SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-51944; File No. SR-CHX-2005-19)

June 30, 2005

Self Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Stock Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Extend the Pilot Rule Interpretation Relating to Trading of Nasdaq National Market Securities in Subpenny Increments

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), ¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, ² notice is hereby given that on June 27, 2005, the Chicago Stock Exchange, Incorporated ("CHX" or "Exchange") 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 CHX. The Exchange has filed this proposal pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder, ⁴ which renders the proposal 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>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

The CHX has proposed to extend, until the effective date of new Rule 612 of Regulation NMS, ⁵ a pilot rule interpretation (Article XXX, Rule 2, Interpretation and Policy .06 "Trading in Nasdaq/NM Securities in Subpenny Increments") which requires a

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), 70 FR 37496 (June 29, 2005) ("Reg. NMS Release"). Rule 612 will become effective on August 29, 2005.

CHX specialist (including a market maker who holds customer limit orders) to better the price of a customer limit order in his book which is priced at the national best bid or offer ("NBBO") by at least one penny if the specialist determines to trade with an incoming market or marketable limit order. The pilot, which was approved in conjunction with exemptive relief granted by the Commission to allow for trading in Nasdaq National Market securities in subpenny increments, expires on June 30, 2005. The Exchange proposes that the pilot remain in effect until the effective date of Rule 612.

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

In its filing with the Commission, the CHX included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule changes and discussed any comments it received regarding the proposal. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item III below. The CHX 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 for, the Proposed Rule Changes</u>

1. Purpose

On April 6, 2001, the Commission approved, on a pilot basis through July 9, 2001, a pilot rule interpretation (Article XXX, Rule 2, Interpretation and Policy .06 "Trading in Nasdaq/NM Securities in Subpenny Increments")⁶ that requires a CHX specialist (including a market maker who holds customer limit orders) to better the price of a customer limit order in his book which is priced at the NBBO by at least one penny

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See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 44164 (April 6, 2001), 66 FR 19263 (April 13, 2001) (SR-CHX-2001-07).

The pilot, which was approved in conjunction with exemptive relief granted by the Commission to allow for trading in Nasdaq National Market securities in subpenny increments, has been extended many times and now is set to expire on June 30, 2005.⁷ The Exchange is not proposing any substantive (or typographical) change to the pilot; rather, the Exchange proposes that the pilot be immediately reinstated and remain in effect through the effective date of Rule 612 of Regulation NMS.⁸

2. Statutory Basis

The CHX believes the proposal is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder that are applicable to a national securities exchange and, in particular, with the requirements of Section 6(b). The CHX believes the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act¹⁰ in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments, and to perfect the mechanism of, a

See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 44535 (July 10, 2001), 66 FR 37251 (July 17, 2001) (extending pilot through November 5, 2001); 45062 (November 15, 2001), 66 FR 58768 (November 23, 2001) (extending pilot through January 14, 2002); 45386 (February 1, 2002), 67 FR 6062 (February 8, 2002) (extending the pilot through April 15, 2002); 45755 (April 15, 2002), 67 FR 19607 (April 22, 2002) (extending the pilot through September 30, 2002); 46587 (October 2, 2002), 67 FR 63180 (October 10, 2002) (extending the pilot through January 31, 2003); 47372 (February 14, 2003), 68 FR 8955 (February 26, 2003) (extending the pilot through May 31, 2003); 47951 (May 30, 2003), 68 FR 34448 (June 9, 2003) (extending the pilot through December 1, 2003); 48871 (December 3, 2003), 68 FR 69097 (December 11, 2003) (extending pilot through June 30, 2004); 49994 (July 9, 2004), 69 FR 42486 (July 15, 2004) (extending pilot through June 30, 2005).

⁸ See supra note 5.

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.¹¹

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule changes will impose any burden on competition.

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

No written comments were either solicited or received.

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

The Exchange asserts the foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section $19(b)(3)(A)^{12}$ of the Act and Rule $19b-4(f)(6)^{13}$ thereunder because the 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, if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.¹⁴ The Exchange has requested that the Commission

With the Exchange's permission, the Commission deleted irrelevant language from the notice relating to the Exchange's continuing education programs. Telephone conference between Ellen Neely, President & General Counsel, Exchange, and Raymond Lombardo, Special Counsel, Division of Market Regulation, Commission, on June 29, 2005.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) states that the Exchange must provide the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change at

waive the 30-day operative delay and designate the proposed rule change effective immediately so that the pilot can continue uninterrupted.

The Commission hereby grants the request.¹⁵ The Commission believes that such waiver is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because it will allow the protection of customer limit orders provided by the pilot to continue without interruption and designates the proposed rule change to be operative upon filing with the Commission.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate 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 proposal is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

least five days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change. The Commission has determined to waive the requirement in this case.

For purposes only of accelerating the operative date of the proposal, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

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 No. SR-CHX-2005-19 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

Send paper comments in triplicate to Jonathan G. Katz, Secretary,
 Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-9303.

All submissions should refer to File No. SR-CHX-2005-19. 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 Web site (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 changes 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 inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the CHX. 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-CHX-2005-19 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority. 16

Margaret H. McFarland Deputy Secretary

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¹⁶ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).