SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-65517; File No. SR-CBOE-2011-097)

October 7, 2011

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend the Fees Schedule

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, notice is hereby given that on October 3, 2011, the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated (the "Exchange" or "CBOE") 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 the Substance of the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend the Fees Schedule regarding the Marketing Fee. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site (http://www.cboe.org/legal), at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission.

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.

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

1. <u>Purpose</u>

CBOE proposes to amend its Marketing Fee Program to extend for an additional three months a pilot program it implemented on December 1, 2010,³ and extended on April 1, 2011⁴ and July 1, 2011⁵ relating to the assessment of the marketing fee in the SPY option class. Specifically, CBOE previously determined not to assess the marketing fee on electronic transactions in SPY options, except that it would continue to assess the marketing fee on electronic transactions resulting from its Automated Improvement Mechanism ("AIM") pursuant to CBOE Rule 6.74A and transactions in open outcry (the "Waiver"). This pilot program is scheduled to terminate on September 30, 2011, and CBOE now proposes to extend it until December 31, 2011.

As CBOE stated in its rule filing establishing this three month pilot program, this proposed change is intended to attract more customer volume to the Exchange in the SPY option class and to allow CBOE market-makers to better compete for order flow. CBOE noted that the SPY option class is unique in the manner in which it trades and is one of the most active option classes. CBOE also noted that DPMs and Preferred Market-Makers can utilize the marketing fee funds to attract orders from payment accepting firms that are executed in AIM and in open outcry. Finally, CBOE noted that it believes that the marketing fee funds received by payment accepting firms may be used to offset transaction and other costs related to the

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 63470 (December 8, 2010), 75 FR 78284 (December 15, 2010) (SR-CBOE-2010-108).

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 64212 (April 6, 2011), 76 FR 20411 (April 12, 2011) (SR-CBOE-2011-033).

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 64818 (July 6, 2011), 76 FR 40978 (July 12, 2011) (SR-CBOE-2011-060).

execution of an order in AIM and in open outcry, including in the SPY option class. CBOE believes that the current demographics of electronic SPY option order flow is more driven by the displayed best bid or offer ("BBO") and size than payment for order flow considerations, and thus assessment of the marketing fee for those transactions is not a differentiator at this time.

For the reasons noted above, CBOE believes that it would make sense to extend the pilot program until December 31, 2011. CBOE believes that it is beneficial to continue to assess the fee on the limited bases as proposed and will continue to enable CBOE to compete for order flow in the SPY option class. However, because the SPY option class is unique in the manner in which it trades and is one of the most active option classes, CBOE would like to continue to evaluate for an additional three months the effect of not assessing the fee on all electronic transactions in the SPY option class, except for transactions resulting from AIM and in open outcry.

The Exchange also proposes to amend its Fees Schedule to remove the security EEM from a list of options on whom the marketing fee to be collected is \$0.00. EEM is the acronym for the exchange-traded fund ("ETF") iShares MSCI Emerging Markets Index Fund. The Exchange wishes to remove EEM from the abovementioned list. Hereafter, the marketing fee for EEM transactions would be \$0.25 per contract, as it is with nearly all other ETFs. The purpose of this change is to increase volume on EEM options. By assessing a marketing fee on EEM transactions, the Exchange will be able to use the money collected to attract volume, pursuant to the Exchange's marketing fee plan. The Exchange believes that the demographics of EEM options order flow is inclined to seek economic considerations such as payment for

order flow, so a marketing fee for EEM trades is necessary to attract EEM volume and liquidity.

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The proposed rule change to extend the Waiver is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), 6 in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4) of the Act, in particular, in that it is designed to provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among Trading Permit Holders in that it is intended to attract more customer volume on the Exchange in SPY options. The SPY option class is one of the most active and liquid classes and trades with a significant electronic trading volume. Because of its current trading profile, CBOE believes it might be better able to attract electronic liquidity by not assessing the marketing fee on electronic SPY transactions and therefore proposes to extend the current waiver. However, CBOE believes that continuing to collect the marketing fee on open outcry transactions, as well as electronic orders submitted to AIM for price improvement, from market makers that trade with customer orders from payment accepting firms would continue to attract liquidity in SPY to the floor and AIM mechanism, respectively. Accordingly, CBOE believes continuing the waiver is equitable because it reflects the trading profile of SPY and is designed and intended to attract additional order flow in SPY to the Exchange, which would benefit all market participants.

The proposed rule change to change the marketing fee assessed on EEM transactions furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,⁸ in particular, in that it is designed to provide

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

^{8 15} U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among Trading Permit Holders and other persons using Exchange facilities. The amount of the fee, \$0.25 per contract, is reasonable, as it is the same amount as is charged for transactions in other ETFs. The assessment of the fee is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it is designed and intended to attract additional order flow in EEM to the Exchange, which would increase liquidity and benefit all market participants, and because the same fee is assessed similar transactions in nearly all other ETFs.

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

CBOE does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition 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</u>
<u>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 proposed rule change is designated by the Exchange as establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge, thereby qualifying for effectiveness on filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁹ and subparagraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4¹⁰ thereunder. 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.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

9 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁰ 17 C.F.R. 240.19b-4(f)(2).

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-CBOE-2011-097 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-CBOE-2011-097. 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 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 offices of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You

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should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CBOE-2011-097, 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.11

> Elizabeth M. Murphy Secretary