SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-61324; File No. SR-NYSEAmex-2010-01)

January 11, 2010

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by NYSE Amex, LLC Amending its Options Fee Schedule

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 January 4, 2010, NYSE Amex LLC ("NYSE Amex" or the "Exchange") 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 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> <u>Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend its Schedule of Fees and Charges to implement new royalty fees associated with Nasdaq 100 Index Options ("NDX") and Mini-NDX Options ("MNX"). Moreover, the exchange proposes to remove obsolete language pertaining to expiring pilot programs and products that are no longer traded on the Exchange. The text of the proposed rule change is attached as Exhibit 5 to the 19b-4 form. A copy of this filing is available on the Exchange's Web site at www.nyse.com, at the Exchange's principal office 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 self-regulatory organization included statements concerning the purpose of, and basis for, the proposed rule change and discussed any comments

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

¹ 15 U.S.C.78s(b)(1).

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. <u>Purpose</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend its Schedule of Fees and Charges ("Fee Schedule") to implement new royalty fees associated with Nasdaq 100 Index Options ("NDX") and Mini-NDX Options ("MNX"). On January 4, 2010, the current royalty fee of \$0.16 for MNX and NDX contracts will increase to \$0.22. These fees reflect the pass-through charges associated with the licensing of these products. The Exchange notes that royalty fees do not apply to public customer orders in these products.

Moreover, the Exchange proposes to delete obsolete references in its Fee Schedule pertaining to the Linkage Pilot Program. The Linkage Pilot Program is set to expire on December 31, 2010. Accordingly, the Exchange proposes to remove the "Linkage Fees" portion of its fee schedule as well as endnotes 9, 11, 12, and obsolete and redundant portions of endnote 13. Furthermore, the Exchange proposes to renumber subsequent endnotes accordingly.

Lastly, the Exchange proposes to amend the Royalty Fee section of the Fee Schedule to remove references to ISE FX products because they are not traded on the Exchange.

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,³ in general, and Section 6(b)(4),⁴ in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of dues,

³ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

fees and other charges among its members. Under this proposal, all similarly situated Exchange participants will be charged the same reasonable dues, fees and other charges.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

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

The foregoing rule change is effective upon filing pursuant to Section $19(b)(3)(A)^5$ of the Act and subparagraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4⁶ thereunder, because it establishes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by NYSE Amex.

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 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

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁶ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

 Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-NYSEAmex-2010-01 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 Number SR-NYSEAmex-2010-01. 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 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 inspection and copying 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 publicly available. All submissions should refer to File

Number SR-NYSEAmex-2010-01 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. 7

Florence E. Harmon Deputy Secretary

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⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).