whether the option series is available for trading on MRX and identifies if the series is available for closing transactions only. The feed also provides order imbalances on opening/reopening.

Top Quote Feed

The Top Quote Feed calculates and disseminates MRX's best bid and offer position, with aggregated size (including total size in aggregate, Public Customer size in the aggregate and Priority Customer size in the aggregate), based on displayable order and quote interest in the System. The feed also provides last trade information along with opening price, daily trading volume, high and low prices for the day. The data provided for each option series includes the symbols (series and underlying security), put or call indicator, expiration date, the strike price of the series, and whether the option series is available for trading on MRX and identifies if the series is available for closing transactions only. The feed also provides order imbalances on opening/reopening.

Trades Feed

The Trades Feed displays last trade information along with opening price, daily trading volume, high and low prices for the day. The data provided for each option series includes the symbols (series and underlying security), put or call indicator, expiration date, the strike price of the series, and whether the option series is available for trading on MRX and identifies if the series is available for closing transactions only.

These data offerings are currently being offered at no cost to any market participant. The Exchange believes that adopting these data feeds and codifying them within the Exchange's Rulebook will bring greater transparency to its Rules as well as the data which is available on the Exchange.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, in particular, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism for a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest by adopting MRX's data feed offerings and codifying them into a Rule for the benefit of all investors. The Exchange permits any market participant to receive these data offerings at no cost. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest as it describes information relating to the data available on the Exchange for the benefit of its members and adds greater transparency to these offerings.

Adopting Regulation NMS, the Commission granted self-regulatory organizations and broker-dealers increased authority and flexibility to offer new and unique market data to the public. It was believed that this authority would expand the amount of data available to consumers, and also spur innovation and competition for the provision of market data. The Exchange believes that this proposal is in keeping with those principles by promoting increased transparency through the dissemination of more useful proprietary data and also by clarifying its availability to market participants. The Exchange is making a voluntary decision to make this data available as it is not required to furnish this data under the Act. The Exchange chooses to make the data available as proposed in order to improve market quality, to attract order flow, and to increase transparency. The Exchange notes that the data provided on each of these feeds is the same as data provided by Nasdaq GEMX, LLC. The Exchange believes that is in the public interest to make similar information available with respect to options traded on MRX. The data offerings are designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade by providing all

subscribers with data that should enable them to make informed decisions by using the data to assess current market conditions that directly affect such decisions. The market data provided by each of these feeds removes impediments to, and is designed to further perfect, the mechanisms of a free and open market and a national market system by making the market more transparent and accessible to market participants making routing decisions concerning their options orders.

The market data products are also designed to protect investors and the public interest by providing data to subscribers that is already currently available on other exchanges and will enable MRX to compete with such other exchanges, thereby offering market participants with additional data in order to seek the market center with the best price and the most liquidity on which to execute their transactions, all to the benefit of investors and the public interest, and to the marketplace as a whole.

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

In accordance with Section 6(b)(8) of the Act, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on intermarket or intra-market competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The data feed offerings are available to any market participant at no cost. The Exchange's proposal seeks to adopt and codify the data offerings in a Rule for ease of reference and transparency. The Exchange believes that the proposed market data products will enhance competition in the U.S. options markets by providing similar data to that which is currently provided on other options exchanges.

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 either solicited or received.

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

Because the foregoing 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)(iii) of the Act³ and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.⁴

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: (i) necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) 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.

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

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

¹⁷ CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

 Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-MRX-2018-11 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-MRX-2018-11. 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 the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. 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-MRX-2018-11 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.⁵

Eduardo A. Aleman Assistant Secretary

8

⁵ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).