SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-71506; File No. SR-BX-2014-008)

February 7, 2014

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Not Charge the Extranet Access Fee

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup>, and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on January 31, 2014, NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc. ("BX" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "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 not charge the extranet access fee ("Extranet Access Fee") set forth in BX Rule 7025.

The text of the proposed rule change is below. Proposed new language is underlined; proposed deletions are bracketed.<sup>3</sup>

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#### 7025. Extranet Access Fee

Extranet providers that establish a connection with the Exchange to offer direct access connectivity to market data feeds shall <u>not</u> be assessed a monthly access fee [of \$1,000] per client organization Customer Premises Equipment ("CPE") Configuration. [If an extranet

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

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

Changes are marked to the rules of NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc. found at <a href="http://nasdaqomxbx.cchwallstreet.com">http://nasdaqomxbx.cchwallstreet.com</a>.

provider uses multiple CPE Configurations to provide market data feeds to any client organization, the monthly fee shall apply to each such CPE Configuration.] For purposes of this Rule 7025, the term "Customer Premises Equipment Configuration" shall mean any line, circuit, router package, or other technical configuration used by an extranet provider to provide a direct access connection to the Exchange market data feeds to a recipient's site. No extranet access fee will be charged for connectivity to market data feeds containing only consolidated data. For purposes of this rule, consolidated data includes data disseminated by the UTP SIP.

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

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 in Item IV below. The Exchange 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 is proposing to change the Extranet Access Fee as set forth in BX Rule 7025 so that there is no charge. BX Rule 7025 currently provides that [sic] for extranet providers that establish a connection with the Exchange to offer direct access connectivity to market data

feeds to be assessed a monthly access fee of \$1,000 per recipient Customer Premises Equipment ("CPE") Configuration.<sup>4</sup>

Specifically, the Exchange proposes to reduce the Extranet Access Fee from \$1,000 per recipient CPE Configuration per month to free. An Extranet Access Fee has been in place since its introduction in 2009<sup>5</sup> and provided for free during the first year of operation. At the end of this period, the initial fee of \$750 per recipient CPE Configuration per month remained in place although it was never billed. Since extranet providers have never yet been billed for this fee, the Exchange now proposes to change BX Rule 7025 to reflect that there will be no charge for extranet providers that establish a connection with the Exchange to offer direct access connectivity to market data feeds.

Additionally, because the Exchange has thus far never collected an Extranet Access Fee, it does not intend to charge the \$1,000 Extranet Access Fee for January 2014.<sup>6</sup>

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

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,<sup>7</sup> in general, and with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,<sup>8</sup> in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and issuers and

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 71197 (December 30, 2013), 79 FR 679 (January 6, 2014) (SR-BX-2013-063). As defined in BX Rule 7025, a "Customer Premises Equipment Configuration" means any line, circuit, router package, or other technical configuration used by an extranet provider to provide a direct access connection to the Exchange market data feeds to a recipient's site.

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59615 (March 20, 2009), 74 FR 14604 (March 31, 2009) (SR-BX-2009-005).

The Exchange will not back-bill any extranet providers for extranet connections with the Exchange to offer direct access connectivity to market data feeds.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f [sic].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

other persons using any facility or system which the Exchange operates or controls. All similarly situated extranet providers that establish an extranet connection with the Exchange to access market data feeds from the Exchange will not be subject to an Extranet Access Fee.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as amended. No fee is being charged and this applies across all extranet providers and none are compelled to establish a connection with the Exchange to offer access connectivity to market data feeds.

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 either solicited or received.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act. <sup>9</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 should be approved or disapproved.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

#### 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-BX-2014-008 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-BX-2014-008. 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 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

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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 Number SR-BX-2014-008, 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.  $^{10}$ 

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

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