SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-85597; File No. SR-NYSE-2019-15)

April 10, 2019

Self-Regulatory Organizations; New York Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend Its Price List to Modify the Supplemental Liquidity Provider Provide Tier 1 Credit for Securities Traded Pursuant to Unlisted Trading Privileges

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 March 29, 2019, New York Stock Exchange LLC ("NYSE" or the "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II, 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>

The Exchange proposes to amend its Price List to modify the Supplemental Liquidity Provider ("SLP") Provide Tier 1 credit for securities traded pursuant to United [sic] Trading Privileges ("UTP"). The Exchange proposes to implement these changes to its Price List effective April 1, 2019. The proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website at www.nyse.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.

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 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 those 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 parts 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 Price List to modify the SLP Provide Tier 1 credit for UTP securities.

The Exchange proposes to implement these changes to its Price List effective April 1, 2019.

Proposed Rule Change

Currently, the Exchange offers tiered rates for displayed and nondisplayed orders by SLPs that add liquidity to the Exchange in UTP Securities priced at or above \$1.00. Specifically, SLP Provide Tier 1 provides a \$0.0032 per share credit per tape in an assigned UTP Security for SLPs adding displayed liquidity to the Exchange if the SLP (1) adds liquidity for all assigned UTP Securities in the aggregate of an CADV of at least 0.10% for Tape B and 0.075% for Tape C, and (2) quotes on an average daily basis, [sic] calculated monthly, in excess of the 10% average quoting requirement in 400 or more assigned UTP Securities in Tapes B and C combined pursuant to Rule 107B, and (3) meets the 10% average or more quoting requirement in

an assigned UTP Security pursuant to Rule 107B.⁴ For SLPs meeting these requirements, the Exchange proposes to lower the applicable credit to \$0.0031 per share credit per tape.

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The proposed changes are not otherwise intended to address any other issues, and the Exchange is not aware of any problems that member organizations would have in complying with the proposed change.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,⁵ in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁶ 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 the proposed lower Tier 1 credit for SLPs adding displayed liquidity to the Exchange is reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the proposed credit remains in line with the credits the Exchange currently credits SLPs for adding displayed and non-displayed liquidity in Tape A securities. The Exchange notes that SLPs qualifying for the Tier 1 Adding Credit in UTP securities in both Tapes B and C on the Pillar Trading Platform would also be eligible for a lower adding liquidity requirement of 0.75% for

SLP Provide Tier 1 also provides a \$0.0014 per share credit per tape for SLPs adding non-displayed liquidity to the Exchange, and a \$0.0025 per share credit for MPL Orders adding liquidity, in an assigned UTP Security if the SLP meets the 10% average or more quoting requirement in an assigned UTP Security pursuant to Rule 107B.

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

^{6 15} U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) & (5).

See page 5 of the current NYSE Price List, available at https://www.nyse.com/publicdocs/nyse/markets/nyse/NYSE Price List.pdf.

SLP Tier 1 in Tape A. The Exchange further notes that SLPs that currently meet Tier 1 in both Tape B and Tape C receive a credit of \$0.00005 per share in addition to the Tape A SLP credit in Tape A assigned securities where the SLP meets the 10% quoting requirement pursuant to Rule 107B.

The Exchange believes that it is subject to significant competitive forces, as described below in the Exchange's statement regarding the burden on competition.

For the foregoing reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposal is consistent with the Act.

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

In accordance with Section 6(b)(8) of the Act, 8 the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change would not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. Instead, the Exchange believes that the proposed changes would foster liquidity provision and stability in the marketplace, thereby promoting price discovery and transparency and enhancing order execution opportunities for member organizations. In this regard, the Exchange believes that the transparency and competitiveness of attracting additional executions on an exchange market would encourage competition.

Finally, the Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive or rebate opportunities available at other venues to be more favorable. In such an environment, the Exchange must continually adjust its fees and rebates to remain competitive with other exchanges and with alternative trading systems that have been exempted from compliance with the statutory standards applicable to exchanges. Because competitors are

^{8 15} U.S.C. 78f(b)(8).

free to modify their own fees and credits in response, and because market participants may readily adjust their order routing practices, the Exchange believes that the degree to which fee changes in this market may impose any burden on competition is extremely limited. As a result of all of these considerations, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed changes will impair the ability of member organizations or competing order execution venues to maintain their competitive standing in the financial markets.

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 solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

The foregoing rule change is effective upon filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act,⁹ and subparagraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4¹⁰ thereunder, because it establishes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of such 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)¹¹ of the Act to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

^{9 15} U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

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 (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml);
 or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-NYSE-2019-15 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-NYSE-2019-15. 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-NYSE-2019-15 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

Eduardo A. Aleman Deputy Secretary

17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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