SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-74286; File No. SR-ISE-2015-04)

February 18, 2015

Self-Regulatory Organizations; International Securities Exchange, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend the Schedule of Fees

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 February 3, 2015, the International Securities Exchange, LLC (the "Exchange" or the "ISE") 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 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 ISE proposes to amend the Schedule of Fees to eliminate fees and rebates for Mini Options, which were delisted on the Exchange as of the close of business on December 17, 2014. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's web site (<a href="http://www.ise.com">http://www.ise.com</a>), at the principal office of the Exchange, 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 it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the

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

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

places specified in Item IV below. The self-regulatory organization 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 permitted to list Mini Option contracts overlying ten shares of the following five symbols: SPY, AAPL, GLD, GOOGL, and AMZN, pursuant to Supplementary Material .13 to Rule 504. Due to the smaller exercise and assignment value of Mini Options contracts, the Exchange charges fees and provides rebates in these Mini Option classes at a rate that is 1/10th the rate of fees and rebates the Exchange provides for trading in Standard Options. As the Exchange has delisted all Mini Options as of the close of business on December 17, 2014, the Exchange now proposes to eliminate fees and rebates for Mini Options in the Schedule of Fees. In particular, the Exchange also proposes to remove language related to Mini Options in the following sections of the Schedule of Fees:

- Sections III and IV, which contain tables on Regular Order Fees and Rebates for Mini
  Options and Complex Order Fees and Rebates for Mini Options, respectively. These
  sections will be eliminated in their entirety.<sup>3</sup>
- 2. The definition of Mini Options in the Preface.
- Language related to combining volume in Standard Options and Mini Options to calculate Priority Customer ADV and Priority Customer Complex ADV in the footnotes to Sections I and II.

2

The Exchange proposes to update section references to take into account the new section numbers when these two sections are removed. Section references in this proposed rule change are to the current section numbers.

- 4. QCC and Solicitation Rebate for Mini Options in Section VI, A, including language related to combining volume in Standard Options and Mini Options to determine applicable volume tiers.
- ISE Market Maker Discount Tiers for Mini Options in Section VI, C, including language related to combining volume in Standard Options and Mini Options to determine applicable volume tiers.
- Payment for Order Flow fees for Mini Options in Non-Penny Pilot Symbols in Section VI, D.
- 7. Route-out fees for Mini Options in Section VI, F.
- 8. The Credit for Responses to Flash Orders in Mini Options in Section VI, G.
- 9. The service fee for Crossing Orders in Mini Options in Section VI, H.
- Language related to charging the Options Regulatory Fee for options transactions in Mini Options in Section IX, C.

In connection with the above changes, the Exchange further proposes to remove related references to Standard Options, as the distinction between Standard Options and Mini Options is no longer necessary with the delisting of Mini Options.

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

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Act,<sup>4</sup> in general, and Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,<sup>5</sup> in particular, in that it is designed to provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its members and other persons using its facilities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

Specifically, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is reasonable, equitable, and not unfairly discriminatory as all Mini Option classes have been delisted on the Exchange as of the close of business on December 17, 2014. The Exchange believes that eliminating fees and rebates for Mini Options (and removing superfluous references to Standard Options) will simplify the Schedule of Fees and reduce investor confusion as to what products trade on the Exchange. The Exchange represents that in the event it determines to relist Mini Options in the future it will first submit a proposed rule change to adopt fees and rebates applicable to Mini Options.

## B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

In accordance with Section 6(b)(8) of the Act,<sup>6</sup> the Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on intermarket or intramarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed rule change is intended solely to eliminate investor confusion as to the products that trade on the Exchange. As such, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change will have no competitive impact.

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

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any unsolicited written comments from members or other interested parties.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(8).

# 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>7</sup> and subparagraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>8</sup> because it establishes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by ISE.

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 to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

## 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 (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>); or
- Send an e-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File No. SR-ISE-2015-04 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ISE-2015-04. 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 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 available publicly. All submissions should refer

to File Number SR-ISE-2015-04 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from the date of publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.  $^9$ 

Brent J. Fields Secretary

7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).