SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-69123; File No. SR-ISE-2013-21)

March 12, 2013

Self-Regulatory Organizations; International Securities Exchange, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend the Schedule of Fees to Reflect Regulatory Fees Related to the Central Registration Depository

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), <sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, <sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on March 11, 2013, the International Securities Exchange, LLC (the "Exchange" or the "ISE") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II 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 amend it Schedule of Fees with respect to regulatory fees related to the Central Registration Depository ("Web CRD"), which are collected by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA"). The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site <a href="www.ise.com">www.ise.com</a>, 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

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

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

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 Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

### 1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend its Schedule of Fees with respect to regulatory fees related to Web CRD, which are collected by FINRA ("FINRA Web CRD Fees"). The proposed fees, which the Exchange is adopting for the first time on its Schedule of Fees, are collected and retained by FINRA via Web CRD for the registration of employees of ISE members that are not FINRA members ("Non-FINRA members"). The Exchange is merely listing these fees on its Schedule of Fees. The Exchange does not collect or retain these fees.

The FINRA Web CRD Fees listed on ISE's Schedule of Fees consists of General Registration Fees of \$100 (for each initial Form U4 filed for the registration of a representative or principal), \$110 (for the additional processing of each initial or amended Form U4, Form U5 or Form BD that includes the initial reporting, amendment or certification of one of more disclosure events or proceedings), and \$45 (annual system processing fee assessed only during renewals). The FINRA Web CRD Fees listed on the ISE Schedule of Fees also consists of Fingerprint Processing Fees for the initial, second and third submissions. There is a separate fee for electronic submissions and paper submissions. The initial electronic and paper submission fees are \$29.50 and \$44.50, respectively. The second electronic and paper submission fees are \$15.00 and \$30.00, respectively. The third electronic and paper submission fees are \$29.50 and

FINRA operates Web CRD, the central licensing and registration system for the U.S. securities industry. FINRA uses Web CRD to maintain the qualification, employment and disciplinary histories of registered associated persons of broker-dealers.

\$44.50, respectively. Finally, there is a \$30 processing fee for fingerprint results submitted by self-regulatory organizations other than FINRA.

The FINRA Web CRD Fees are user-based and there is no distinction in the cost incurred by FINRA if the user is a FINRA member or a Non-FINRA member. Accordingly, the proposed fees mirror those currently assessed by FINRA.<sup>4</sup>

### 2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that its proposal to amend its Schedule of Fees is consistent with Section 6(b)<sup>5</sup> of the Act, in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4)<sup>6</sup> and 6(b)(5)<sup>7</sup> of the Act, in particular, because it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among its members, issuers and other persons using its facilities and does not unfairly discriminate between customers, issuers, brokers or dealers.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is reasonable because the proposed fees are identical to those adopted by FINRA for use of Web CRD for disclosure and the registration of FINRA members and their associated persons. In the FINRA Fee Filing, FINRA noted that it believed that its fees are reasonable based on the increased costs associated with operating and maintaining Web CRD, and listed a number of enhancements made to Web CRD in support of its fee change. These costs are borne by FINRA when a Non-FINRA member uses Web CRD. FINRA further noted its belief that the fees are reasonable because they help to ensure the integrity of the information in Web CRD, which is very important because the

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 67247 (June 25, 2012), 77 FR 38866 (June 29, 2012) (SR-FINRA-2012-030) ("FINRA Fee Filing").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

Commission, FINRA, other self-regulatory organizations and state securities regulators use Web CRD to make licensing and registration decisions, among other things.

The Exchange notes that the proposed rule change is reasonable because the amount of the fees are those provided by FINRA, and the Exchange does not collect or retain these fees.

The proposed rule change is also equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the Exchange will not be collecting or retaining these fees, therefore will not be in a position to apply them in an inequitable or unfairly discriminatory manner.

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

This proposed rule change does not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange notes that the proposed rule change will result in the same regulatory fees being charged to all members required to report information to Web CRD and for services performed by FINRA, regardless of whether or not such members are FINRA members.

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

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any unsolicited written comments from members or other interested parties.

# III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u> 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  $19(b)(3)(A)^8$  of the Act and Rule  $19b-4(f)(6)^9$  thereunder.

The Exchange has requested the Commission to waive the 30-day operative delay to allow the proposed rule change to become operative upon filing. <sup>10</sup> The Commission believes it is consistent with the public interest to waive the 30-day operative delay. The proposed rule change lists FINRA's fees on the Exchange's Schedule of Fees – the Exchange will not collect or retain these fees. As such, the Commission believes that the proposal presents no novel regulatory issues and will make the fees more transparent to ISE members. Waiver of the operative delay will allow the Exchange to list on its Schedule of Fees the fees that FINRA charges for use of WebCRD without undue delay. Therefore, the Commission grants such waiver and designates the proposal operative upon filing. <sup>11</sup>

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 to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>9 17</sup> CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

As required under Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), the Exchange provided the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change along with a brief description and the text of 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.

For purposes only of waiving the 30-day operative delay, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. <u>See</u> 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

### 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 No. SR-ISE-2013-21 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.

All submissions should refer to File No. SR-ISE-2013-21. 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 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 filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. 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 No. SR-ISE-2013-21 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.  $^{12}$ 

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).